

All about Worms

Worms are long and thin. They do not have arms or legs.

Worms have lots and lots of little rings around their body. These are called segments.

Earthworms use their skin to breathe. They don't have lungs like many other animals. They need to stay moist to stay alive.

Worms have tiny hairs all along their body. These help the worm to move through the soil.

Worms eat dead leaves, plants, flowers and old fruit and vegetables.

Worms help to mix layers of the soil together. They burrow under the ground, making tunnels which helps to move the soil around.

They help to break down dead plants and flowers.

Baby worms hatch from tiny cocoons.

Worms don't have eyes but can sense light. They like to live in cool, dark, damp places.

Caring for Worms in a Wormery

Only add water to your wormery if the contents are very dry. Worms need damp conditions to survive – but do not like very wet soil. Use a spray bottle to add just a little water at a time.

Only add new food if the previous food has largely all been eaten – avoid adding too much food at once.

Choose foods carefully – foods such as dairy foods, meat, fish, onions or garlic should be avoided. Try adding some banana or apple peel, teabags and shredded paper instead.

Chop food into small pieces to make it easier for the worms to eat.

Worms don't like the light, so keep your wormery somewhere dark.

Keep your wormery a fairly consistent temperature – not too hot and not too cold.

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