



## FLOWERPOT HABITAT EXPERIMENT

Professor Airy Larry suggested placing a flowerpot outside, then going out every day, for several days, and see if you find animals underneath! (Flowerpot, seeds and soil provided by MCPD.)

### Follow these steps:

- 1.) Find a flower pot (or use the one provided in the student kit)
- 2.) Fill the flowerpot with the soil provided. Using your tweezers, carefully pick up the tiny seeds provided in the packet and gently push them barely into the soil only slightly covering them with soil. Add a layer of leaves, pieces of small sticks and maybe small pine cones (some materials provided), then pour a small amount of water underneath the pot on the ground where you will place it. Then pour some water in the pot to wet the dirt. When the dirt starts to look dry add a small amount of more water.
- 3.) Locate a shady place (if available) in your yard that you would like to place the flowerpot.
- 4.) Leave the flowerpot in place for a couple days.
- 5.) After a couple days, gently lift the flowerpot slowly and look for signs of animals. Use your invertebrate, insect and spider guides to identify the animals you find. Use your magnifying glass to look closely at them.
- 6.) Wait another day and check your location again.
- 7.) Continue to check your location for several days and answer the questions on the lined Student Sheet.
  - a.) What type of animals do I see?
  - b.) Why do they like this habitat?
  - c.) Which of the animal's needs does the flower pot provide?
  - d.) Where can they get food and water?
- 8.) Draw a picture of your findings and record the **FLIPGRID Science Challenge: Flowerpot Habitat** to share with your teacher and classmates.
- 9.) Check under their flowerpot and record the number of living animals found underneath the pot every day, using tally marks. You will use this information to answer questions on the Student Sheet. The daily count will be recorded on the provided student sheet in the chart.
- 10.) Once the seeds in the flower pot start to grow and flower, observe closely to see what animals are visiting the top part of your flowerpot habitat throughout the seasons.

