What is Hydroponics?

Can plants be grown if you don't have any soil? Hydroponics is the science of growing plants without this needed element! How is it done? Does it really work? You'll find out, dirt free.

**What to do:** Place the stones or broken pottery in the bottoms of the flower pots, to cover the holes and provide drainage. Fill the remaining areas with the planting material. Put the pots on the tray or on shallow dishes.

With the spray bottle, water the material well— it should be moist but not soaking wet. Now, likely and evenly scatter the seed over the planting material and press it down. If you have a lots of several kinds of seeds, it is best to use several pots for good spacing and better growth. Place the pots in a sunny, south-facing windows and continue to keep the planting materials moist.

After the plants germinate, or sprout, water them with a combination of water and plant food. (See package directions on how to dilute the food with water). Continue to water the plants whenever more moisture is needed, but be careful not to water them too much.

**What happens:** The seeds grow into healthy seedlings or young plants without using any type of soil.

**Why:** Plants need air, water, and light to grow, but they don't necessarily need soil. Plants can be grown without soil by replacing the minerals they would normally get from the soil with liquid or dry plant food.

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**YOU NEED**

- Flower pots (with holes in the bottoms)
- Stones or broken pottery, for pot drainage
- Tray or shallow dishes
- Spray bottle
- Flower or vegetable seeds
- Water absorbent plant material, like vermiculite or perlite or peat moss
- Liquid or granular plant food