

Silly Worms

FIRST GRADE

EUSD's district-wide waste diversion system relies, in part, on composting our lunchtime fruit and vegetable scraps in a worm bin (vermicompost bin). First grade is when students will get a chance to use the "big" SCRAP Cart and can make the connection that the food scraps they put in the compost bucket are what we use to feed our pet worms.

SUBJECT

EXPLORE

TIME

30 - 45 MIN

MATERIALS

Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin

Sticks from the garden, one for each student (about 8 inches long)

Brown pipe cleaners, 1 per student

Googly eyes, 1 pair per student

Glue, several bottles to share

DIRECTIONS

- Gather students in the garden and read *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin. Ask students what they know about worms. Do they have eyes? (no but they can sense light and they don't like it) Do they know how many hearts they have? (FIVE!) Does that make them more lovable? (yes because they also help us so much) How do worms breathe? (through their skin)
- Tell students that we have thousands of pet worms in our worm compost bin. Explain that our worms eat our fruit and vegetable scraps from lunch. Ask students if they know how the worms get food scraps? The worms get food that students discard in the compost bucket on the SCRAP Cart. Make a point to tell students that the worms have a hard time eating whole fruit with a peel on it and that it is much easier for them when kids take a few bites first.
- Next walk students over to the worm bin and carefully select a worm to show students. Allow students to take turns holding worms by the bin making sure they treat them gently.
- After students visit the worms, tell them they will make a worm friend of their own to keep on their desk to remind them to put their fruit and veggie scraps in the compost bucket at lunch.
- Ask students to find a stick in the garden about 8 inches long.
- Show students how to wrap a pipe cleaner tightly around the body of the stick.
- Shape one end of the pipe cleaner into a small loop and attach googly eyes with glue. Remind students that real worms don't actually have eyes.

SOURCE

- BCK Programs



Sample Pictures



Credit: Pinterest



Credit: Kitchen Floor Crafts