

Worm Facts

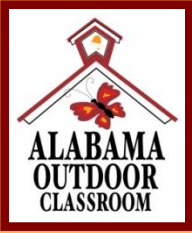


Worms are part of the animal kingdom...

These are called *Eisenia fetida* but you may know them as:



- ☛ **Red Worm**
- ☛ **Tiger Worm**
- ☛ **Red Wiggler**



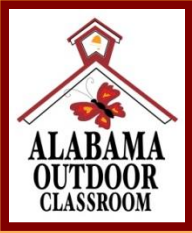
Worm Facts

Worms have dark, reddish-brown skin similar to the color of the dirt in which they live.



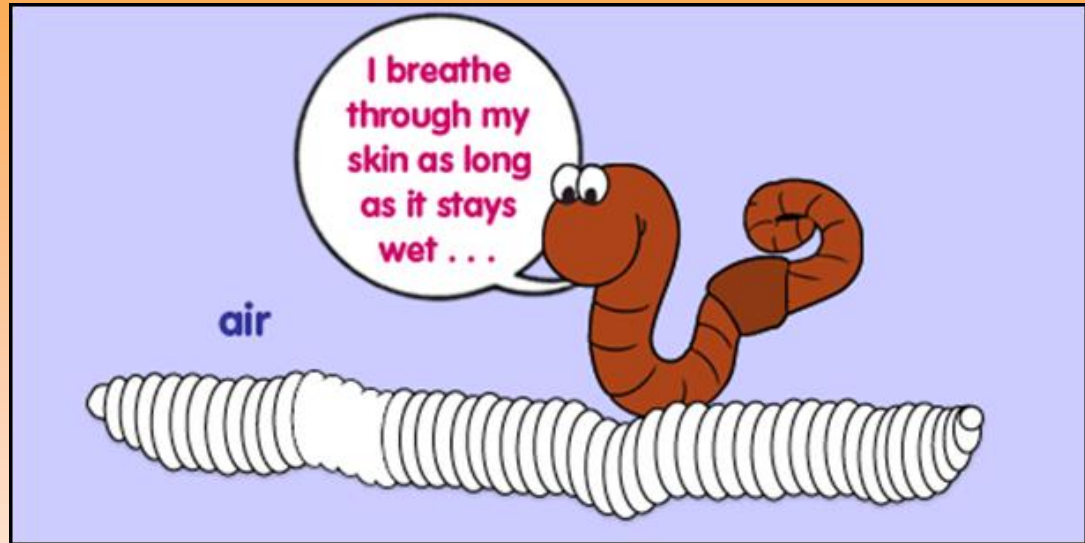
This is called camouflage – a body color or pattern that helps an animal blend into its surroundings.

It helps them avoid predators that want to eat them.



Worm Facts

Worms do not have lungs but breathe through their smooth skin...

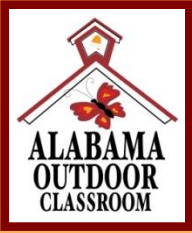


Oxygen is taken in through the skin and it goes right into the bloodstream.

Skin must stay wet in order for the oxygen to pass through it.

Too much water will drown them.

