Checklist: Making Eco-Orbs to Toss

- Air-dry clay (or natural clay if available)
- Potting soil or outdoor dirt (not too sandy)
- Wildflower seeds (e.g., marigolds, zinnias, or a pollinator mix)
- Garden gloves
- Bowl or bucket (for mixing)
- Cup of water
- Newspaper or a tray (to keep things clean)

1. Measure the Ingredients

- Scoop out about 2 cups of clay (soften it with your hands if it's stiff).
- Add 1 cup of soil (break up any clumps).
- Pour in 1-2 tablespoons of wildflower seeds (enough to sprinkle evenly).

2. Mix It Up

- Squish the clay and soil together in the bowl with your hands until it's blended.
- Add a tiny bit of water (start with a tablespoon) if it's too dry, just enough to make it stick together like dough. If the mix feels too sticky, add a little more soil.
- Knead in the seeds gently so they don't get crushed but spread out in the mix.

3. Shape the Eco-Orbs

- Pinch off small chunks of the mixture (about the size of a big grape or golf ball).
- Roll each chunk into an orb shape between your palms (make them firm but not too tight.)
- Make at least 5-10 eco-orbs (or more if you're having fun!).

4. Dry Them Out

- Place the eco-orbs on the newspaper or tray and let them air-dry for 24-48 hours until they're hard.

5. Find a Spot to Toss and Launch!

- Look for a bare patch of dirt outside (like a corner of your yard, a park with permission, or an empty lot) and toss your mini eco-system! Make sure it's a place that gets some sun and rain naturally. Don't bury them, just let them land! Imagine butterflies and birds visiting the flowers that'll grow.

6. Check Back Later

Visit the spot after a few weeks (especially after rain) to see if tiny sprouts are popping up. Keep a journal or take pictures to track your mini garden's progress!
Tips for Success

Have fun with this!!

Linda Porter
Educational Resource Specialist