

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

How to Make a Worm Farm

Worms help us to recycle food waste. They turn the food scraps into rich compost. You can use the compost to help your garden grow!

What you need

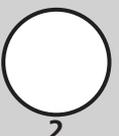
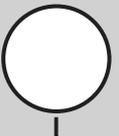
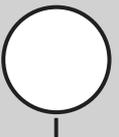
- 2 boxes with lids (foam is best)
- 1 sheet of insect netting
- shredded newspaper
- garden soil
- water
- food scraps
- special composting worms (you can buy these at garden centres)



1 What kind of worms do you use in a worm farm?

2 Why do you think the author has used bullet points in the section called 'What you need'?

3 Why might someone want to make a worm farm?
Give **two** reasons.



What to do

1. Carefully make holes in the lid and the bottom of one of the boxes.
2. Line the bottom of the box with netting.
3. Fill the box to three-quarters full with shredded newspaper.
4. Dampen the shredded newspaper slightly with water.
5. Tip the soil into the box, and add your food scraps.
6. Carefully place the worms inside the box.
7. Gently lay a piece of damp newspaper over the top of the worms.
8. Put the lid on the box.
9. Place this box on top of the second box. Over time, the worms' wee will collect in the bottom box. The worms' poo (the compost) collects in the top box.
10. Place the worm farm in a dark, cool spot such as in a shed.



Looking after your worms

- Keep your worm farm moist but not too wet, and never let it dry out.
- Add more food scraps when the worms have almost finished eating the last lot.
- Worms enjoy eating: fruit, vegetable scraps, eggshells, leaves, tea leaves, and wet, shredded cardboard and paper.
- Foods to avoid include: butter, cheese, meat, fish, fat or bones, citrus peel and onions.
- When you wish to use the compost, move the worms to one side of the box and scoop it out.
- You can add water to the worms' wee and use this on the garden too!

4 Why do you think you put the worms in the box **after** the soil and food scraps? Tick **one** box.

So that there is more room for the food scraps

So that the worms don't get squashed or hurt

So that you can see how much soil is in the box

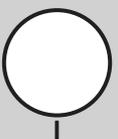
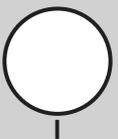
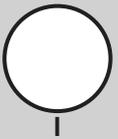
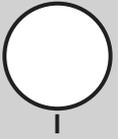
So the worms can start eating straight away

5 Why do you need two boxes to make a worm farm?

6 Why has the author used numbered points instead of bullet points in the section called 'What to do'?

7 *Keep your worm farm moist but not too wet, and never let it dry out.*

What does the word 'moist' mean?



8

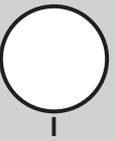
Fill in this chart to show **three** things that worms like to eat and **three** things they don't like to eat.

Worms like to eat	Worms don't like to eat



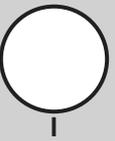
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In this text, which heading would you look under if you wanted to find out when to feed your worms?



10

What can you do with the contents of the bottom box?



For teacher use

Your mark	_____ out of 12
What went well	
How to improve	