



Grow your own onions!

- Have you ever tried to grow an onion from an onion? No? Well, read on and find out how to do it!

What you need:

- An ordinary onion
- A sharp knife; an empty jam-jar; water; a plant pot; some seed compost
- You may need an adult to help with the first step

What to do:

- Cut a slice from the end of the onion where the roots are. Your slice should be about a quarter of the entire onion.
- Fill the empty jam-jar with water and lay the rooted end of the slice on top. Make sure that the roots are submerged in the water.
- Leave your onion on a windowsill or somewhere that it can get light.
- Check the roots after three days. You should see tiny, new, white roots beginning to grow.
- Fill your plant pot with compost almost to the top and water it well.
- Place your onion slice on top and press the baby roots very gently into the compost. Cover with a little more compost (like a blanket for your onion!) and water it well.
- Check it out every day. In eight to ten days you will begin to see your new onion grow. Congratulations!



Some more ideas:

- You can do this with several onion slices in different plant pots. Put some pots in a light-filled area; others in shade; and another in the dark.
- Examine each onion slice after a week and check their progress. Are they all the same? If not, what's the difference? Why do you think this is the case?