



# What do worms eat?

5 years and up



**You will need:** an empty wide necked jar or plastic bottle with the top cut off, enough gravel to cover the bottom of the jar to a depth of 2cm, soil, sand, vegetable peelings, leaves or grass clippings, 1 tbs water & WORMS!

Watch worms recycle food waste (vegetable peelings) into liquid feed and rich organic compost, by making a small scale wormery.

Place the gravel in the bottom of the jar and then, alternate with layers of soil and sand (about 2 cm per layer). The last layer should be soil about 4 cm deep to give the worms room to start.

Sprinkle the water on the top layer of soil.

Dig some worms from a garden and put them in your wormery.

Once your worms are in, gently place the vegetable peelings & grass on top and then, put on your lid. Please make sure that there are air holes in your lid! If you are using a plastic bottle cover the opening to stop the worms escaping – but make sure there are air holes in your cover.

Don't bury the worms!

Watch your worms get to work.

Extra activity

## Are your worms' grown-ups?

### Identifying adults and juveniles

Adult earthworms have a clearly developed **saddle** (reproductive ring) and juveniles do not.

You may need to rinse worms with water to determine if a saddle is present.

Size is not a good indicator of maturity as adult earthworms typically range in size from 2cm to 15cm depending on species.

