**Take Care of a Houseplant**

Scientists have found that caring for plants at home can make people feel happier. Here’s how to do it.

1. **Choose one.** It’s easier to buy a grown houseplant than to start from a seed. Many plants come with a tag that explains how much sun and water they require. Try to choose something that’s easy to grow, such as a spider plant, ponytail palm, or succulent.

2. **Find a spot for it.** If your plant needs bright light, try placing it on a windowsill that faces the sun most of the day. If your plant calls for indirect sunlight, you could put it in the middle of a room with windows. Low-light plants can thrive in a room without much sunlight.

3. **Water regularly.** Different houseplants need different amounts of water, so check the soil every few days to figure out how often to water it. If the top inch of the soil is dry, use a watering can or a spray bottle to add water.

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**Create Pointillist Artwork**

Pointillism is a painting technique that was invented in the 1880s by French artists Georges Seurat and Paul Signac. It involves applying dots of paint to a paper or canvas to form a whole picture. Seurat and Signac believed that when someone looked at the painting, their eyes would blend the colors to see the image the dots created. Learn how to create your own Pointillism art below, or visit tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Pointillism for a video on the technique from children’s book author and illustrator Olaf Falafel.

**What you need**
- A pencil
- Paper or canvas
- Paint (acrylic or oil) or felt-tip pens
- Paper plate or paint palette
- Cotton swabs, such as Q-tips

**Instructions**
1. Sketch an outline of the picture you want to draw onto your paper or canvas.
2. Choose which paint colors you want to use. Opposite hues, like blue and orange or red and green, work best because they create the greatest contrast between your sections. Add the paint to your palette or paper plate. (You can also use felt-tip pens instead of paints.)
3. Press a cotton swab down into the paint, then press it onto your paper to make a dot. Instead of moving the swab back and forth like you would a brush, keep making many dots next to one another. Repeat this with another color in a different part of your artwork.
4. The most important rule is not to mix the colors. If you need darker and lighter areas of green, for example, you can use black or brown dots for the dark areas, and white or yellow for the light areas.
5. Finish making all your dots, then step back and look at the art. Do the colors blend together to form your picture? If not, you can keep adding more dots.

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**Eco Tip of the Week**

Make a Natural Glass Cleaner

Wiping down windows and other glass surfaces, such as mirrors and shower doors, is a necessary chore to keep your home clean. While you can use a store-bought cleaner, a homemade one can be just as effective—and better for the environment. It uses fewer chemicals, and energy won’t be spent on making and recycling the plastic bottle. To make it, first find an empty spray bottle. Fill it with 2 cups of filtered water and ½ cup of white vinegar, then mix. To use it, spray the solution at the top of the glass you are cleaning. Using a microfiber cloth, wipe all the way down the glass so the product cleans the whole area. Wiping in the same direction can also prevent streaks.