

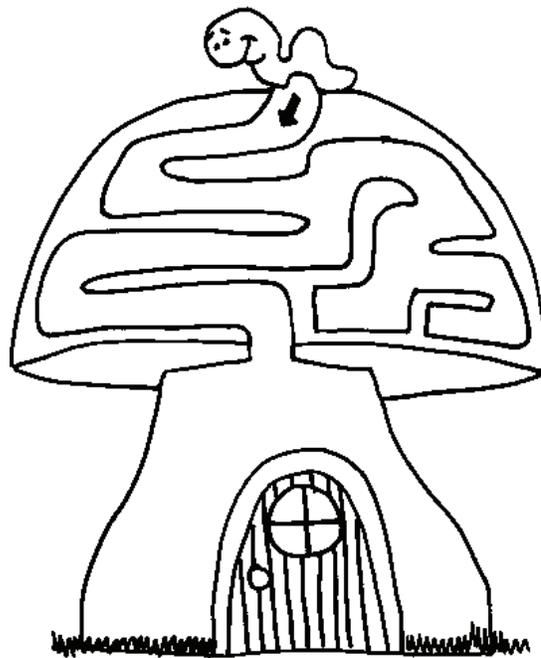
Hello, worm friends, we hope that you and your worms had a fantastic holiday and now it is time to get back into the groove of things. We hope that you did not forget to check on the worms as you got back to school. The worms will look forward to seeing you and your lunch waste. But remember one thing if your worms are having troubles, the Worm Lady is only a phone call away and can answer any questions that you may have.

EARTHWORMS TO THE RESCUE!

In India the textile industry is experimenting with the assistance of earthworms and manure. Sludge from the textile industry is usually difficult to dispose of because of environmental concerns and expenses.

There has been testing done with mixing the industrial sludge with manure and then using earthworms to turn it into compost. A homogenous compost-like mixture is achieved just after 180 days.

Similar studies have been done with heavy metals and unfortunately the worms pick up the toxins and are incinerated after, however they remove 60% of the toxins.



Harvesting

When there is little bedding left and the remains are brown and earthy, it's time to harvest your bin, here are two types of harvesting:

Worms do the sorting

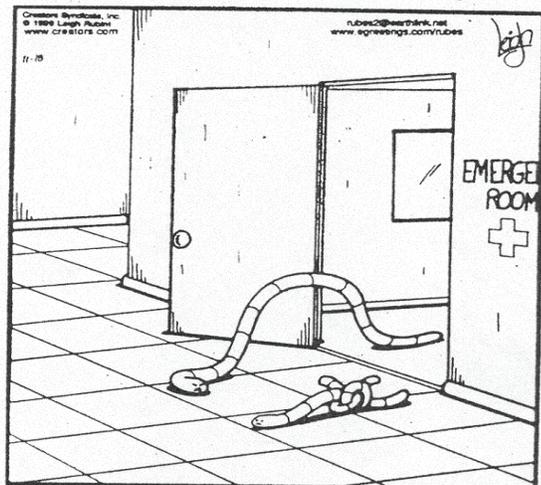
1. Push all contents to one side of bin.
2. Add new bedding on other side.
3. Bury kitchen waste in the new bedding only. (worms will sense food and move by themselves).

Hand Sorting

1. Empty contents on plastic sheet.
2. Make small pyramid shaped piles and shine light over them.
3. The worms will move to the bottom because they are sensitive to light.
4. Carefully remove castings and place worms

RUBES

By Leigh Rubin



"Well, young man, I hope *this time* you've learned your lesson. ... No more tug-o-war!"

Send any questions, art or inquiries to:

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