



# GROW GERTIE'S HAIR



Gertie's hair is so big that it's like having five extra pockets on top of her head! You never know what you'll find in there: a toy boat, a good book, maybe even a family of birds! Have fun growing, trimming, and decorating a grassy version of Gertie's hairstyle.

## YOU'LL NEED:

- Scissors
- 1 pair stockings or thin tights
- 1 large (18-ounce) plastic cup
- 1 tablespoon grass seed
- 2 cups potting soil
- Colored paper
- 2 plastic eyes
- 1 pom-pom
- Glue
- Permanent marker

1. Use scissors to cut the bottom 12 inches off one stocking leg. Pull the leg of the stocking over the mouth of the cup so it looks like a bowl, as shown.
2. Put the grass seed into the toe of the stocking, then add the soil, as shown.



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## GROW GERTIE'S HAIR (CONT.)

3. Carefully pull the stocking over the edge of the cup, squeeze the grass seed and soil into the toe to form a tight ball, and tie a knot, as shown.
4. Fill a small bowl or bucket with water, and soak the stocking in it for 10 minutes, as shown.
5. While your stocking is soaking, cut Gertie's ears out of a 8 x 2-inch strip of colored paper, as shown. Glue the ears, plastic eyes, and pom-pom nose to your cup, and use a permanent marker to draw Gertie's mouth.
6. Fill the cup about half full with water, then place the stocking ball in the plastic cup with the grass seed facing up, as shown. The top of the ball should be even with the top of the cup. If your stocking ball falls too far into your cup, take it out and press down on the top to make it wider.
7. Set the cup in a sunny spot. The water in the bottom of the cup should keep the soil moist, but if it starts to dry out, mist it with a spray bottle or sprinkle on a few teaspoons of water each day. "Hair" should sprout in five to seven days!



You can trim Gertie's hair if it gets too long, or you can decorate it with tiny toys or paper confetti!

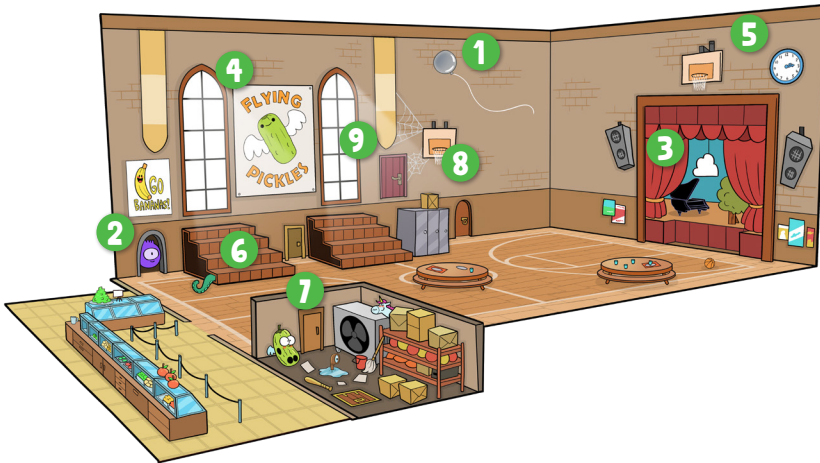


# WHAT'S IN YOUR CAFETORIUM?

Gertie has been taking care of the Cafetorium for hundreds of—er, *many*—years. Sometimes people complain about the crazy and creepy things that happen there, but she thinks surprises are a great part of life!

If you could create a secret room at your school, what would it look like? Would it be a game room, a science lab, or maybe a pizza shop that only you and your friends know about? Would it have musical instruments? Robots? Waterslides?

When you've figured out all the details of your very own Cafetorium, draw it and write a story about what happens there.



1. **SILVER CEILING BALLOON.** It's been up there since the spring basketball championship.
2. **ROVER.** Gertie's pet eyeball. Sees, but is not often seen.
3. **CAFETORIUM PIANO.** Definitely can play more than one song.
4. **FLYING PICKLE MASCOT.** He's a big dill.
5. **CAFETORIUM CLOCK.** Hey, look, it's 2:14—always.
6. **SEAT 47.** No butt has sat here in over 600 years.
7. **GERTIE'S STORAGE CLOSET.** It's bigger on the inside.
8. **THE DREADED HOOP.** No one has ever made a basket in this hoop.
9. **NOTHING TO SEE HERE.** Shouldn't you be in class?

## YOUR SECRET ROOM DETAILS

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(continued on other side)

**Write your secret room story here!**

A cartoon illustration of an elderly woman with a large, bushy grey wig, wearing a blue cap, glasses, and a blue dress. She is holding a large, round, brown cookie on a stick. The background is white with horizontal lines.