

Make a wormery

Concept—Organic waste can be made into compost and worms help this process

CURRICULUM LINK:

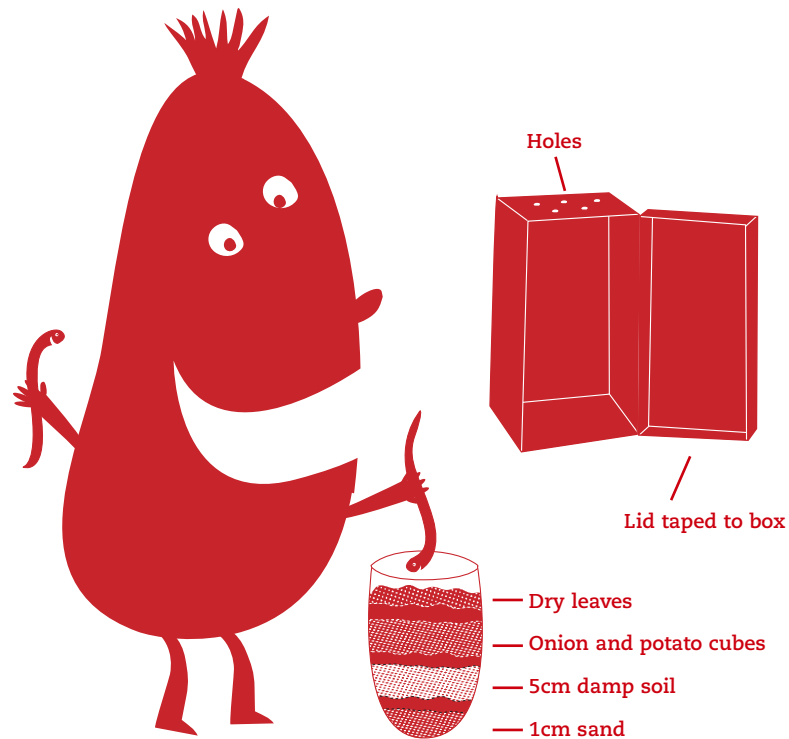
Geography Curriculum and Science Curriculum—Environmental Awareness and Care strand

Experiment

You will need:

- Shoebox
- Sticky tape
- Ball-point pen
- 2l plastic bottle
- Scissors
- 3 cups of damp soil
- 1 cup of sand
- Dry leaves
- Small pieces of food like potato and onion

1. Stand the shoebox on its end so that the longer side is upright.
2. Tape the lid onto one side of the shoebox so that it opens like a door.
3. Make holes in the top of the box with the biro to let air in.
4. Cut the top off the plastic bottle and fill with layers of sand and soil.
5. Scatter food on the surface.
6. Collect a few worms from the garden and drop them on top of your wormery.
7. Stand the wormery outside in a dry place with the door closed.
8. Come back in a few days and you will notice the worms have mixed up the soil by coming to the surface for food and tunnelling back down through your wormery.



Worms eat food, decaying leaves and stems and other organic matter and are useful in a compost heap to aid the composting process. By composting organic waste we can reduce the amount of rubbish going to land fill. This saves energy by reducing the amount of fuel used by trucks collecting and transporting the waste to the dump.