

# ‘Water Cycle in a Jar’ Photo Instructions

## Things you will need:

1. A clean jar and lid
2. Small rocks such as gravel
3. Sand (play sand or aquarium sand)
4. Potting soil
5. Small plant such as moss, or grass seed or small beans
6. Small bottle cap or shell.
7. Water



Amounts needed depend on size of jar. It is recommended to use a larger jar, such as 8 ounces, rather than a baby-food sized jar. If no lid is available, you can use plastic wrap with a rubber band. Large glass containers, fish tanks, or aquariums with lids may also be used as a class project. Using plants will show effect fastest, but seeds may also be used.

## Procedure:

1. In a clean jar, layer the small rocks/gravel. Use a relatively thin layer of gravel. A funnel can be made by cutting off the top of a plastic water bottle for students with decreased manual dexterity or for jars with narrow openings.





2. Add sand. Use a relatively thin layer of sand, approximately as thick as the gravel. Sand will fill in around the small gravel, so layers may not be visible.

3. Gently pour soil on top of sand. Depth of soil should be approximately the same as the gravel the sand.



plus



4. Add a small plant, seeds, or beans. (Seeds or beans may take a number of days or even weeks to germinate.)

5. Water gently.

6. Add shell or cap with water.



7. Put lid on tightly

8. Place in a sunny spot and watch the water cycle!