

# Worms

Did you know:

Worms are hungry little creatures and have the capacity to eat their own body weight in food every day! They have five linear pumps within them that act like a heart, so you could say they have five hearts.

The common earthworm can live up to fifty years.

It's an old wives tale that if you cut a worm in half you get two worms. Sadly, if this happens, the worm will die.

Charles Darwin worked out that if you take earth worms out of the eco-system the whole eco-structure of the planet would crash within a week.

Worms naturally recycle organic material in the soil, but there are recycling sites that use worms to recycle the green waste from our gardens. This method is called vermiculture. Green garden waste is first composted, and then the compost is put into a worm bed for the worms to eat, they turn the compost into fertilizer.

A typical worm bed is 100 meters long and 4 meters wide. There will be around 70 tonnes of worms in each bed. So if you remember they can eat their own body weight in 24 hours, this means that one worm bed can recycle 490 tonnes of green waste in one week.

So the next time you see a lowly worm wriggling past  
- think of what that little guy is doing for us all!!

