



DISCOVER

Make a biome (WM1)

Materials:

Two 2-litre drinks bottles
Two bottle caps
Thick shoe lace
Drill (or alternative)

Scissors
Soil or compost
Pond weed

Leaves/leaf litter
Cress seeds
Water

! Step 1 – Remove the labels from the bottles. On bottle 1, cut 2 cm below the shoulder to produce component "A," a shallow funnel top and "C" a deep reservoir. *(This could be prepared prior to the activity).*

! Step 2 – Ask an adult to poke or drill a hole in one bottle cap. *(This could be prepared prior to the activity).*

Step 3 - Thread a shoelace through the hole.

! Step 4 – Mark 1 cm from the bottom of bottle 2. Cut along this line to make component B and screw the bottle cap with a hole on the top. Discard the bottom piece or recycle. *(This could be prepared prior to the activity).*

Step 5 – Half fill component C with water and add pond weed.

Step 6 – Upend component B so that the bottle cap goes inside component C. Make sure the shoelace is dipped into the water.

Step 7 - Add soil to component B. The shoelace should run up into soil, not be plastered along the side of the bottle.

Step 8 – Sprinkle the cress seeds onto the soil and then cover with a 2cm layer of leaf litter.

Step 9 – Make sure component A has a cap screwed on and place component A onto the end of component B to complete the biome.

Step 10 – Put the biome in a sunny place. Check it regularly to see what's happened.

! **Take care when cutting the plastic bottle and piercing the bottle cap. These tasks should be done by an adult.**

