

**Please use the following resources to learn about Earthworms.**

**Watch this Video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-zc\\_1vjLnI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-zc_1vjLnI)

**Answer these questions:**

- How do earthworms move?
- Why is it important for earthworms to keep their skin moist?
- In what ways do earthworms make the soil better?



**Activities:**

**Part 1:** [Using this link](#), perform a virtual dissection of an earthworm.

1. Which organs do earthworms have in common with humans?
2. Which are unique to earthworms, and what are their functions?

**Part 2:** Follow these directions to make an earthworm home.

You will need:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 large (quart) container, plastic or glass</li> <li>● 1 piece of material to cover the top of the container</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 rubber band</li> <li>● Soil</li> <li>● Worms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Water</li> <li>● Food scraps or leaves</li> <li>● Sand (optional)</li> </ul>
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Instructions:

1. Fill your container with soil, stopping at about two inches from the opening. In order for the earthworms to be able to move through the soil, it should not be packed down tightly. You can alternate layers of dirt with 2 or 3 thin layers of sand, which will help you see the earthworms' movement.
2. Gently add water to the soil until it is damp. It will not take much. If you see water collecting at the bottom of the jar, you've added more than enough!
3. Add your food scraps or leaves on top of the soil in the jar.
4. Put 3 or 4 earthworms in the jar.
5. Cover the jar with a piece of cloth. Put a rubberband around the mouth of the container so the cloth stays on.
6. Keep your earthworm home in a cool, dark space. Check on it every few days to see their activity, and add water as needed to keep the soil damp.



## **Make observations & use Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning!**

1. **Claim:** Earthworms get their nutrients from things that decay in the soil.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**

2. **Claim:** Earthworms are important to keeping soil healthy for plants.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**