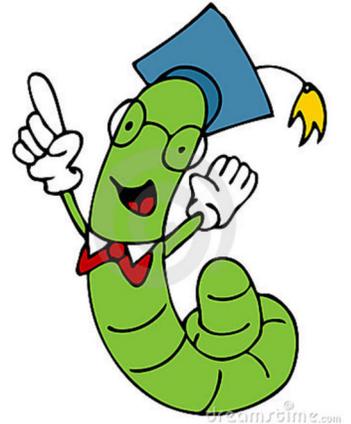


Hello, Happy Valentines Day! While you are enjoying all the lovely chocolate lets learn about the history of all your wormy friends. Over the next few months we are going to take a trip down memory lane and learn all about the ancestors of the those worms in your bin. However to start with we need to learn, or remind ourselves, about the facts of the Red Wiggler. Next month we take a trip across North America.

The Wormmy Facts

Red Wigglers, or *eisenia fetida*, is a type of worm that thrives on organic material. Red Wigglers are often not even found in the soil. Instead they live in places where other worms cannot like your worm bins.



While earthworms are different from other worms in key aspects they are also share a common physical stature. In general worms have the following characteristics:

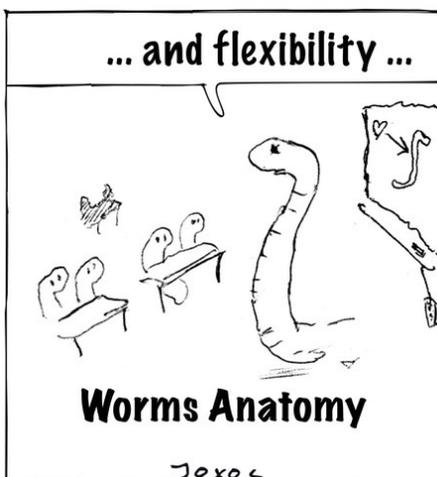
Hearts: worms have 5 pairs of hearts to help move blood throughout the entire length of the worm

Gender: Worms are both male and female making them hermaphroditic. Even though they have both male and female reproductive organs you still need two worms to make baby worms.

Teeth: or the lack there of. Worms have no teeth or a jaw. Instead food moves through a long tube, the alimentary canal, from the worms head to its tail. Food is ground up in the worm's gizzard with grit (in your worm bins this grit is sand)

Moisture: Worms need to be wet in order to breath. However too much water is a bad thing. When it rains a lot the soil gets too wet for the worms and they go to the surface. That is why on really rainy days you can find worms all over the road.

Sunlight: Have you ever noticed that you do not see any worms on a really sunny day? The reason that worms are rarely seen when there is sun is caused by the fact that worms do not like sunlight. In fact a worm can die if it is out in the sun for too long.



Send any questions, art or inquiries to:
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