

Hello, and welcome back to school. The Worm Lady and all her friends here at REAPS hope you had as much fun in the sun as we did! Thanks to everyone who came by to the garden with their parents. Wilma the Worm tells us that even though they had a great time over the summer in the Giant Worm Bin they are wriggling with excitement because they get to go back to your classrooms! They can't wait to meet all the new kids and teachers again. This time of year is very exciting, why not make it more exciting by adding a vermicomposter to your classroom. It's fun for the students and the teachers alike!

ADOPT -A- WORM

The REAPS Adopt-A-Worm Program is beginning its 11th consecutive year! It is a super fun, hands-on presentation that teaches the students everything from worm anatomy to vermicomposting. The program gets the kids involved with composting and teaches them to be responsible while having fun. The small wigglers will help educate your class about the importance of reducing landfill waste and preserving our natural resources. The class even gets the opportunity to keep a worm bin in the class for the school year!

REAPS provides the bin and the worms and the students do the rest. Students provide food for the worms in form of lunch wastes and will enjoy watching the worms turn it into "castings".

Don't worry, you won't be all alone. The Worm Lady visits the classroom monthly to check up on the worms, answer questions and teach the students about the worm bin and recycling. This monthly support newsletter is also sent to each participating class.

The 1 hour presentation is FREE and available for preK—grade 8!!!

For more information or to register call REAPS at 561-7327 or email the worm lady at: garden@reaps.org

Register today, as there are only so many worms!!



Worm Food

Ever wonder just what worms like to eat?? Do you think that they like the same things as you do??? Well, they do. You can feed your worms the leftovers from your lunches, and even old tests!

But, they can only eat fruits, vegetables, and bread scraps. Any dairy, meat, oils, or packaging are not good for them and will harm them.



Giving the worms your leftovers not only helps the worms but the environment also. When food wastes aren't composted, they're sent to the landfills. This will over fill the landfill and they undergo anaerobic decomposition (without oxygen). This produces methane gases that contribute to the depletion of the ozone layer, our planet's sunscreen.

By vermicomposting, or composting with worms, you are sending less garbage to the landfills. You are also keeping your worms happy. The happy worms will decompose your food for you and turn wastes it into castings!



Send any questions, art or inquiries to:
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