

# CASTINGS

Hello, and Happy New Year! Did you have a good holiday? We at REAPS and your worms certainly hope so. Now that you are back in school make sure to check and see if your worms need anything. (Remember the bin needs to be as wet as a wrung out sponge, the bedding needs to be fluffed and they need lots of fruits and vegetables cut up small.) When you are looking into your worm bin do you notice any changes that have occurred to their bedding? See what looks like grey dirt? That is called castings and it is what your worms make after they eat. As time goes by there will be more and more castings. When your bin is almost completely full of castings it is time to harvest! Book your harvest date now.



## Harvesting

If you look into your worm bin and notice that the majority of bedding has been replaced by castings, it is time to harvest your worm bin. Give the worm lady a call to set up a time for her to come in and help your class.

Harvesting is fun and you really get to know your worms! There are 2 methods of harvesting.



FriendlyWormGuy.com

### 1/ *Worms do the sorting.*

- ◆ Push the castings and worms to one side of your bin.
- ◆ Fill the now empty side with fresh bedding, 1/4 cup sand and place food on that side.
- ◆ Let the worms move to new bedding (they will be looking for food)
- ◆ Remove the castings in 2-3 moths.
- ◆ Repeat!

### 2/ *You do the sorting.* A fun experience.

- ◆ Empty the worm bin onto a plastic sheet and make little piles of castings.
- ◆ Search through casting piles for worms, make sure to find all of the worms INCLUDING the adults, babies and cocoons.
- ◆ Place all of the worms into new bedding in your worm bin.



**NOTE:** To make sorting a little easier, shape your castings into piles and shine a bright light on the piles for a few moments. The worms will move to the bottom of the piles to get away from the light. You can then scoop up the top section of your castings leaving the worms at the bottom.

Send any questions, art or inquiries to:  
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