

Family Tree Ministries
Family Tree Private School

Transplanting Starter Plants Into Larger Containers



***January 2012
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Course Guide

***Developed for:
Grades 3 and up
FTPS Curriculum Development Program***

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Acknowledgments

We extend our sincere appreciation to the friends, families, and professional associations that allowed their members to assist in the development of this course. James 1:17 teaches us, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." When seeds are obtained from original "heirloom" plants, they are designed to grow over and over again. This is truly a gift from our Father that we acknowledge.

Forward

You will have a lot of fun delivering this course as you learn a vital skill of producing a thriving plant for enjoyment, or even for food. You need to have a responsible person handle the dangerous tools. Don't let small children eat the dirt, or the plant. This course has a Student Course Summary which you should give to your student at the beginning of the course. It is included in this Course Guide at the end of Lesson 1. It will have a copy of all the lessons found in this Course Guide. Enjoy your course, and this is a course you can repeat over and over again using different starter plants. If you grow plants that can be used for food, you will enjoy it all the more!

Course Outline

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Lesson 1	Identify Tools & Supplies for Transplanting (.5 hour)
Lesson 2	Mixing a Healthy Plant Soil (.5 hour)
Lesson 3	Prepare a Pot to Receive a Plant (.5 hour)
Lesson 4	Moving the Starter Plant (.5 hour)

Summary

Course Goal: To enable the student to grow a viable plant after transplanting a starter plant into a larger, prepared container using appropriate tools, materials, supplies, and methods.

Structure of Course: 4 Lessons

Total Estimated Time: 2 hours

In-Class Activities:

Instructor-led lecture and demonstration

Individual and small group work

Assignments:

The student will participate in lectures, and observe demonstrations.

The student will transplant a small, starter plant into a larger, prepared planter container.

Materials and Supplies Required:

Student Course Summary

The Following Supplies:

peat moss



sand/potting soil



small rocks



three different sized spoons



a small starter plant



one container
(5 times larger than
the starter plant)



watering container, water



newspaper



Lesson 1: Identifying Tools and Supplies for Transplanting

Learning Goal: To identify and arrange useful tools and supplies in order to transplant a starter plant into a larger, pot with prepared soil.

Introduction

The planting of a starter plant into a larger, more permanent pot is an important step for the health of a plant. The process requires the right tools, the right size containers, and a healthy soil in which to plant the starter plant. Knowing what are the right tools and supplies to use, and having them available, will help you work in an orderly fashion, and help the plant survive and thrive after the transplant.

Reading Assignments

Student Course Summary

Objectives

- 1.1 The student will obtain a container at least 5 times larger than the pot that the starter plant is in.
- 1.2 The student will gather potting soil and peat moss to make a 2 to 1 ratio of a soil mixture.
- 1.3 The student will gather gardening utensils to include the following: different sizes of wooden or metal spoons, a small watering container, small rocks, and old newspaper or other paper that can be discarded after use.

In order to begin our transplanting project, let's prepare tools and supplies that will be needed:

1. Pick a pot that is at least 5 times larger than the first pot that the starter plant is in.



2. Set that new pot aside.

3. Spread out newspaper, or other paper that can be discarded after use.



4. On the paper, lay out enough potting soil to fill your new pot, and enough peat moss to make a 2 to 1 ratio when it is mixed. For example, 2 cups of soil, to 1 cup of peat moss is a 2 to 1 ratio.



5. Place a large wooden or metal spoon and your empty pot on, or near the paper.
6. Fill a small watering container to use later for moistening the soil.



Check that your supplies are organized, and easily accessible.

Student Course Summary

Course Goal: To enable the student to grow a viable plant after transplanting a starter plant into a larger, prepared container using appropriate tools, materials, supplies, and methods. .

Structure of Course: 4 Lessons

Total Estimated Time: 2 hours

In-Class Activities:

Instructor-led lecture and demonstration

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Assignments:

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The student will transplant a small, starter plant into a larger, prepared planter container.

