

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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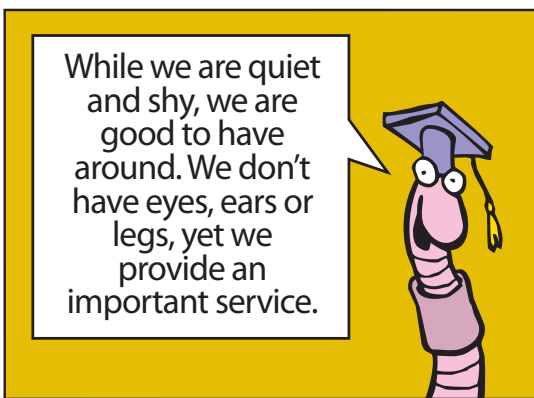
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World of Worms

The world just wouldn't be the same without worms.

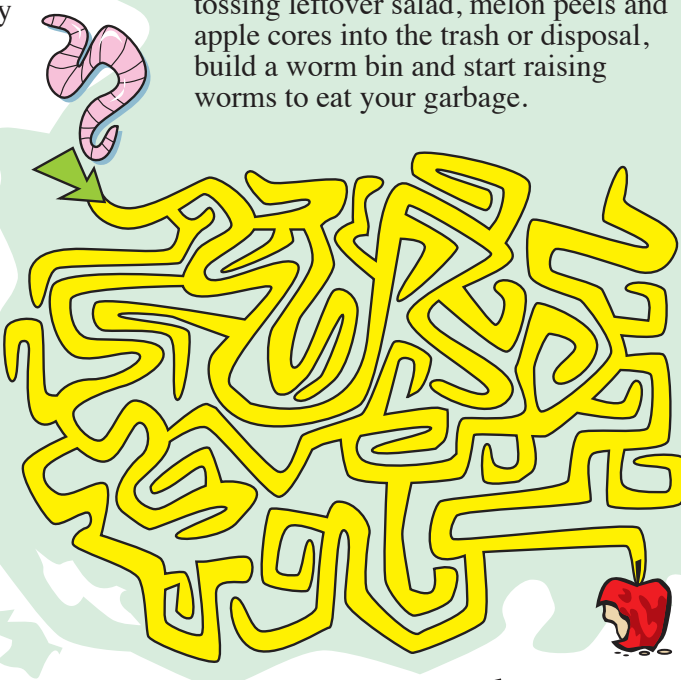


As earthworms burrow or dig into the ground, they swallow soil. They eat rotting plants and leaves. As this debris passes through the worm's body, it is ground up by tiny stones in the worm's gizzard and leaves the body as waste.

This waste is called worm **castings**. Castings are dark and fertile and enrich the soil. Each day an earthworm produces its weight in castings. That's a lot of recycling!

Yum! Love that Garbage!

Garbage is for worms! You might think it is gross, but certain kinds of worms think garbage is yummy. Instead of tossing leftover salad, melon peels and apple cores into the trash or disposal, build a worm bin and start raising worms to eat your garbage.

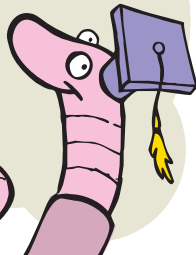


Professor Worm's Amazing Worm Facts
Add up the numbers to discover each answer.

How long was the longest earthworm ever found?
9 + 6 + 7 = **feet**

How many different kinds of earthworms are there?
300 + 700 + 800 =

How strong are earthworms? They can push things up to 3 + 3 + 4 = **times** their own weight. That would be like you being able to push four refrigerators at one time!



Standards Link: Number Sense: Solve addition problems.

Amazing Worm Facts

Replace the missing vowels to learn more about earthworms.

B_ by worms _re not b_ rn, but h_ tch from c_ coons sm_ ller th_ n a gr_ in of r_ ce.

An _ arthw_ rm br_ ath_ s thro_ gh its sk_ n and has f_ ve h_ _rts.

Th_ re ar_ e_ rthw_ rms _ verywh_ re except d_ s_ rts and p_ les.

_ lm_ st all _f the _ _rthw_ rms in N_ rth Am_ ric_ are n_ t_ n_ tive, but w_ re intr_ d_ ced fr_ m the _ ld W_ rld.

_ n one _ cre, th_ re can be m_ re than a m_ ll_ on e_ rthw_ rms.

Standards Link: Life Science: Know that all organisms cause changes in their environments and these can be beneficial or detrimental.

Extra! Extra!

Now You See It

Scientists must be observant, watching things very carefully. Try this game to improve your powers of observation.

1. With a partner, pick a newspaper picture. Study it for one minute.
2. Cover the picture and write down everything you remember about it. Who can remember the most details?

Standards Link: Science/Investigation: Follow instructions for an investigation.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Scratchy Worms

Do you think you can hear an earthworm move?

If you put an earthworm on a clean, dry sheet of paper and listen very carefully, you will hear a little scratching noise. This noise is made by the eight small bristles an earthworm has on nearly every segment of its body. These bristles help earthworms move.

Standards Link: Science/Investigation: Follow instructions for an investigation.



Double Double Word Search

- RECYCLERS
DISPOSAL
GARBAGE
SERVICE
STRONG
DEBRIS
STONES
BURROW
WASTE
WORMS
GROSS
COVER
SOIL
DARK
DIG

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

W K O G N O R T S N
D R S I R B E D R D
E A E L R G C S E I
W D I V A I Y E T S
F O U B O D C N S P
S E R V I C E O A O
L A W M O R R T W S
G M W O S G S S R A
W O R R U B L D S L

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Recycle Poster

Look through the newspaper for names and addresses of agencies involved in recycling. Make a poster encouraging students to recycle and list where different items can be recycled. Post this in your school.

Standards Link: Research: Students use the newspaper to locate information.

RIDDLE RHYMES

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What am I? ANSWER: An earthworm.

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