

St. Philip's Snake Repellent Activity

It is no wonder that a snake is the animal that is typically used to exemplify evil. They are very scary creatures and most people cringe at the very thought of encountering one! Because it is said that garlic is a natural snake repellent, lets pot some up, one for our windowsill and another for our neighbor, and keep those pesky snakes away!

We can decorate the pots with friendly looking snakes to remind us of the works of our saintly friend.

We'll need:

Two **clay pots**, new or old, it doesn't matter, but it should be clean and dry.

We'll also need some **glue**, some air-drying **clay**, in green if you like, and a few **whole cloves** for eyes and a piece of **red chenille**, or felt, for the tongues of our slithery friends.

Oh! And yes, we'll need some **potting soil** and two heads of **garlic**...one for each pot!



Let's start by making a long snake from our clay, tapering the tail end and flattening the head. The longer you make the clay the better for our snake, as we need to coil him around our clay pot and glue him in place. While he's still pliable, you can add the cloves from the spice cabinet for eyes, as cloves are also supposed to repel snakes. Use a bit of red felt, red clay, or a chenille pipe-cleaner for his tongue; you can even bend it in two and twist to make the fork in his tongue, and then press it into the wet clay. Once he's been coiled around the pot and glued down, let him dry overnight before moving him or giving him away. Next, take the head of garlic and break it up into individual cloves. Fill your pot with soil to within an inch of the top, and plant each clove, pointy end up, just beneath the surface. Water it carefully, place it in a sunny window and watch as it begins to sprout. You can snip these garlic scapes throughout the coming winter for use in your kitchen and remember our friend, St. Philip.