Materials and Supplies Required:

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The Following Supplies:

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watering container, water



newspaper



Lesson 1: Identifying Tools and Supplies for Transplanting

Learning Goal: To identify and arrange useful tools and supplies in order to transplant a starter plant into a larger, pot with prepared soil.

Introduction

The planting of a starter plant into a larger, more permanent pot is an important step for the health of a plant. The process requires the right tools, the right size containers, and a healthy soil in which to plant the starter plant. Knowing what are the right tools and supplies to use, and having them available, will help you work in an orderly fashion, and help the plant survive and thrive after the transplant.

Reading Assignments

Student Course Summary

Objectives

- 1.3 The student will obtain a container at least 5 times larger than the pot that the starter plant is in.
- 1.4 The student will gather potting soil and peat moss to make a 2 to 1 ratio of a soil mixture.
- 1.3 The student will gather gardening utensils to include the following: different sizes of wooden or metal spoons, a small watering container, small rocks, and old newspaper or other paper that can be discarded after use.

In order to begin our transplanting project, let's prepare tools and supplies that will be needed:

1. Pick a pot that is at least 5 times larger than the first pot that the starter plant is in.



2. Set that new pot aside.

3. Spread out newspaper, or other paper that can be discarded after use.



4. On the paper, lay out enough potting soil to fill your new pot, and enough peat moss to make a 2 to 1 ratio when it is mixed. For example, 2 cups of soil, to 1 cup of peat moss is a 2 to 1 ratio.



5. Place a large wooden or metal spoon and your empty pot on, or near the paper.
6. Fill a small watering container to use later for moistening the soil.



Check that your supplies are organized, and easily accessible.

Lesson 2: Mixing Together a Healthy Plant Soil

Learning Goal: To use soil and peat moss in correct proportions to create a soil mixture for receiving a starter plant to thrive and grow.

Introduction

The planting of a starter plant into its permanent environment is an important step for the health of a plant. There are proven methods of soil mixtures, that when used properly will establish any plant to thrive and grow. The beginning steps of a plant's growth can ensure that you have food if you are growing vegetables, or can yield beautiful, healthy looking flowers.

Pre-reading Assignments

None

Objectives

- 2.1 The student will arrange the work area with spread out the newspaper, an empty container, soil, peat moss, and all utensils chosen.
- 2.2 The student will mix together 1 part peat moss with 2 parts potting soil into the container in a quantity enough to fill the 2nd empty pot.

Arrange your work area with spread out the newspaper, an empty container, soil, peat moss, small rocks, and all utensils chosen in a manner that you can easily reach everything. Check that your items are not too close to the edge of the table to prevent them from falling.

Give yourself lots of room on the paper to mix the soil and peat moss together. In order to know how much mixture you need, you should use the new pot to measure, doing the following:

1. scoop out one container full of soil and
2. scoop out $\frac{1}{2}$ of the container full of peat moss.

After you scoop the soil and peat moss, mix them together with your hands on the newspaper. Make sure the rest of the soil and peat moss you did not use is out of your way.



Lesson 3: Prepare a Pot to receive a plant

Learning Goal: To properly prepare a pot to receive a starter plant

Introduction

The planting of a starter plant into a new soil requires that the soil be moist, and that an appropriate sized hole is ready to receive the plant. This is important because you must limit the time that the roots are exposed to the air when the plant is moved over. Having a hole ready ahead of time makes sense. Also, moistening the soil will make it firm when the plant is lowered into the hole which helps the plant stabilize when planted.

Pre-reading Assignments

None

Objectives

- 3.1 The student will place one inch of rocks at the bottom of the pot
- 3.2 The student will place one inch of soil mixture to 1 inch from top of the pot
- 3.3 The student will lightly water the soil in the 2nd pot
- 3.4 The student will depress a hole 3 inches deep, and 2 inches wide in the center of the 2nd pot.

Place one inch of rocks at the bottom of the pot. This is important for draining water properly after the plant is watered. Fill the pot with the soil mixture to 1" from the top, then, lightly water the soil. Watering the soil now helps the soil to be firm when you make the hole you will be putting the starter plant into. Using your finger, depress a hole in the soil, 3 inches deep, and approximately 2 inches wide in the center of the 2nd pot. If your starter plant is very large, make the hole big enough to accommodate it.



