

Activities for the Classroom

My Worm Biography!

Name _____

Create your own worm biography by completing the sentences below.

My worm's name is _____

My worm is _____ inches long.

My worm feels like _____

My worm moves around by _____

My worm likes to _____

My worm likes to eat _____

I do not feed my worm _____

My worm helps the soil by _____

My worm likes to live in _____

If my worm could talk, it would say _____

If my worm were a superhero, it would _____

If my worm had a superhero buddy, its name would be _____

and it would _____

_____ the Worm

(name)

Name _____

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate type of word to create a silly story!

It was feeding time at the worm bin, and not a(n) _____ too soon.

(measurement of time)

_____ the worm was getting awfully _____. "I wonder what kind

(worm name)

(adjective)

of _____ I will be _____ today," _____ the worm

(noun)

(verb ending in "ing")

(worm name)

thought. "It better be _____. Yesterday, all I got to _____ was

(adjective)

(verb)

a _____, and that was really _____. "The lid to the bin opened,

(noun)

(adjective)

and _____ saw that familiar _____. It was the same _____

(worm name)

(body part)

(same body part)

that came every feeding day. _____ the worm waited with _____."

(worm name)

(feeling or emotion)

_____!" _____ the worm shouted. "It's a _____!"

(exclamation)

(worm name)

(noun)

This will keep me very _____ until next feeding time." With that, _____

(adjective)

(worm name)

the worm went to bed with a very _____ tummy.

(adjective)

My Worm Story and Picture Book

Name _____

Fill in the blanks to create Wally's story. Then, draw pictures to show what he has done. To make your book, cut along the dotted line and staple the half-sheets together.

Wally the worm went for a squirm...

up the _____,

.....

around the _____,

and into the _____.

Along the way, Wally bumped into Sammy the Spider, his best friend,
and they decided to go towards the _____

and into the _____

.....

over the _____

across the _____,

.....

and back to the _____.

Activities by Subject

The following are "starting points" grouped by subject matter that you may wish to use in developing a lesson correlated to your worm bin.

Art

- Illustrate your worm story.
- Make a poster of "Good and Bad Worm Food Items" to display near your bin.

English/Language Arts

- Write a story or poem about a worm.
- Keep a worm bin journal. You can make the journal out of paper that has already been used on one side.

Math

- Teach fractions with the quadrant feeding system.
- Determine the water-to-bedding ratio.
- Calculate how much food waste you divert from your classroom/cafeteria by using your worm bin.
- Teach extrapolation by conducting a population count of one quadrant and then figuring the bin's entire population.

Music

- Write lyrics, create a dance routine, or create hand motions to a song about natural resources and/or vermicomposting. Have the class perform at Open House to teach students and parents what they learned.
- Explore other cultures. How are rain sticks made and what is their purpose?

Nutrition

- Determine how much energy can be produced by eating certain quantities of food.
- Learn about vitamins and minerals stored in fruits and vegetables.

Science

- Observe worm anatomy under a dissecting microscope.
- Use vermicompost to grow plants. Compare the growth rate of plants by using varying levels of casting mixtures.
- Discuss the soil cycle.
- Discuss decomposers and scavengers.
- Have students research worm secretions and find information on their medical uses for burn patients.
- Make a poster of the life cycle of a seed or a worm.

Social Studies/History

- Research the history of waste management in California or the world.
- Research the history of America's farmland topsoil and how this has affected California's agriculture and economy.
- Research how **reduce, reuse, and recycle** concepts and practices have become more socially acceptable.

Service Learning

- Research how a local restaurant or cafeteria in your community disposes of its food waste. Help the owner or manager devise a plan to divert that waste from the landfill and put the plan into action!