

WORM JAR



Complexity: **easy**

Recommended age: **from 6 years**

Duration: **15 min.**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Filling the jar

It is best to alternate earth and sand in the jar, so you can see how the earthworm moves in the jar and how the layers mix. The earthworm prefers damp but not too wet soil.

2. Collecting earthworms

After rain you can find earthworms on the soil surface. When it is not raining, pour a bucket of water on the meadow and wait if one comes up. If you don't succeed, dig for them or ask your parents for a pitchfork and stick them into the ground together, preferably in a meadow. Then move the wooden handle of the pitchfork back and forth or hit it with a hammer. The earthworms can mistake this vibration for a mole and flee to the surface. Now put one of the earthworms in your earth-filled jar.

3. Collecting food

Feed your earthworm with shredded grass or finely chopped kitchen waste (e.g. the skin of a beetroot or carrot), which you place in your glass on top of the soil. Once the earthworm has eaten, feed it again (about once a week)!

4. Cover with cloth

It is best to take a large piece of dark cloth (a piece of fabric from a t-shirt is good) and fasten it with a rubber band or a rope. Find a cool place for your earthworm jar that is protected from the sun. Don't forget to keep the soil moist so that your earthworm feels comfortable.

OBSERVE:

Now you can observe how your earthworm behaves. How does it move around in the jar? Does it mix the layers of the soil and sand? Which of the food does it prefer to eat?

MATERIALS:

1 big jar

Soil

Sand

Some

Feed (grass, leaves, kitchen waste)

1 earthworm

1 large cloth

1 rubber band or rope



CARE TAKING:

Feed your earthworm regularly once a week and keep the earth moist but not too wet. Release your earthworm after four weeks in a nice place in the garden or in a park.