

EXPLODING SEEDS

You'll need

Pom-poms

Paper cup

Balloon

Tape/elastic band

Scissors



Instructions

Carefully cut the bottom off the paper cup.

Tie the end of the balloon and cut the opposite end off.

Attach the tied section of balloon to the bottom of the cup.

Use tape or an elastic band to secure in place.

Fill the cup with pom-poms, hold the cup in the air, pull back the balloon end and let go!

Try holding the cup at different angles to investigate how far you can make the pom-pom seeds spread.

Extension Ideas

Seed dispersal is the scattering of seeds. If seeds just dropped next to the parent plant they would be competing for nutrients and light, so it's better if seeds are spread out allowing them to grow with less competition from other plants. Exploding seed pods are just one seed dispersal mechanism. Seeds can also be spread by the wind, water and animals.

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Adult supervision required. You are responsible for your own safety.

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