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Activity Idea

GROW A VEGETABLE GARDEN FROM SCRAPS: CELERY

Recommended for ages 5 - 10

Do not waste those vegetable scraps. Turn them into new vegetables instead! You can grow a vegetable garden from the parts of the vegetable that usually get cut off and thrown away.

What you will need:

- A bunch of celery and a knife
- Four toothpicks or skewers (optional)
- A ruler (optional)
- A shallow glass or bowl with warm water
- A pot with soil (or you can plant it in the garden)

How to do it:

1. Cut off the root end of the celery bunch, about 2 inches from the end. Save the rest of the celery for eating.
2. Push the four toothpicks into the four sides of the celery, about 1 ½ inches from the bottom. Make sure they stick out far enough to rest on the edge of the glass or bowl.
3. Put the celery end, root-side down, into the bowl or glass. Fill with warm water so that the root end is in 1 inch of water.
4. Place your bowl or glass in a warm sunny area. Change the water every 2 or 3 days.

5. In a few days you should see tiny leaves growing from the center of the top. After about a week, you should see roots starting to grow from the base.
6. When the new roots are about 1 inch long, it is time to plant your celery in soil. You can plant it in a pot or right into the ground in your garden (choose a spot that gets shade in the hottest part of the day - the afternoon).
7. Make a hole big enough to fill up to the cut end of the celery. Place celery into the hole and cover with dirt.
8. Pat down dirt around the plant, making sure that all the new growth is above ground.

To harvest:
You can pick your celery by cutting off one or two outer stalks at a time (it will keep growing from the inside) or waiting until it is fully grown and pulling out the whole bunch. Then you can start all over again by putting the root end in another bowl of water!

Resources:
13 Vegetables That You Can Regrow Again and Again
https://tinyurl.com/y88yp2xk

20 Vegetables You Can Re-Grow from Scraps
https://www.ruralsprout.com/regrow-vegetables/

How to regrow celery from scraps
https://www.allrecipes.com/article/regrow-celery-from-scraps/

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