



FOUNDATION ACTIVITY - WORM FOOD SORT

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Students sort through a range of items to explore the foods worms eat.

RESOURCES

Student worksheet

11 x A3 Discussion pages

Videos : Introduction to worms [1:53]; What worms eat [1:43]

A range of items from each of the categories in the 'Do eat/Don't eat' table on following page

2 Hula Hoops labeled 'Worms do eat' and 'Worms don't eat'

Plastic sheet or garbage bag

Poster Paper ruled into T Chart

Glue sticks and scissors

Australian curriculum links

LEARNING AREA	Content Descriptor ELABORATION
SCIENCE	ACSSU002 Recognising the needs of living things in a range of situations such as pets at home, plants in the garden or plants and animals in bushland ACSSU002 Identifying the needs of humans such as warmth, food and water; using students' own experiences
ENGLISH	ACELY1784 Participating in speaking and listening situations, exchanging ideas with peers in pairs and small groups and engaging in class discussions, listening to others and contributing ideas
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	ACTDEK003 Exploring which plants and animals can provide food or materials for clothing and shelter and what basic needs those plants and animals have ACTDEP005 Identifying opportunities to reduce, recycle and re-use materials; reviewing the school canteen menu to identify healthy food options and suggesting changes to promote future good health
MATHS	ACMSP011 Representing responses to questions using simple displays, including grouping students according to their answers

KEY WORDS

Compost, food, green, brown, acidic, worms, soil, healthy,

FOOD SORT LESSON PLAN

ENGAGE

Take students through the Discussion Pages 1-6, introducing them to different types of worms.

EXPLORE

Have students sit in a large circle.

Place the range of 'Worms Do Eat' and 'Worms Don't Eat' items on the plastic sheet on the floor, along with the two Hoola hoops.

Invite students to choose an item and place it in the hoop to which they think it belongs. For each item, have the rest of the class show whether they agree or disagree that worms would or wouldn't eat that item.

Once all items have been sorted, discuss any trends the students can see. Do worms eat the same things we eat? Discuss with students.

EXPLAIN

Take students through the Discussion Pages 7-11;

Watch video **'What worms eat'**

Discuss with students. Are there any changes that need to be made to the hoola hoops? Have students volunteer to make any required changes, discussing their reasoning as they go.

ELABORATE

Students work in pairs or small groups to sort the pictures into a T-Chart.

They cut out each item, and stick it onto a piece of poster paper, under the heading 'Worms Do Eat' or 'Worms Don't Eat'.

EVALUATE

Students come together to share their posters. Did any groups have different responses? Discuss.





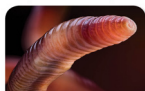






Have students volunteer to share their reasoning for one choice they made. Were any items more difficult to place than others? Why?

Worms Do Eat	Worms Don't Eat
apple core	meat
banana skin	cheese
tea bags	bones
carrot peels	orange peel
lettuce heart	onion
shredded newspaper	garlic
leaves	lemon rind
coffee grinds	fabric
eggshell	plastic
cardboard	lollies

