

Grass Head Materials

You will need:

- **Old nylon tights.** Knee highs and pop socks, work great. You can also use regular old socks, but the grass sometimes has trouble poking through.
- **Grass seeds or chives, rye or alfalfa seeds** also work well.
- **Sawdust or potting mix** for stuffing. Or just some soil from your garden.
- **Small yoghurt or plant pot** .
- **Decorations** . Goggly eyes and fabric scraps for the heads, coloured paper for the bodies, pipe-cleaners for spectacles... get creative :-)
- **Water-proof glue** . For sticking on the eyes, lips, etc. PVA or glue gun (if you use a glue gun please do not let the child use it unsupervised)

Instructions



Step 1: Cut off an 8" (20cm) section of stocking that includes the toe. (You could also use a "tube section" that doesn't include the toe - you'd just have to tie a knot in one end to close it, then turn it inside-out to hide the knot.)



Step 2: Stretch the stocking over a large cup or mug, and spoon in about 2 teaspoons full of grass seeds.



Step 3: Pack in some sawdust or potting soil. Aim for the head to be roughly tennis ball sized.



Step 4: Tie a knot to close the end. No need to cut off the dangly bit.



Step 5: You can make a bulbous nose or ears by grabbing a bit of stocking and twisting. Fasten base of the nose with some thread or a small rubber band.



Step 6: Decorate! Use fabric scraps or permanent marker to decorate the face, and coloured paper to make the yoghurt container into a dress or a suit or whatever you like - get creative! Just make sure that any glues or markers you use for the head are water-proof.

Growing your Grass Heads



Grass grows a bit unreliably through a sock

When you're ready to grow your head, give it a good dunking in a bowl of water to moisten the sawdust/soil. Half-fill the yoghurt container with water, and put the head on top, with the excess stocking dangling down into the water.

Put your creation on a windowsill or somewhere with plenty of sunlight. Check every day to make sure the head is moist - you might need to dribble a few drops of water onto the head now and then.

"Hair" takes about 1 week to sprout . A full head of hair takes 3-4 weeks to grow, and and "greying and balding" will occur after about 6 weeks. Experiment with different hairstyles! You can make mohawks, pony-tails, crew-cuts... have fun with it!