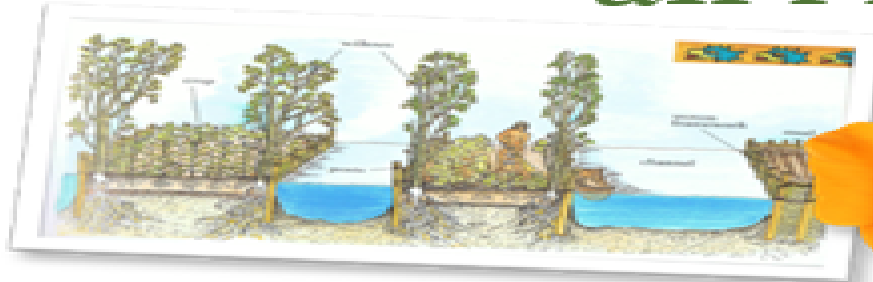


THE BEST INSTRUCTIONS EVER!

How to make an Aztec Garden



What you will need to do

1. Use the trowel to carefully dig enough soil to fill the plastic tray but first sieve it with the smallest sieve (this will give you the finest quality of soil).
2. Scoop out two channels of soil so that you have three long strips of soil gaps in between each one (see picture above).
3. Collect a wide selection of sticks, which you then fix into the mud and along the edge of the banks so they hold the soil in place when the water is added later on. These represent the weaving and willows that the Aztecs would have used centuries before to prevent their crops from being washed away!
4. After this, evenly sprinkle the cress seeds onto the soil banks before carefully pouring water over the banks and filling the channels in between. These are the water channels the Aztecs would have travelled on in their boats to access their farmland.
5. Now your garden is complete, look after it by putting in a sunny and warm location and don't forget to water regularly.

By the way...

Aztec 'floating gardens' were called Chinampas, but did not float at all. They simply looked that way because of the water all around them.

Equipment you will need

If you're going to make a garden, you better do it right. Get hold of all of the following equipment first so you are ready to get dirty!

- Fresh earthy soil or compost
- Small sticks of varying sizes and thicknesses
- A solid plastic tray with high sides
- A selection of mini gardening forks, trowels and sieves
- Clean tap water
- Bag of in-date cress seeds
- Camera (if you decide to film or photograph your progress)

Do you have all that?

Great. Now you're ready to really get green-fingered with the Aztecs.

1. From the title, you can predict that the text will be about...?

How to make/create an Aztec garden.

2. Why do you think that the text has included 'Equipment you will need?' Because you will need specific tools to get started.

3. What can you infer from the picture at the top of the page? That the Aztec people used an organised way in which to make their garden, using rows of water.

4. Why are sticks mentioned in this instructional text? Sticks are used along the edge of the banks to keep the soil in place and to prevent crops from being washed away.

5. The author uses the word: scoop Why? To show that you need to use a trowel to lift out the soil.

6. Why does this process require 'pouring water over banks?' Water was necessary to fill up the channels in between the soil banks.

How do you know? It was the way the Aztecs travelled in their boats to access their farmlands.

7. What probably caused the apparent 'floating water' look? The gardens had water all around them.

Challenge:

8. How might the Aztec people have felt at the end of this process? Explain. They would have felt proud, happy at their achievement because it took hard work, with travelling along channels of water in order to have access to their farmlands with growing crops.

Answers to Monday's text - Retrieval

1. What were tools made from by the Early people? **Pebbles, flint and sticks**
2. Another name for the early Stone Age is...? (**Paleolithic Period**)
3. What were Hammers made out of? **Animal bones or antlers**
4. Why were Handaxes used? **They were used to scrape animal hides, slice meat and to extract nutrition from bone marrow**
5. When was the Mesolithic period? **Was the middle stone age.**
6. How were Neolithic axes made? **They were made with a blade which would have been tied in place with strong leather strips. It had a wooden handle.** What were they used for? **For chopping down trees.**
7. Find and copy a word in the text that means to 'cut down.'
Chopping