Challenge #2

CREATE: SELF WATERING PLANTER

Self-watering planters will make plant maintenance easier for the plant owner by reducing the time needed for watering each day! These planters are designed to hold water in a reservoir, inside or close to the planter, and replenish the soil moisture as plants draw it up through various natural forces.

Every item that is repurposed is another item that does not contribute to the overflowing of landfills! So let's create something wonderful from the materials you would otherwise discard!

CHALLENGE DETAILS:

Your self-watering planter needs to:

- Be made of recycled materials ♻
- Contain and disperse water for at least 2 days
- Be self-powered 🌀
- Only get its water from your reservoir, which is filled non-continuously (no sinks or pumps!) 🚱
- Maintain even soil hydration* 🌊
  *hydration = getting a living creature enough water (not too much, not too little)

DROP SOME KNOWLEDGE:

There's a lot of science behind self-watering planters! To create the most awesome planter possible, read through this quick background info before getting started.

**Look for an extra raffle ticket option in the background info!**

HOW TO GET STARTED:

Collect a variety of waterproof recycled materials ♻ from around your house - plastic containers and packaging will work well.

You will also need one or the other:

- Soil and seeds to plant (dried beans or corn kernels work well too!)
- An existing plant to add the self watering planter onto
MAKE A PLAN:
Ask yourself a few questions:

- **Which concepts did you find most interesting in the diagram in the background information?**
  - How can you use this science concept to inspire an innovative plan?

- **Do you have string, fabric, or another material that will successfully transport the water?**
  - **Maybe... ??** Test it if it works! Place the material so that it hangs between 2 cups, add water to one of the cups and let it sit for a couple hours (traveling water experiment!)
  - **If not,** how can you adapt your plan to create a self-watering planter that uses a different science concept?

- **Do you have a waterproof container that can serve as the reservoir?**
  - **If not,** how can you change the materials that you do have to make your own reservoir for water?
  - What other science concepts can you apply to slowly move water from the reservoir to the soil?

START BUILDING:

Have fun with it!

Be creative!

Test and explore things!

Challenge your thinking!

PHOTOGRAPH:

Take a photo of your final product! We want to see it!