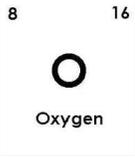


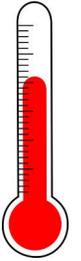
**HELLO!** And happy Halloween from REAPS. All of us here at REAPS would like to thank everyone who is taking care of wiggly friends this school year. By now your worms should feel right at home in your classroom. They would like to remind you to keep their bedding moist like a wrung out sponge and to fluff them once a week to keep the air flowing. With Halloween soon approaching make sure not to share any of your candy with your wormy friends.

## Worm Bin Care



**Oxygen** - Unlike us worms do not have noses but they still need to breathe. Instead they breathe through their skin making them aerobic digesters. When you fluff their bedding you are making sure that oxygen is entering the environment.

**Temperature** - Your worms are able to tolerate temperatures ranging from 4°C to 29°C, but they prefer room temperature. If they freeze or overheat they will die so keep your bin away from any heat sources or open windows.



**pH** - The ideal pH for worms is neutral, so 6.8-7.2 just like us. To check the pH of our worm bin you can use litmus paper. If the paper turns red the pH is too high (acidic) then just add some crushed egg shells and if your litmus paper turns blue (alkaline) then add a mixture of 3 parts water: 1 part vinegar.

**Light** - While worms may not have eyes they are very sensitive to light making them photosensitive. They are able to absorb light through their skin, worms like dark environments so make sure to keep the lid on your bin.



**Vibrations** - Worms don't have ears but they can feel vibrations through their skin. Make sure not to keep your bin next to a fridge or anything that vibrates.

**Moisture** - Worms breathe through their skin. So if you keep the bin too wet they will drown and if the bin is too dry they will dry out. So make sure your bin stays as damp as a wrung out sponge.



**Food** - Worms are vegetarians, so make sure not to feed them any meat, dairy or oil products. Feed acidic foods such as coffee ground, tea bags, and citrus only in small amounts and never feed your worms salty foods such as potato chips.

Send any questions, art or inquiries to:  
**The Worm Lady c/o R.E.A.P.S Box 444 Prince George, BC V2L 4S6**  
**Ph: 250-561-7327 or email: [thewormlady@reaps.org](mailto:thewormlady@reaps.org)**

# REAPS READER



Have you helped the environment today?  
**October is Waste Reduction Month!**

It's October so in honour of Waste Reduction Month we want to see which class can produce the least amount of garbage. If you and your classmates manage to throw out the least amount of garbage you will win \$200 for your class. However regardless if you win or not you will be helping the environment and taking part in Waste Reduction Month.

**To Register:** Contact REAPS at 250-561-7324 or email [events@reaps.org](mailto:events@reaps.org) to receive an information package.

**To Participate:** Set up four containers: one for recyclables (paper, tetra packs, milk cartons, cans, cardboard and glass), one for compostables, one for refundables (pop bottles, cans, and juice boxes) and one for actual garbage. At the end of each day weigh the materials in each container and records on the sheet provided. You should find that your garbage amount has been reduced by roughly 80% leaving only roughly 20% of actual garbage. It is important to dispose of the material properly at the end of each day.



## Important Dates

- October 3: World Habitat Day
- October 7-11: Walk to School Week
- October 5: Walk to School Day
- October 14: Thanksgiving
- October 21-27: Waste Reduction Week
- October 31: Halloween!

