

# - Earthworms are - Nature's Recyclers



## Where do earthworms live?

Earthworms live in dark, wet places.

Earthworms live in the soil.

Some live under leaves.

Some live in compost bins.

Earthworms do not like the light.



Earthworms help plants.

Earthworms dig tunnels.

Air and water get into the tunnels.

This makes the soil better for plants to grow.

Farmers are happy to have earthworms in their soil.





# What do earthworms eat?

Earthworms eat things that grow and were once alive.

They eat grass and leaves.

They even eat paper.

Paper comes from trees.

Earthworms eat food waste.

This is called **compost**.



Earthworms help the soil.

Earthworms grind up food  
when they eat.

The food passes through  
their bodies and back into  
the soil.

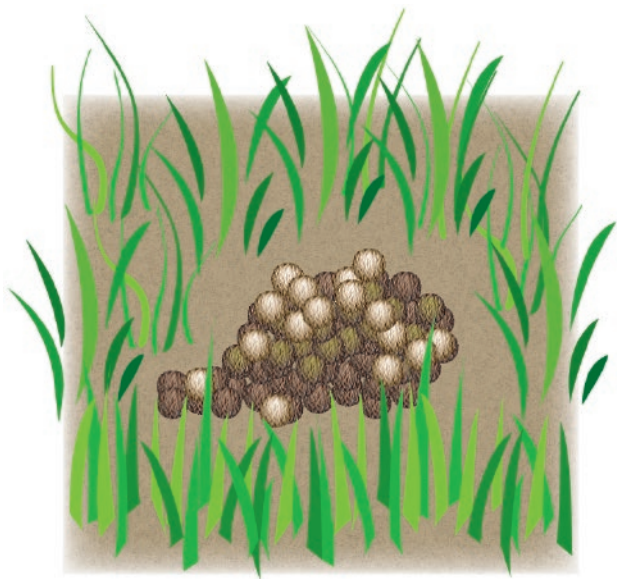


The left-over waste makes food for the soil.

This waste is called **worm castings**.

**Worm castings** show how much food the worm has eaten.

Worm castings make the soil better for plants to grow.



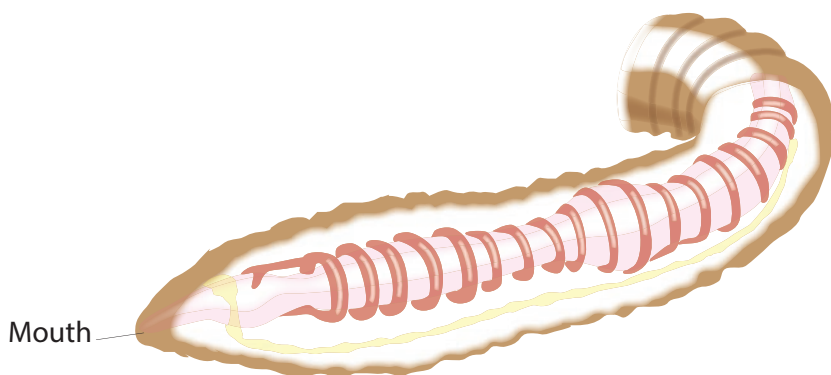
Take a look inside an earthworm.

Earthworms have strong muscles.

They use their muscles to push food through parts of their body.

Earthworms don't have teeth.

Tiny rocks in their bodies grind up food.



Earthworms are recyclers.

When plants die, they decay.

Earthworms eat the plants  
and make worm castings.

Worm castings make good  
soil.

Plants grow in soil.

Earthworms recycle dead  
plants.





Earthworms help the earth.

Earthworms make the soil better.

When the soil is better the plants grow.

People and animals have more food.


I can't picture a world without earthworms.

Can you?



**Earthworms**  
Earthworms are Nature's Recyclers

**Correlation**

<b>Fountas &amp; Pinnell</b>	<b>H</b>	
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