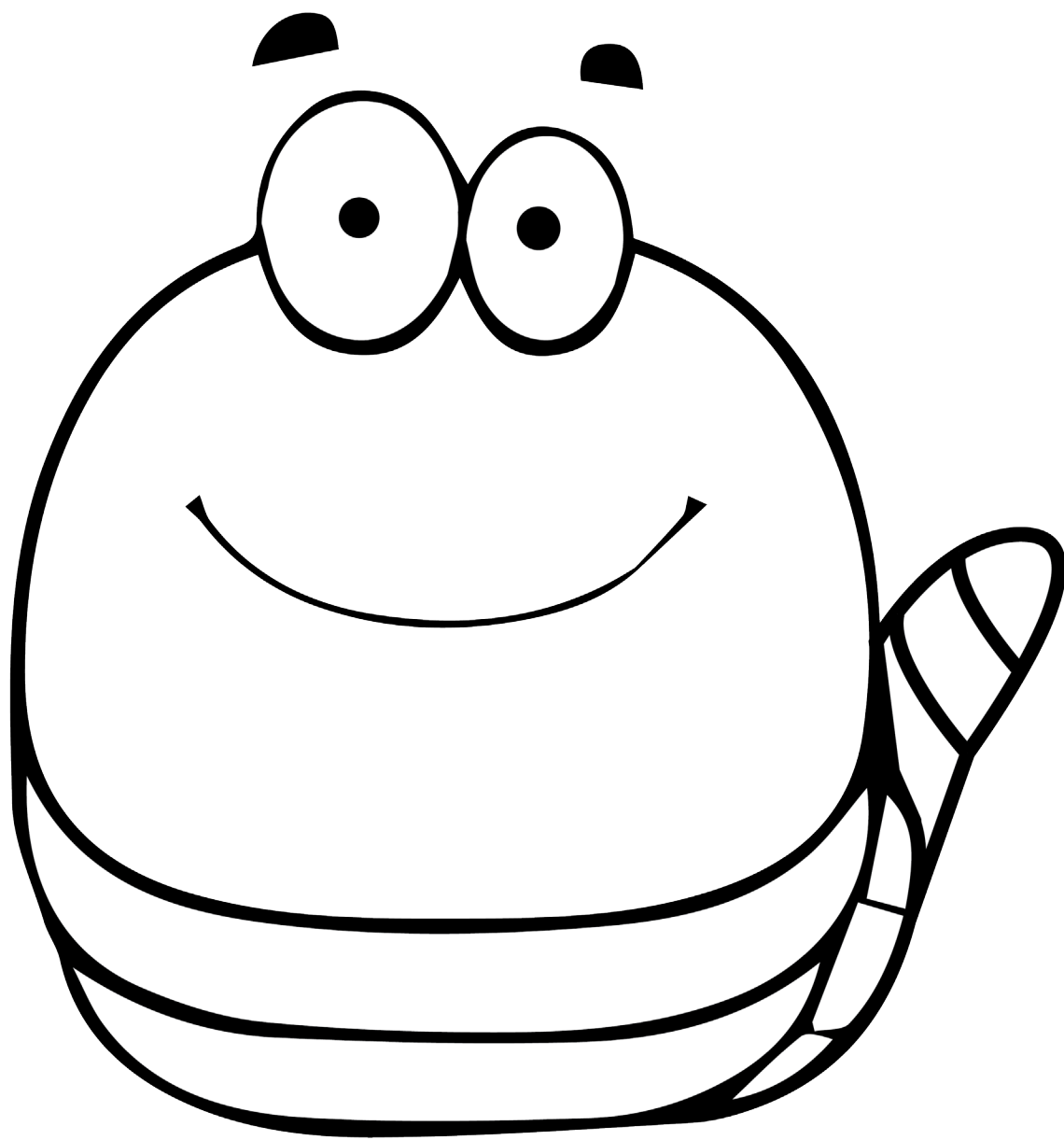
DISCUSSION PAGES

These pages can be copied for the students [A3] to hand around, or set out on tables for students to explore. Alternatively the PDF pages can be shown as a projection and discussed one by one.

