

Worm Bin Care

Now it's time to care for your new classroom pets!

Feeding Time!

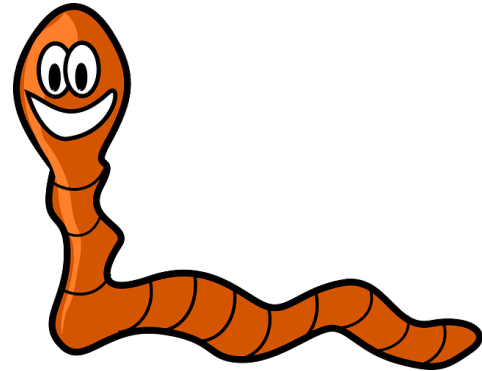
- Worms eat 1/2 their weight per day!
- Feed 1 cup finely chopped scraps for a 1 pound of worms every 3 days (~ 2 times per week).
- Put the food under a nest of shredded newspaper to absorb some water and keep the flies away.
- Feed in a different corner so you can see if they ate all their food. Only feed your worms if most of the old food is gone.

DO Feed:

- FRUIT SCRAPS: APPLE CORE, BANANA PEELS
- VEGETABLES: LETTUCE, STEMS, CARROT ENDS
- BREAD, CEREAL, TEA BAGS, COFFEE GROUNDS

DON'T Feed:

- CITRUS FRUITS & ORANGE PEELS
- MEAT OR DAIRY
- OILY PRODUCTS OR COOKED FOOD
- ONIONS OR BROCCOLI (ODOR)



Helpful Tips

- Leave your worms alone for 1-2 days in the dark to allow them to get familiar with their new home. Wait to feed them.
- Bedding: Use moistened coconut fiber, or peat moss with chopped egg shells, and a bit of soil or finished compost (or chemical-free potting soil) to start your worms.
- Add a 1-2 inch layer of finely shredded black & white newspaper or recycled paper after the bin is established.
- Keep your worms moist but not soggy! Use a spray bottle if the bedding seems too dry, stop feeding for a week if it's too wet.
- Store your worm bin in a cool dry place, out of direct sunlight. Collect the castings every 3-5 months to clean your bin and keep your worms happy!

More Ideas

These are just some hints to get you started. Watch several videos on vermicomposting (such as the ones posted by Big TexWorms) with your students to teach them about the proper care of their worm bin. Use the worm castings to grow some super veggies!

