



# Making Mini Greenhouses



Learning Objective:

To investigate materials for making a greenhouse

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As we have found out in the first lesson, some people have mini greenhouses in which they grow seeds or keep small plants.



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'A mini greenhouse will not be as effective as a full-size greenhouse.'

Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

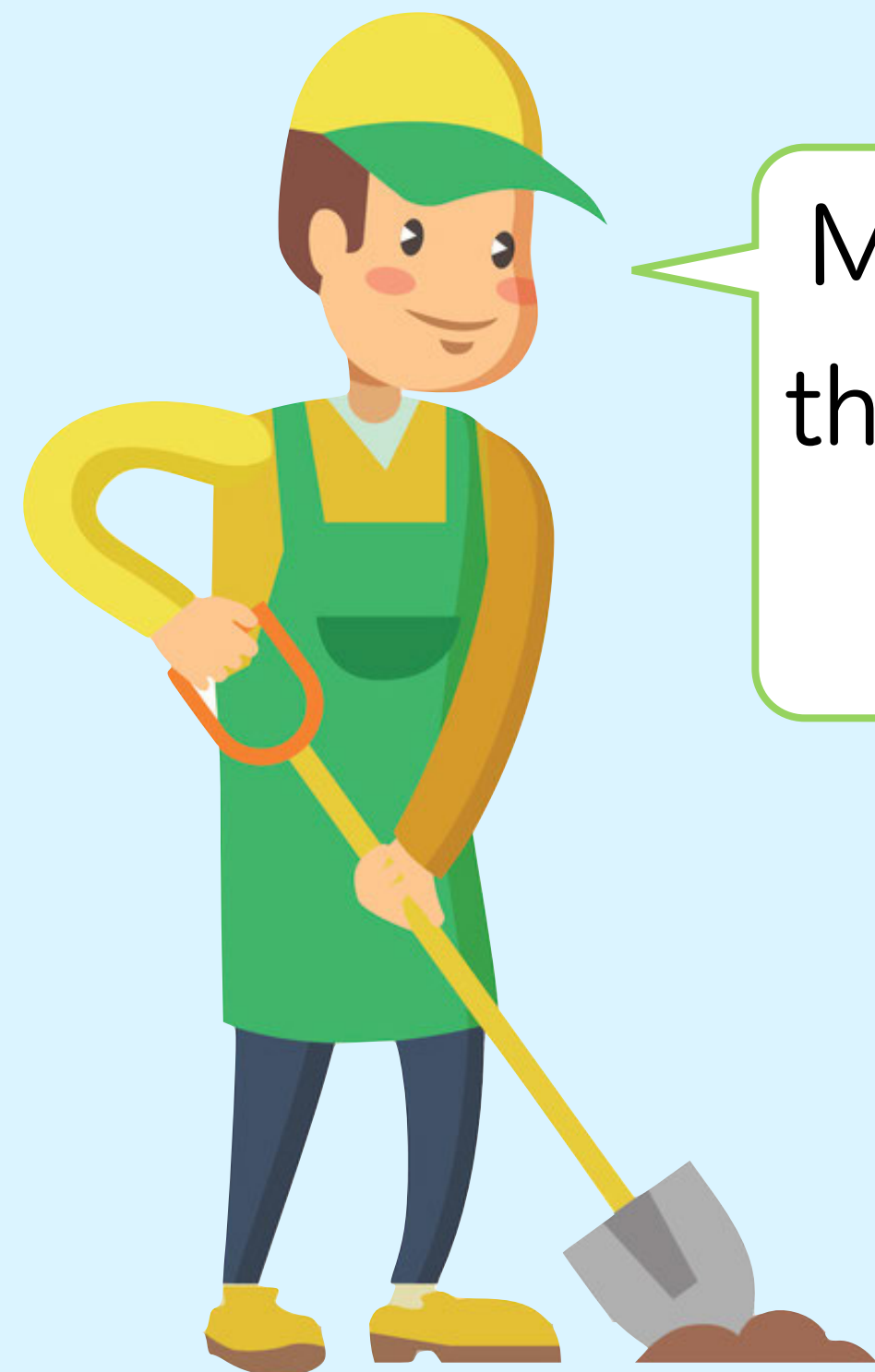
Why?

Think, pair, then share your opinions.

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A mini greenhouse will work in **exactly** the same way as a full-size greenhouse – it will still allow sunlight to enter and be trapped within the structure, heating up the air and plants within, and helping them to grow.



Mini greenhouses don't take up as much space, they can be moved around more easily, and they can be placed indoors or outdoors.

The only disadvantage is that you can't fit as many plants in them!



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If you were making a mini greenhouse, what materials could you use for the frame and the sections within the frame?



Remember – the frame needs to be strong enough to keep the structure stable, and the sections within the frame need to be transparent.



Think, pair, then share your ideas.

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What ideas for materials did you come up with?

Materials for the  
frame

Materials for the  
sections within the frame

Which do you think is the best combination?

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Today you are going to be exploring a range of different materials and assessing how suitable they would be for making a mini greenhouse.

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## Plenary:

We have been focusing on mini greenhouses today, but let's have a look at the **biggest** greenhouse in the world..!



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Do you know what this is, and where it is?



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This is the **Eden Project** in **Cornwall, England**. It is a massive greenhouse complex that contains over one million different plant species!



Have you ever been here?

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The structure took two and a half years to build, and opened in 2001. It is made up of huge hexagonally patterned domes. It is a popular visitor attraction where people can go to learn more about nature and looking after the environment.



Can you see how the structure is ventilated?

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