TEACHERS NOTES

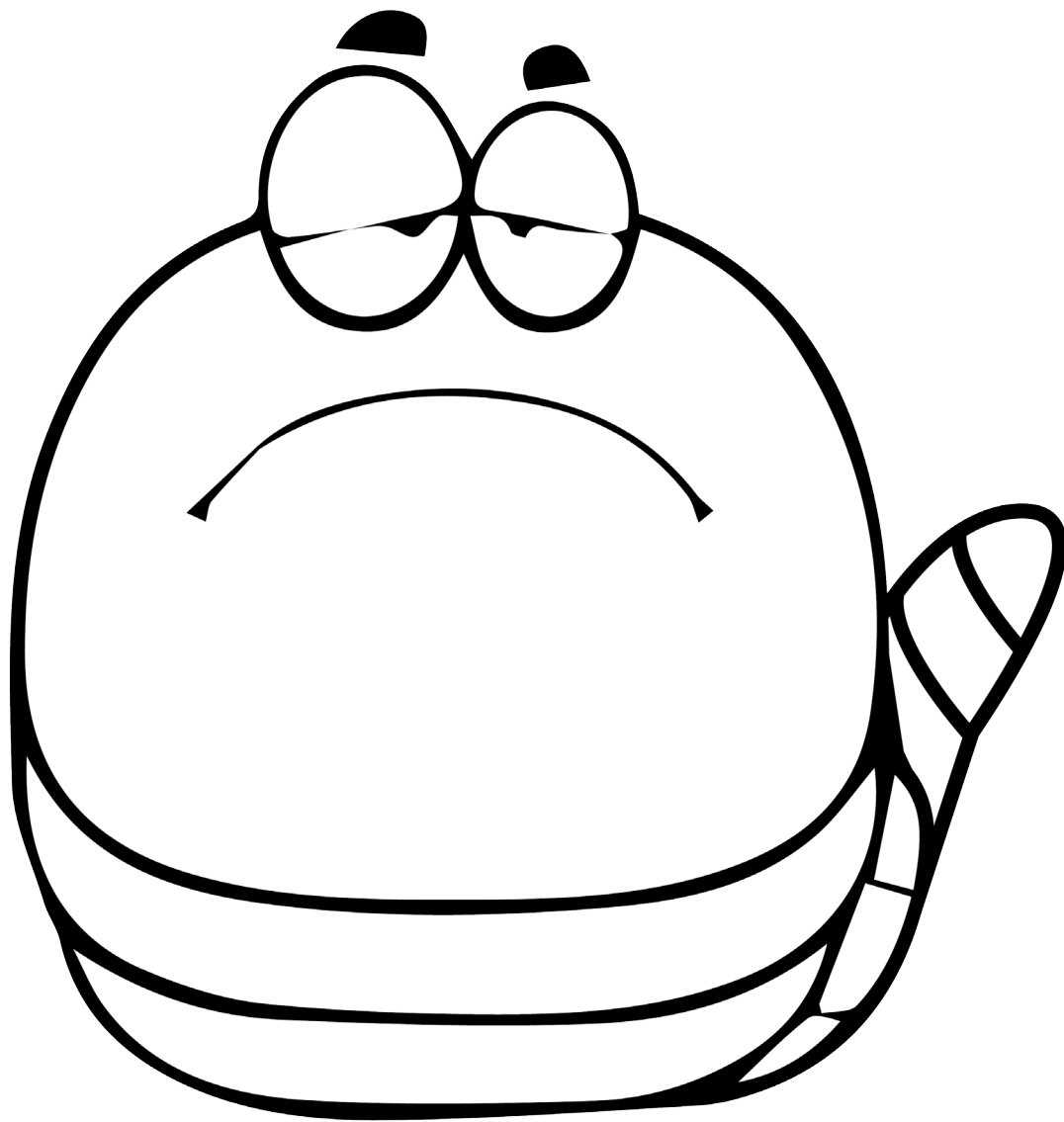
- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1</p>  <p>SO MANY TYPES OF WORMS</p> | <p>SO MANY TYPES OF WORMS!</p> <p>There are thousands of types of worms, such as earth worms, tape worms, round worms and flat worms. Worms live in the soil, in water and even inside other living things.</p> |
| <p>2</p>  <p>THE GIANT EARTHWORM</p> | <p>THE GIANT EARTHWORM</p> <p>The worm pictured is up to 3 metres long and lives in Gippsland, Victoria. The African Giant worm is almost 7 metres long!</p> |
| <p>3</p>  <p>THE COMPOST WORM</p> | <p>THE COMPOST WORM</p> <p>The most common compost worm is the Red Wiggler, or Tiger Worm. It doesn't live in the soil but in compost heaps or worm farms, and can eat its own weight in food in a day or two.</p> |
| <p>4</p>  <p>INSIDE A WORM</p> | <p>INSIDE A WORM</p> <p>Worms don't have lungs but breathe through their skin. They have five hearts to move blood around their long bodies.</p> |
| <p>5</p>  <p>CLOSE UP OF A WORM</p> | <p>CLOSE UP OF A WORM</p> <p>Worms have tiny bristles along their body, which they use to grip onto soil particles and drag themselves forward - this is how they move through the soil.</p> |
| <p>6</p>  <p>WORM BABIES</p> | <p>WORM BABIES</p> <p>Worm babies are born in a cocoon, each cocoon will produce about 5 or more baby worms.</p> |
| <p>7</p>  <p>WHAT WORMS EAT</p> | <p>WHAT WORMS EAT</p> <p>This page shows the types of foods worms love to eat.</p> |
| <p>8</p>  <p>WORMS EAT OUR ORGANIC WASTE...</p> | <p>WORMS EAT OUR ORGANIC WASTE...</p> <p>By feeding our organic waste to worms we keep it out of the waste stream and reduce landfill. Almost half the waste we throw out [into landfill] can be eaten by worms.</p> |
| <p>9</p>  <p>WORMS MAKE HEALTHY SOIL</p> | <p>WORMS MAKE HEALTHY SOIL</p> <p>ALL soil in the world is made by worms and microbes. They make healthy soil that we can use to grow food - we need worms to grow fruit and vegetables and feed animals.</p> |
| <p>10</p>  <p>WORMS ARE PART OF THE NUTRIENT CYCLE</p> | <p>WORMS ARE PART OF THE NUTRIENT CYCLE</p> <p>This graphic shows the cycle of nutrients from our food scraps, to the worms, to the soil, to plants and back to food. It is important to keep nutrients in this cycle, and not sent off to landfill.</p> |
| <p>11</p>  <p>THE SOIL PYRAMID</p> | <p>THE SOIL PYRAMID</p> <p>Worms are part of the foundation of the healthy food and environmental pyramid. They create healthy soil, which in turn feeds plants, animals and humans.</p> |

WORMS



EAT

WORMS



DON'T EAT

WORM FOOD SORT

Which items would a wiggly worm like to eat?

Cut out the pictures and glue them into the correct column on the T-chart.

