

Name _____

Date _____

THE EARTHWORM: ANATOMY

Earthworms are cold-blooded animals that are an important part of the planet. Earthworms eat plant and animal material in the dirt, turning it into nutritious soil for plants.

Below is a diagram of an earthworm. Using the word box below, label and color the body parts of the worm illustration. Use books or the internet to answer the questions on the next page.

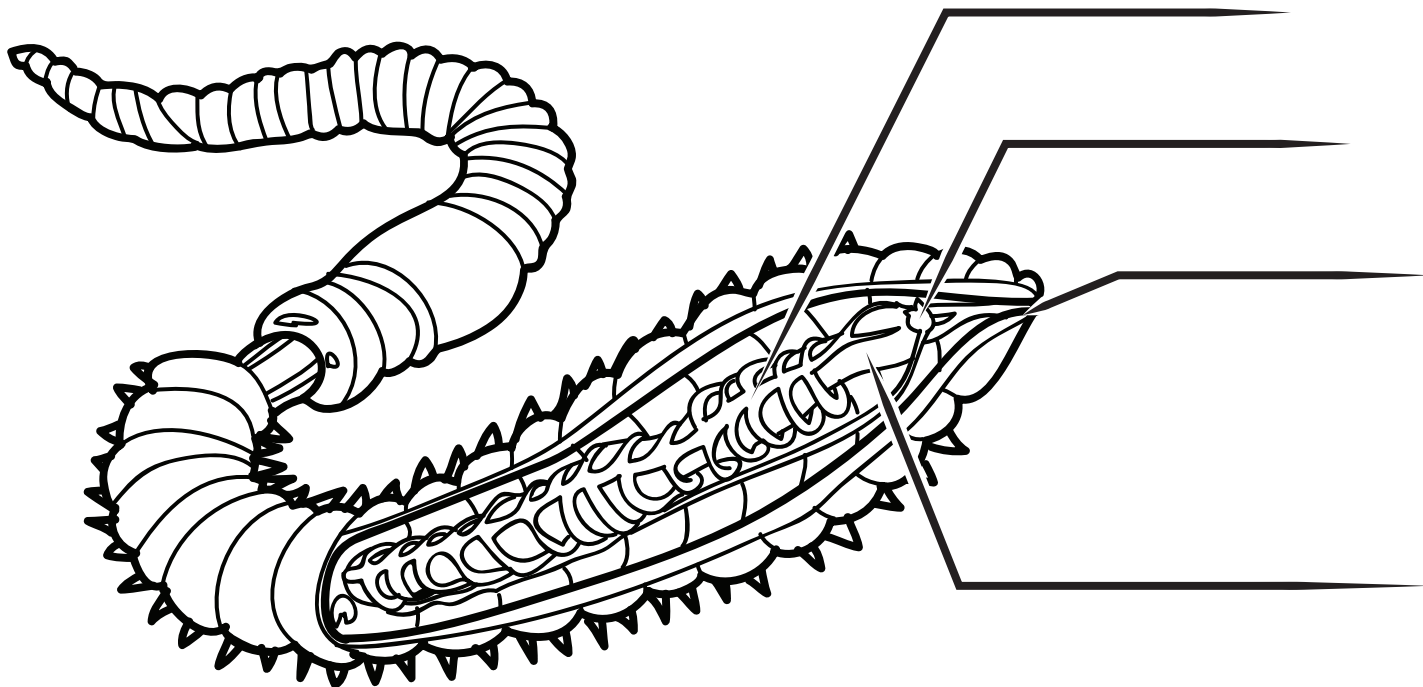
Word Bank

Hearts

Mouth

Brain

Digestive Tract



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THE EARTHWORM: EXPERIMENT

True or False?

Write *true* or *false* to answer the statements below.

- _____ 1. Earthworms live as long as as people.
- _____ 2. The earthworm can see and hear but it doesn't have ears or eyes.
- _____ 3. The earthworm can't chew its food since it doesn't have teeth.
- _____ 4. Earthworms have five hearts instead of one.
- _____ 5. Earthworms breathe through their skin.
- _____ 6. Earthworms are warm-blooded vertebrates.

Lab Lesson

Use the following experiment to learn more about earthworms. Be sure to keep your worms safe and return them outside after the lab lesson.

Materials

four live worms
clean cloth
water

cotton swab
lemon
magnifying glass (optional)

Procedure Steps

1. Place your earthworms by laying them on a cloth. Use a magnifying glass if you want. Look at the worms in a dim light.
2. Using a cotton swab, gently touch the worm. Write down what happens.
3. Look for bristles on the worm, near the underside.
4. Dip the cotton swab in lemon juice. Gently touch the end of the worm with the wet swab. Do the same with water. Write down what happens.

Lab Questions

1. Based on your studies of the earthworm's external anatomy, how does the worm use its bristles?
2. How does the worm react to light? Write down your conclusions based on the worm's reaction to light and its natural underground environment where it is dark.
3. How did the earthworm react to the lemon juice? Was it different than how ithe worm reacted to water? Why did it react this way?