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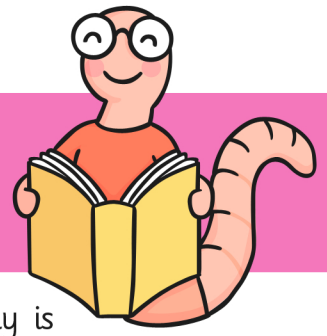
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Earthworms



A worm is a long, slow moving animal with a soft, segmented body. Their body is covered in tiny hairs which help them to move as they do not have legs. They have lived for over 600 million years and there are many different types of worms in the world.



Fascinating Facts

Some worms can have up to five hearts!!

If you cut a worm in half, only half will die, the head end will grow into a new worm.

Worms dig tunnels in the soil which allows air to get through to plant roots.

Where Do They Live?

Worms live on land and in water and live almost everywhere on earth. Earthworms live in the soil, trees, bark and under rocks.

What Do They Eat?

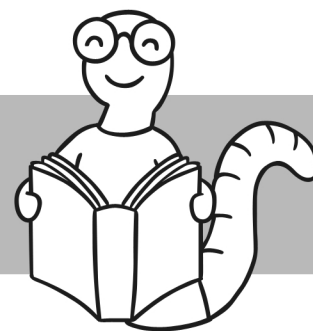
Earthworms eat things in soil such as decaying leaves, plant roots and even decaying animals. Worms that live near the surface of the ground can eat almost anything including cardboard and fruit leftovers. They don't have teeth but they have strong mouth muscles.

Staying Safe

If a worm's skin dries out it will die, they prefer to move around above the surface of the soil when it is dark to avoid the heat from the sun. Earthworms have many predators including birds, moles, toads and even foxes are known to eat them. Beetles, centipedes, leeches, slugs and flatworms also feed on earthworms. They can avoid many predators by staying underneath the surface, if a Mole is digging near to them they can feel the earth shaking and quickly move away.

Questions about...

Earthworms



Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. What is a worm?

2. What do they have all over their bodies? Why?

3. Where do earthworms live?

4. What do earthworms have instead of teeth?

5. What do they like to eat?

6. How do earthworms stay safe?

7. Write one fact about earthworms.
