

Setting up Aquaponics Kit Checklist

Getting Started:

- Unpack your box and make sure everything is included. See more info at: [Back to the Roots Water Garden Kit](#)
- Select a location for the tank
 - The provided radish microgreens and wheat grass don't require much sun/light to grow. However, if you want to include aquarium plants or different plants on top of the garden, place the tank in an area that receives sunlight throughout the day. The tank will also need to be relatively close to an outlet to power the pump and heater.
- Watch this video on [How to Set Up](#) your Water Garden
- Cross reference video with the Instruction Manual included in the kit and ensure everything is ready.
- Add Water
 - Generally, adding tap water is okay along with provided desalination and water conditioner.
 - If tap water is especially hard, use filtered water.

Optional Add ons:

- Purchase a Heater
 - It is strongly recommended to purchase a small 50 W heater to keep the water temperature between 24-28 °C if the room temperature is less than that, since betta fish are tropical. Betta fish can survive at 20-24 °C, but won't be happy.
- Tank Accessories
 - The tank does not come with any accessories inside for the fish. The [accompanying lesson plan](#) will have students provide options of things that can be added to improve the ecosystem and affect the water chemistry. However, to enrich the life of your fish, recommended accessories are:
 - Aquarium gravel, sand or rocks
 - Small ceramic structures to play and hide in
 - Artificial plants
 - Betta leaf hammock

Add the Fish:

- Purchase a Fish
 - The kit strongly recommends using a male betta fish, as they are fit for a 3 gallon tank. They do offer a few other options including Zebra Danios and Male Fancy Guppies.
- Acclimate the fish to the tank by first placing the original pet store jar into the tank (rinse the outside). After about 15 minutes you can open the jar and let the fish swim freely.

*Read the [FAQ](#) page for more information.

**If seeds run out, contact Laurie Loane: laurie@peiagsc.ca from the PEI Agriculture Sector for more packs.