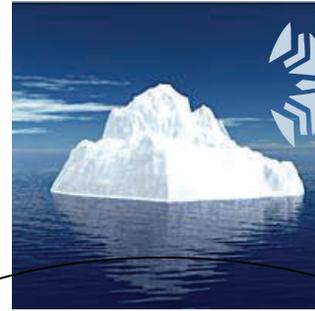


**Hello**, Wilma the Worm here, wishing you all Happy, and green, Holidays. The Worm lady has been visiting you in your classrooms to check on my very best worm friends. I've heard only great things about the wonderful job all of you are doing taking care of your worm bins. I'm sure lots of you can't wait for the holidays but before you take off for your winter break don't forget to do a few things to make sure my fellow worms will have a great holiday too. Just follow these six simple steps:

1. Make sure that the bin is moister than usual, so it won't dry out.
2. Make sure that the worm bin is not in an area that is too hot or cold.
3. Fluff up the bedding very well, so the worms have more oxygen as well as unplug the holes in the bottom.
4. Make sure that the bin is at least halfway full of moist bedding.
5. A few weeks before the holidays monitor the amount of food you are feeding the worms. Bury a little more than two weeks worth of food in the bedding.
6. **CHECK** the worms as soon as you get back because the worms will be lonely and looking forward to seeing you!



Ice worms - relatives of earthworms are found only on the glaciers of the North American west coast, where they graze on algae and bacteria. The worms have a metabolism that seems to increase at lower temperatures unlike other animals..

Do you remember your worm anatomy from November's issue of Castings? Test yourself by filling in the blanks of this worm diagram below. Don't worry, if you forget go ahead and take another look at the last issue!

**Parts Quiz**

Send any questions, art or inquiries to:  
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