

Statewide Day of Action

County Coordinator's Guide: Planting Activity

1. Table Setup & Preparation

To ensure a smooth flow, organize your station as an assembly line. Guests will move from one end of the table to the other to collect their materials.

- **Front of Table:** Secure the **Branded Table Banner** to the front of your table using the included grommets.
- **Make Visible:** Place in a visible spot the **Activity Instructions** and a **Photo Release**.
- **Assembly Line Order:** Set up your provided item bins in the following order to create a natural flow:
 1. **Pots:** Colorful plastic square nursery pots with matching saucers.
 2. **Mesh Bags:** For holding smaller items.
 3. **Soil Pucks:** Compressed coco coir discs.
 4. **Seed Packets:** Dwarf Sunspot sunflower seeds.
 5. **Instructional Flyer Handout:** Instructions for watering and planting once at home.
 6. **Paint Pens:** Acrylic dual-tip markers.
 7. **Stencils:** Small individual themed cards.
- *Additional provided items to spread throughout activity area (detailed in Section 3 below):*
 1. **Painters Tape:** For securing the stencil to the pot.
 2. **Aprons:** Optional for attendees
 3. **Hand Wipes:** Optional for attendees

2. Managing the Activity

As guests approach, guide them through the selection process so they can customize their planting bundle.

- **Step 1: Choose a Pot:** Kids can select their favorite color.
- **Step 2: Pack the Mesh Bag:** Guests should place two* soil pucks, one seed packet, and one at-home instructional flyer into their **mesh travel bag**.
 - **Two pucks are necessary for the flower to grow.*
- **Step 3: Choose Stencil(s) and Pen(s):** Guests can take multiple stencils and pens and return them after use. 240 communal paint pens are provided.
- **Step 4: Decorate:** Guests can use the dual-tip markers and stencils to customize their pots.
 - If desired, use the provided **painters tape** to hold stencils in place while painting.
- **Step 5: Continue Activity at Home:** Guests will use the handout for at-home instruction to add water to the soil pucks and plant their sunflower seeds.

3. Safety & Clean-up Options

Keep these items available within your activity area for use **as needed and as preferred**:

- **Aprons:** Offer these to guests before they “paint” to protect their clothing from the acrylic ink.
- **Hand Wipes:** Use these for quick clean-ups of hands or table surfaces.
- **Painters Tape:** Distribute throughout activity area to assist with decorating.

4. Key Talking Points

- **At-Home Activity:** Remind parents and caregivers that this is a "just-add-water" activity to be finished at home.
 - **Soil Preparation:** Explain that the soil pucks will expand once water is added in the planter pot container at home. Refer the parents/caregivers to the flyer handout they received.
 - **Easy Growing:** These Dwarf Sunspot sunflowers are heirloom, GMO-free, and very easy to grow.
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How Children Can Decorate Their Pot

1. Freehand Doodles

Kids and caregivers can let their imaginations take over by using the pens to draw directly on the pot.



2. Stencil Decorations

1. Use the painters tape to adhere the stencil to a flat side of the pot.
2. Choose a color paint pen to draw/trace/color in the stencil. (Tip: The pens have both a thick and thin end.)
3. The paint pens are quick-drying and should dry within 90 seconds.
4. Remove the tape and stencil. Repeat on another side.

3. Painters Tape Decorations

1. Place multiple pieces of painters tape in a zig-zag pattern.
2. Paint in the exposed areas and let dry.
3. Remove the tape and repeat.

