

**Hello,** and welcome back friends. The worm lady and all her friends at REAPS hope all of you had a great summer. The worm lady would like to thank everyone who came by the garden during the summer to see where their worms are and how they are helping us at the garden. Wilma the Worm tells us that her worm friends are anxious to get back to the classrooms for a warm winter gate-away. Even though they had a blast in the garden this summer. This year is the thirteenth year that the Adopt-A-Worm program has been underway! During this time of year it is great to start a vermicomposter in your classroom and even at home, it is easy as well as great fun for everyone, even the teachers, to watch the worms in action.

## Adopt-A-Worm

The REAPS Adopt-A-Worm program has been a great success in the past. Each year more and more schools are participating to help our worm friends survive during the winter. The program allows students and teachers to have hands-on experience in vermicomposting (composting with worms) and a chance to learn about the worm anatomy and why worms are important to the planet. Your class gets their own worm bin for the year and a chance to see how the worms work to make rich castings from your lunch waste. The Worm Lady comes every month to check on the worms, deliver a monthly newsletter and a chance to answer any questions that you may have.

This 1 hour presentation is FREE and available for preK-8!!!

Register Today, as there are only so many worms at [events@reaps.org](mailto:events@reaps.org)

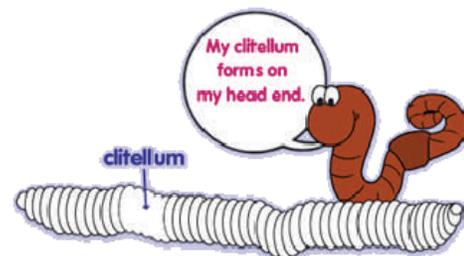
## Worms 101

**Have you ever wondered after it rains why there are so many worms on the pavement?**

Well. . . It is because the worms actually breathe through their skin and when it rains the water seeps into their barrows, the worms can't breathe because there is too much water. So the worms wiggle their way to the surface where they can get oxygen. Even though the pavement is wet the worms can still get oxygen.

**Did you ever wonder if worms could survive if they are cut in half?**

If a worm is cut in two, the tail end might grow a new tail, as long as the cut is not too close to the clitellum (klayh-tel-uh-m) (thickened glandular section of the body wall that secretes a viscid sac in which the eggs are deposited), but the tail end will



Send any questions, art or inquiries to:  
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