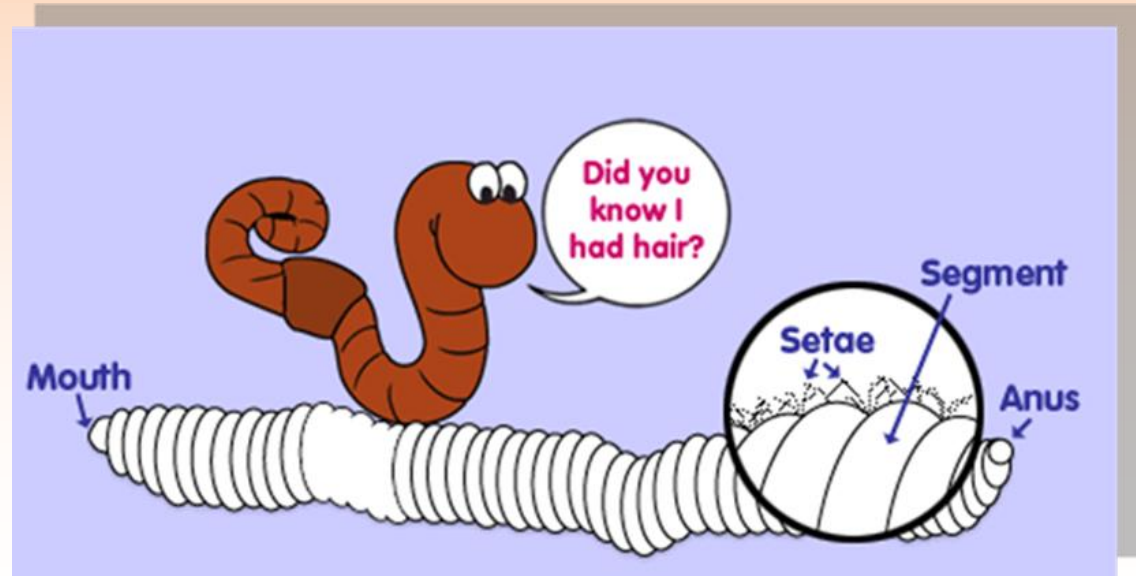
Keep worms damp, moist and slimy.

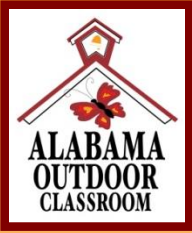


Worm Facts

Worms have rings called segments. A fully grown worm can have over 100 segments!

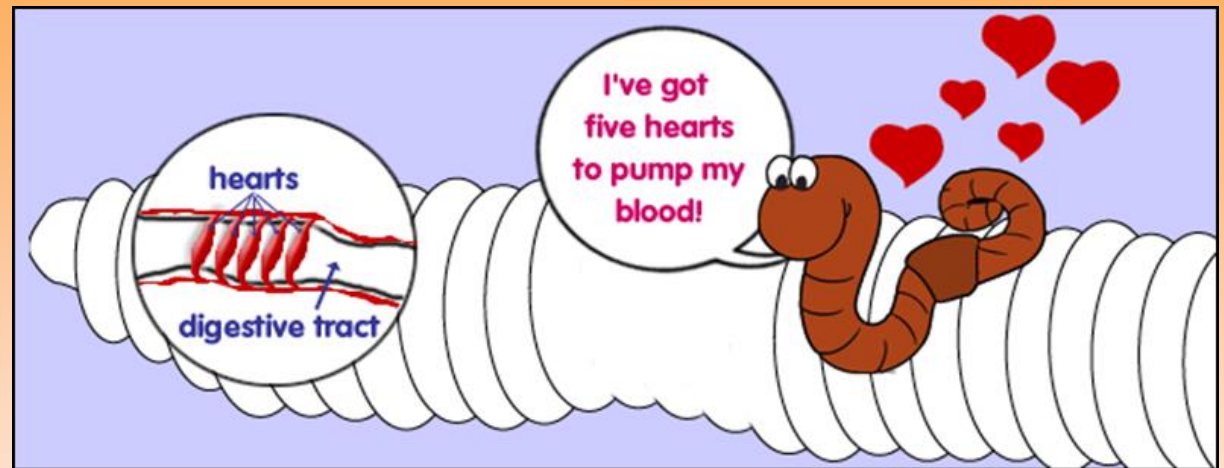
The many muscles in these segments along with microscopic hairs called “setae” help the worm to burrow through soil and crawl over the ground without legs.





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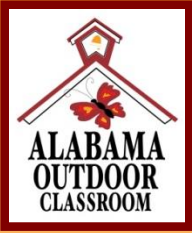
**Worms have
5 Hearts!**



They do not have eyes, but are very sensitive to light...

They have cells in the front of their body that warns them of light. Because light hurts them, they need to be in a dark place.





Worm Facts

Why are worms important?

- They are a source of food for other animals including birds.
- They are decomposers (organisms that assist in the process of turning dead material into nutrients).
- They convert their food into castings (worm poop) that provides important nutrients (food) for plants.
- They make soil healthier by burrowing – the tunnels they leave allow water and air to get into the soil.