

# Pollinator (Seed) Ball Instructions

## Materials Needed

- 5 Cups Dry Powdered Red Clay (Terra Cotta Clay)
- 3 Cups Dry Gardening Soil or Organic Compost
- 1 Cup of Wildflower Seeds (native)
- 1 - 2 Cups of Water
- Measuring Cup
- Buckets/Bowls for Mixing Seed Ball Ingredients
- Plastic Bags with Directions Stapled on the Bag (Directions Included)
- Paper towels, Hand Soap, or Hand Wipes.
- Native Wildflower Guide

## Procedure

**Step 1:** Describe some of the species of native flowers you have included in the seed mix. There are many native wildflower guides available to help you describe and show what each species will look like in bloom.

**Step 2:** Place dry terra cotta clay in mixing bucket/bowl

**Step 3:** Mix in dry soil or compost

**Step 4:** Add pollinator seed mix

**Step 5:** Thoroughly blend everything together



**Step 6:** Slowly add water into the mixture while stirring. Add only enough water to allow the mixture to stick/bind together (consistency should be similar to play dough)

**Step 7:** Take a pinch of the finished mixture and roll (in the palm of your hand) into round balls about the size of a large marble but smaller than a golf ball (recipe should make approximately 30-40 seed balls)

**Step 8:** Plant your pollinator balls in a location that contains bare ground, will not be mowed and has full to partial sun. Pollinator balls can be planted by tossing (throwing) them on top of the soil. If you don't intend to plant your seed balls immediately after making them, allow your seed balls to dry for at least 24 hours. After they are dry, you can store them in a cool dark place (freezer) until you are ready to plant them. If you plan to allow the students to take their pollinator balls home with them, put the seed balls in the plastic bags with the instructions stapled on the bag (see instructions below).

### **Pollinator Ball Planting Instructions**

Plant your pollinator seed balls in a location that contains bare ground, will not be mowed and has full to partial sun. Pollinator balls can be planted by tossing (throwing) them on top of the soil. If you don't intend to plant your seed balls immediately after making them, allow your seed balls to dry for at least 24 hours. After they are dry, you can store them in a cool dark place (freezer) until you are ready to plant them. Pollinator balls can be planted in the spring, late fall or winter.

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