



Adult Guidance

Soil Formation

Handling Worms:

It is recommended that the worms are bought as close to the lesson as possible.

Prior to buying the worms it is necessary to note that they will need to be returned to a compost bin or heap after a few weeks.

Ideally the worms will be kept in the plastic bottles for a maximum of 4 weeks.

If they are returned to normal soil there is a good chance that they will not survive.

It is recommended that all children understand how to handle the worms gently by practising with some plasticine 'worms' if necessary. If they are applying the right amount of pressure there should be no indentations on the plasticine worms.

Caring for Worms:

Worms need to be kept in quiet, dark environments. If this is not possible in the classroom, then a suitable alternative should be found.

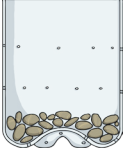
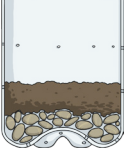

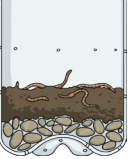
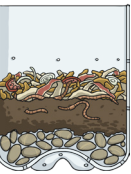



The worms will not need to be fed every day. Only add more waste food when the existing food is almost gone.

Check that only enough water to keep the compost damp is added. The worms will die if too much or too little water is added.



Creating a Mini Compost Bin

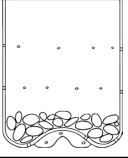
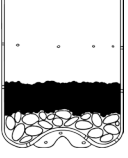
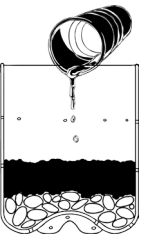
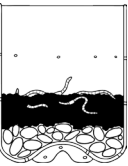
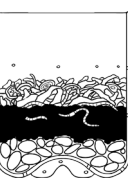
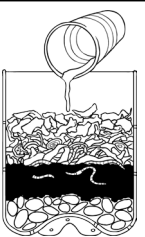

Follow each step of the instructions carefully to create your mini compost bin.

Step	Instruction	Diagram
1	Place small stones as the first layer.	
2	Add a layer of compost.	
3	Add a small amount of water so that the compost is moist but not completely wet.	
4	Health and Safety: Wear plastic gloves to handle the worms. Ensure that worms are handled gently. Place a few worms gently onto the compost.	
5	Health and Safety: Wear plastic gloves while adding waste food. Place a handful of scraps on top of the worms. Leave it placed gently on the worms; it will fall further by itself so there is no need to push it down.	
6	Wet the shredded paper and add as the topmost layer of your mini compost bin.	
7	Add a thin piece of fabric over the top of the plastic bottle and secure it with an elastic band.	
8	Attach long rectangular pieces of card around the bottle so that it makes it dark for the worms. They live in the dark and do not like bright lights.	



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