

## Design a Terrarium

A terrarium is a small Earth system—land, water, atmosphere, and life--complete inside its own jar.

### You will need:

- A 1-quart glass canning or mason jar with cover/2 liter soda bottle\*
- Charcoal or gravel
- Potting soil
- Several small plants
- Water
- Moss

### What to do:

1. Put the charcoal or gravel in the bottom of the jar.
2. Add the potting soil.
3. Arrange the mosses and other plants in the terrarium.
4. Water the plants thoroughly.
5. Put the cover on the jar.

Think about it:

What happens if you raise the temperature in the terrarium?

What happens if you introduce pollutants to the terrarium?

What happens if the water escape?

How does this relate to our real world Earth system?

\* If using a clear plastic empty soda bottle, cut a door in the center so the gravel, soil plants and water can be added. Cap bottle and tape door closed.