



JONES VALLEY TEACHING FARM

AT-HOME ACTIVITIES

Worm Whisperer

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

DESCRIPTION and OBJECTIVE:

How is a gummy worm different from an earthworm? Use this activity to compare and contrast the similarities and differences between the two to decide which is living and nonliving.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ⇒ Gummy worm (or a rubber bait worm, or paper worm like [this one](#))
- ⇒ An earthworm
- ⇒ Paper towel, moistened (to put the earthworm on once out of the soil)

LESSON / ACTIVITY:

- ⇒ Before beginning the activity, head outside to find a worm. You may need to dig around in the soil a bit before finding a few. TIP: they typically hang out in moist soil!
- ⇒ Once you have found a worm, create a T-Chart with your student and label the left side “Gummy Worm” (or whatever type of “fake” worm you choose) and the right side “Earthworm.”
 - Place the earthworm on a moist paper towel to keep it happy while observing it.
- ⇒ Observe both worms side by side. Ask your student the questions below to determine which worm is **living** and which is **nonliving** (Refer to [this website](#) to refresh yourself on what it means to be a living or nonliving thing). Document your student’s answers in the appropriate column on the T-Chart:
 - What does the Gummy worm do? What does the earthworm do?
 - Does it need to eat to survive?
 - Does it breathe?
 - Does it grow?
 - Does it move?



- Can it **reproduce** (have babies)?
- ⇒ Now, ask your student, “Which worm is **living**? Which worm is **nonliving**? How do you know?” Emphasize that the earthworm is living because it eats, breathes, grows, moves, and is able to reproduce. The gummy worm is nonliving, because it does none of the above.
- ⇒ When finished, return the earthworm to the soil where you found it, wash your hands, and enjoy your gummy worm!
 - Reference the links below for more fun facts about worms and additional worm-related crafts and activities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- ⇒ Check out the links below to learn more about topics related to this activity!
 - [Earthworm Facts](#)
 - [Worm-Themed Crafts and Activities](#)

