Cylinder Gardening is a fun and easy way to teach children about Horticulture and Science at their level of understanding. The El Paso Master Gardeners Assoc. will provide most of the materials, a demonstration, and technical support to get you started, as well as follow-up.

**A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS AND LEADERS**

Each level is supported by a youth hand book and a leader/teacher guide. Level One is designed for grades 3 through 5.

The handbook has both group and individual activities. Group activities can be done with a school class, 4-H club, after-school program, home school group, or any group of interested young gardeners. Individual activities allow young gardeners to learn on their own. Flexibility is a key component in this program. With so many activities to choose from, leaders or individual gardeners can customize the program to meet their own needs and interests.

The Cylinder Gardening Program introduces young gardeners to the art and science of gardening, and helps them to develop leadership and life skills to become good citizens within their communities, schools and families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Educational programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.
Cylinder Gardening Basics

What is Cylinder Gardening?

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service is proud to offer the Cylinder Gardening in El Paso County. Participants in the program learn to grow vegetables from seed to harvest in one semester. The program is great for school age children and can be used in classrooms, after-school programs and homeschools or with other groups and clubs.

A curriculum written at the 3rd grade level along with some materials needed for the project are donated by the El Paso Master Gardeners Association.

How is it done?

Cylinder Gardening uses bottomless cylinders (1/2 of a 3 or 5 gallon bucket) as small, individual gardens for growing vegetables. This works especially well in areas with poor soil that normally need extensive amendments and labor to support and actively producing garden.

Why is it better?

Cylinder gardening requires little land and little pre-gardening preparation or experience. Once the cylinders are filled and planted, the only labor is minor maintenance, watering and harvesting. Plants mature from seed in 30 to 90 days. Installation and removal of garden is quick and clean.

Benefits?

Research shows that by growing plants, children will not only learn about science and the environment but they will also gain a sense of pride, responsibility and determination. Children growing vegetables will also learn about where their food comes from and have better nutritional habits… because they enjoying eating what they grow!