

EARTHWORMS!

A lesson in Decomposing, Simple Anatomy, and Adaptation



SUGGESTED GRADES: Grades K-2 or 3-4

OVERVIEW: This hands-on program will teach students about earthworms and the important role they play in our environment decomposing food waste and mixing soil.

OBJECTIVES: Student will be able to:

1. Observe and describe the body parts of an earthworm
2. Explain how the earthworm's anatomy has adapted to its life underground
3. Observe and record earthworm activities
4. Learn about decomposing and soil mixing with a Worm Farm

ACTIVITIES: After an introduction to earthworms and their importance to our ecosystem, students will be divided into groups of three or four. Each group will be given several earthworms to observe. Students will learn about the earthworm's unique anatomy, such as its five hearts and bristly hair. Students will use data sheets to record their observations of the earthworm's anatomy and its activities. Afterwards students will create Worm Farms with organic materials to observe the earthworm's process of decomposing and soil mixing. The Worm Farms will be available for ongoing classroom observation after the program.

PROGRAM FEE: \$200 (materials included).

CONTACT: Hands on Nature at handsonnature@gmail.com or (508) 981-1335 to schedule an Earthworm program at your school.

