



# Native Seedballs

## Background:

### a. What are seedballs?

Seedballs are tiny balls made up of clay, a small amount of compost or soil and seeds.

### b. Why are seedballs an effective way of planting native plants?

The clay and the soil encase the seeds, protecting them from harsh weather and animals, and helping to keep the seeds moist enabling germination.

### c. How to plant your seedball?

Seedballs can be launched anywhere as long as there is soil beneath them. They can be 'planted' in gardens, launched from paths and roads into fields or other sunny natural green spaces. The following video provides an overview of the purpose of seedballs and the process of making them:

<https://youtu.be/mHEI03ICgYc>

## Materials Needed:

- Clay
- Compost
- Native wildflower seeds
- Water

## Duration:

Text goes here

## Steps:

- Prepare materials: pottery clay, compost or fine enriched soil mix, native plant seeds
- Cut small pieces of clay and roll them into balls (around 1" diameter or so).
- Mix a small amount of compost/soil into clay. Clay:compost ratio should be roughly 3:1 or 4:1.
- Add a bit of water if needed, only enough for the clay and soil to stick together.
- Add seeds and mix them well. Do not overload the seedball with seeds as they will compete for resources. Smaller seeds should be placed closer to the surface and larger can be mixed more towards the inside of the bomb.
- Air dry the seedballs at room temperature.

### Steps to planting in your garden:

- Find a sunny spot.
- Clear away any mulch or rocks from the area, which could potentially block the growth of a small seedling.
- Water the area thoroughly to saturate the soil.
- Place the seedballs on the wet soil.
- Watch them grow.



Credit: Kevan Davis from NASA Climate Kids