How to make an Oregon Farm Bureau Dirt Baby

Farm Bureau’s Dirt Babies are a fun, hands-on activity that teaches kids about how, with water and sunlight, seeds grow into plants. In this case, seeds become a green-grass head of hair!

Materials needed for 1 Dirt Baby

- 1 knee-high nylon
- 1 tablespoon of seed (annual rye-grass or other grass seed)
- 3 to 4 heaping 8-ounce cups of potting soil
- Decorations of felt, pipe cleaners, wiggle eyes, etc.
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun

Directions

- Open the nylon and sprinkle the grass seed into the toe of the hose.
- Pour in 3 to 4 heaping cups of potting soil on top of the seed.
- Pack the soil down tightly to the end of the hose and form it into a solid ball.
- Tie a tight knot with the nylon at the base of the ball of soil.
- Leave 6 to 7 inches of hose for a water wick and cut off the rest of the hose.
- Decorate your baby’s face with eyes, a smile, eyebrows, etc. using hot glue and the decorations. (The top of the baby’s head has the grass seed, the bottom has the nylon tail.)

Care of the Dirt Baby

Place the baby on a container or glass with a small-enough mouth so it will sit on the rim. Fill the glass with water just to the bottom of the baby’s head. Place it in sunlight. Within a week, the baby will sprout green grass hair. As long as the baby is fed plenty of water, it will keep growing.