



**Materials from your kit:**

Wildflower seed

Potting Soil

Clay

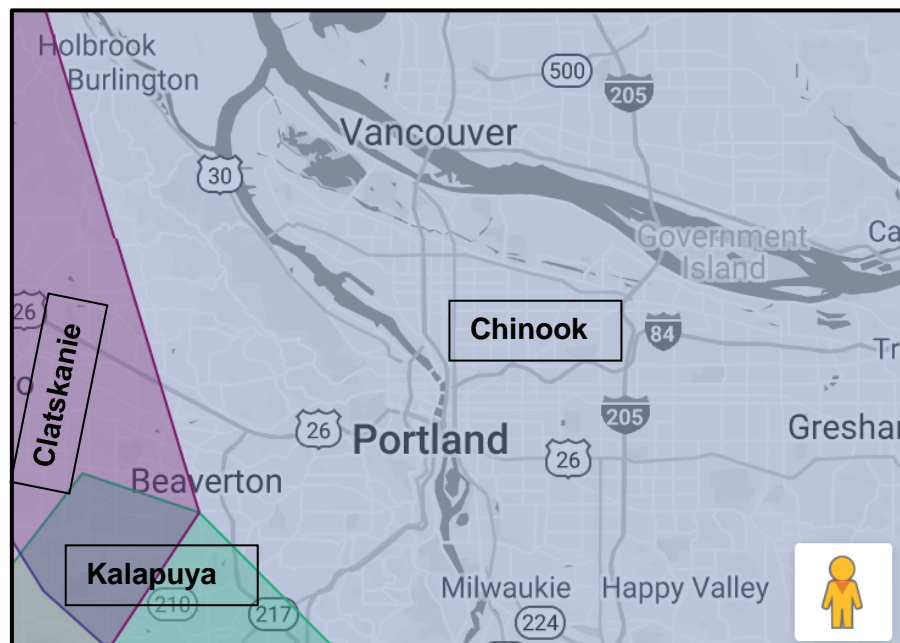
## Soil

The soil in your packet was purchased from a store. But soil, water, sunshine and air have not always been for sale. When Europeans colonized indigenous lands in the United States, they made laws that said land could and should be controlled by corporations and individual people. An example of these laws is the Homestead Acts, which sold 160 acres of indigenous land to white settlers for only \$2. For people who are not indigenous to the United States, we are on land that was forcibly taken from Native people who stewarded their lands according to their unique cultures.

We are going to use soil, clay, water, and seeds to give something back. You have a plastic bag with potting soil in your kit. This is land.

### *Is your home on this map?*

Most of Portland and Gresham is on lands that traditionally belonged to the Chinook people, who are fighting for their recognition as a tribe in federal court. West Portland, Beaverton, and Hillsboro are on Clatskanie Land. Southern parts of Beaverton, Tigard, and Tualatin are on Kalapuya Land.



## Clay

Indigenous people only control 5% of the earth's landmass but the lands they govern are healthier than lands controlled by corporations or individuals. 80% of the earth's healthy ecosystems are on indigenous controlled lands. We can help the earth through supporting indigenous land rights in our community.

**Step 1: You have a plastic bag with a ball of clay in your kit. Add it to the bag of soil to bind everything together.**

## Seed and Water

This year, the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole Tribes in Oklahoma won a lawsuit that confirmed their right to half of the land in Oklahoma, a state with many oil pipelines running through it. These pipelines belong to colonizer oil companies who must now listen to indigenous governments rather than United States government officials when operating their pipelines.



**Step 2: You have a yellow packet of pollinator seeds in your kit. Add the seeds from the packet labeled “Pollinator Seeds” to your plastic bag. Add a few drops of water to your bag until the soil is moist. Make sure not to add too much water!**

## Food for Bees

Undoing the harm of colonization can be something we work together on in small and big ways. We can attend protests in support of indigenous people defending their land against oil pipelines

or write letters in support of indigenous people in legal battles against the US Government for their rights to their land.

We can also begin the stages of healing the land in the neighborhood by practicing what scientist and enrolled member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi, Robin Wall-Kimmerer, calls “reciprocity”. Giving back to the earth that gives to you. With our seed balls, we are going to feed the bees that pollinate our food.

**Step 3:** Take pinch of the seed, water, and soil mixture in your hands and roll it into a little ball with your palms. The ball should be the size of a quarter. Make as many balls as you can and set them somewhere safe to dry like a windowsill or a counter.

**Step 4.:** When your seed ball is dry take it outside to find a place where it can live. Over next several months your seed ball will erode. The seeds will germinate after the rains and native flowers will sprout to feed your bee neighbors.

*We are showered every day with the gifts of the Earth, gifts we have neither earned nor paid for: air to breathe, nurturing rain, black soil, berries and honeybees, the tree that became this page, a bag of rice and the exuberance of a field of goldenrod and asters at full bloom.*

*-Robin Wall-Kimmerer*