Lil' Sprouts

Mother’s Day Milk Carton Planter

Make the day of any mother figure in your life even more special by giving her a gift from the heart for the garden, patio or kitchen window.

1. **PREP YOUR PLANTER**
   - Rinse out an empty milk carton with warm water and dish soap. You’ll have a chance to clean it more carefully once you cut a hole into it.
   - Ask an adult to help you carefully cut one of the four sides of the carton. They can use a knife or scissors.
   - Voila! The carton has been transformed into a plant pot. Now for the fun part: decorating!

2. **DECORATING YOUR PLANTER**
   - Place paper under the carton to measure out pieces that can be taped or glued on to the outside of the planter. Make sure the paper fits properly before decorating!
   - **Now, get creative!** Draw, paint, color and write some lovely images and words that will show Mom just how much you love her. Stickers are an excellent option, too.

3. **FILL YOUR PLANTER**
   - *Fill the planter up with soil, choose what to plant and watch it grow!*
   - If you intend to keep the plants in the carton, go for smaller flowers like *pansies* or *forget-me-nots*. Herbs like *basil* and *chives* are also a great option.
   - You can also plant varieties that could be later transplanted to the garden, like *squash* and *corn*. *Marigolds* could grow in the carton and then be transplanted around *tomatoes* — they make great companions!

Mom will surely love her homemade gift and your garden will be all the better for it!