

Build A Worm Farm

Make a worm farm and get a close-up view of worms at work!

Worms eat their way through soil. They digest the soil and it passes out of their bodies as waste called castings. The castings make the soil better for growing. The tunnels left by the worms also help things grow.

You Will Need:

- Large Glass Jar With Lid
- Sand
- Dark Garden Soil
- Worms
- Rotting Leaves
- Spray Bottle Filled With Water
- Sheet of Black Paper
- Tape
- Scissors



Instructions:

Ask an adult to help you poke a few holes in the lid. Pour about 1 ½ inches of sand into the bottom of the jar. Smooth out the surface of the sand. Repeat with a layer of soil. Alternate layers a few more times, ending with a layer of soil. Add 3 or 4 worms to the top layer of soil. Put rotten leaves on top, then lightly spray with water. Wrap the black paper around the outside of the jar to keep things nice and dark for the worms. Screw on the lid.

After a couple of days, remove the paper and observe the worms' work. You should see tunnels and shifting layers of soil and sand. Spray with water every few days to keep the soil moist, but not wet. Worms breathe through their skin. If the soil is really wet, they will drown or be forced to the surface.