

# CO-CREATE NURSERY ESTABLISHMENT: HOW TO

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## What is a Tree Nursery?

A Tree Nursery is a collection of about 50 diverse saplings grown together until they reach a desired height for formal planting or sale. Students can collect waste, such as plastic containers and/or plastic bags to be used as containers in the Nursery.



\*Example of a tree nursery in a school compound. You can see the tree saplings in small, black bags.

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## Why do Tree Nurseries matter for the climate and the environment?

- They cultivate environmental stewardship and biodiversity (diverse species) promotion and conservation
- They support carbon capture and reforestation efforts to support climate change mitigation
- They contribute to larger scale environmental and learning opportunities, such as microforests
- They provide hands-on learning opportunities for students

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## How are Tree Nurseries connected to the broader climate action teacher champion toolkit?

- Nurseries are a key building block to understanding the life cycle and supply chain of trees and reforestation efforts. Nurseries play a key role in supplying the seedlings for the micro-forest and demonstrate a potential income generating activity for the school.

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## Materials Needed for the Tree Nursery:

- 50 or more waste/recycled containers (eg. yogurt containers, or plastic bags collected from local communities or students' homes. The recycled waste should be able to hold 0.5 kg of soil each.
- 25 kgs of soil/compost, 0.5kg per bag
- 50 or more seeds of different trees found around the local community

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### How do I set up the Tree Nursery?

1. Identify a suitable location for the tree nursery on the school grounds. The location should be secure, protected from extreme sun, and not at risk of being flooded in the rain.
2. Engage students in seed collection (eg. Fruit seeds, such as oranges and mangos) around their community and show them how to prepare a seedling pot by mixing soil compost, adding the seedling, and watering a prepared bag or pot.
3. Establish and maintain tree nursery beds, these can be in a dense formation of rows, for example 20x 5, that make it easy to water, walk in between, and monitor.
4. Allow seedlings to each receive sunlight, but not extreme exposure. Water and maintain the seedlings. When appropriate size for that species, transplant to bigger container, if available.
5. When of appropriate size for the species you can plant the trees around school ground or in your future microforest.

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### What will I see if the Tree Nursery is working?

- Increased number of native tree species grown in the nursery.
- Vibrant, green, large, leafed saplings that are ready to plant.
- Improved school grounds with enhanced greenery and biodiversity.
- Heightened environmental awareness and engagement among students and community members.