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**Empty
Container**

small rocks

**soil and peat
moss mixture**

water

Lesson 4: Moving a Starter Plant.

Learning Goal: To successfully lift a small plant out of one container and plant into another container

Introduction

Plants are very sensitive to movement, and temperature. When digging a small plant up to move it, the method you use will determine if your plant lives or dies after it is placed into its new environment.

Pre-reading Assignments

None

Objectives

- 4.1 The student will pick a digging tool with the appropriate length and width given the dimensions of the plant to be moved.
- 4.2 The student will gently lift a small plant from underneath it, keeping the soil attached to the roots
- 4.3 The student will place a small plant it into a hole in a second pot, covering it with soil and watering it.

Choose a digging tool (one of your spoons) that is big enough to lift out the plant that is to be moved. Gently lift the plant by pushing your spoon in one firm motion underneath it, keeping the soil attached to the roots as much as possible. You want to minimize when oxygen comes in contact with the roots because, when oxygen comes in contact with plant roots, it shocks the plant and increases its chances that it will die.

1. Gently carry the plant over to the prepared 2nd container.
2. Push the plant off of the spoon with your fingers into a hole in a second pot,
3. Cover it with soil using your fingers.
4. Water it well.

Watering it well will assure that all gaps around the roots where oxygen can creep in will be sealed with soil.



Tip

Only grow plants common to your growing area.

This way you will have a high chance of experiencing success in your transplanting project.

Enjoy!

Lesson 2: Mixing Together a Healthy Plant Soil

Learning Goal: To use soil and peat moss in correct proportions to create a soil mixture for receiving a starter plant to thrive and grow.

Introduction

The planting of a starter plant into its permanent environment is an important step for the health of a plant. There are proven methods of soil mixtures, that when used properly will establish any plant to thrive and grow. The beginning steps of a plant's growth can ensure that you have food if you are growing vegetables, or can yield beautiful, healthy looking flowers.

Pre-reading Assignments

None

Objectives

- 2.1 The student will arrange the work area with spread out the newspaper, an empty container, soil, peat moss, and all utensils chosen.
- 2.2 The student will mix together 1 part peat moss with 2 parts potting soil into the container in a quantity enough to fill the 2nd empty pot.

Arrange your work area with spread out the newspaper, an empty container, soil, peat moss, small rocks, and all utensils chosen in a manner that you can easily reach everything. Check that your items are not too close to the edge of the table to prevent them from falling.

Give yourself lots of room on the paper to mix the soil and peat moss together. In order to know how much mixture you need, you should use the new pot to measure, doing the following:

3. scoop out one container full of soil and
4. scoop out ½ of the container full of peat moss.

After you scoop the soil and peat moss, mix them together with your hands on the newspaper. Make sure the rest of the soil and peat moss you did not use is out of your way.



Lesson 3: Prepare a Pot to receive a plant

Learning Goal: To properly prepare a pot to receive a starter plant

Introduction

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Pre-reading Assignments

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Objectives

- 3.1 The student will place one inch of rocks at the bottom of the pot
- 3.2 The student will place one inch of soil mixture to 1 inch from top of the pot
- 3.3 The student will lightly water the soil in the 2nd pot
- 3.4 The student will depress a hole 3 inches deep, and 2 inches wide in the center of the 2nd pot.

Place one inch of rocks at the bottom of the pot. This is important for draining water properly after the plant is watered. Fill the pot with the soil mixture to 1" from the top, then, lightly water the soil. Watering the soil now helps the soil to be firm when you make the hole you will be putting the starter plant into. Using your finger, depress a hole in the soil, 3 inches deep, and approximately 2 inches wide in the center of the 2nd pot. If your starter plant is very large, make the hole big enough to accommodate it.



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**Empty
Container**

small rocks

**soil and peat
moss mixture**

water

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Introduction

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