

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Sample Lesson Plan	4
Before the Book (<i>Pre-reading Activities</i>)	5
About the Author	7
Book Summary	8
Vocabulary	9
Vocabulary Activity Ideas	10
Daily Journal Activities	11
SECTION 1 (<i>Chapters 1–9</i>)	13
❖ Quiz Time	
❖ Hands-on Activity— <i>Character Profile</i>	
❖ Cooperative Learning— <i>Poetry</i>	
❖ Curriculum Connection— <i>Science Research Project (Steps 1 and 2)</i>	
❖ Into Your Life— <i>Billy and Me</i>	
SECTION 2 (<i>Chapters 10–15</i>)	18
❖ Quiz Time	
❖ Hands-on Activity— <i>Worm Measurement</i>	
❖ Cooperative Learning— <i>Worm Terrariums</i>	
❖ Curriculum Connection— <i>Science Research Project (Step 3)</i>	
❖ Into Your Life— <i>Sentence Strips</i>	
SECTION 3 (<i>Chapters 16–24</i>)	23
❖ Quiz Time	
❖ Hands-on Activity— <i>Literal and Figurative Statements</i>	
❖ Cooperative Learning— <i>Worm Report</i>	
❖ Curriculum Connection— <i>Science Research Project (Steps 4 and 5)</i>	
❖ Into Your Life— <i>Wormy Recipes</i>	
SECTION 4 (<i>Chapters 25–41</i>)	28
❖ Quiz Time	
❖ Hands-on Activity— <i>Playing Tricks</i>	
❖ Cooperative Learning— <i>Create a Game</i>	
❖ Curriculum Connection— <i>Science Research Project (Steps 6 and 7)</i>	
❖ Into Your Life— <i>Worm du Jour</i>	
After the Book (<i>Post-reading Activities and Resources</i>)	
❖ Worm Facts	34
❖ Any Questions?	35
❖ Book Report Ideas	36
❖ Crossword Puzzle	37
Culminating Activity	39
Unit Test Options	43
Bibliography	46
Answer Key	47

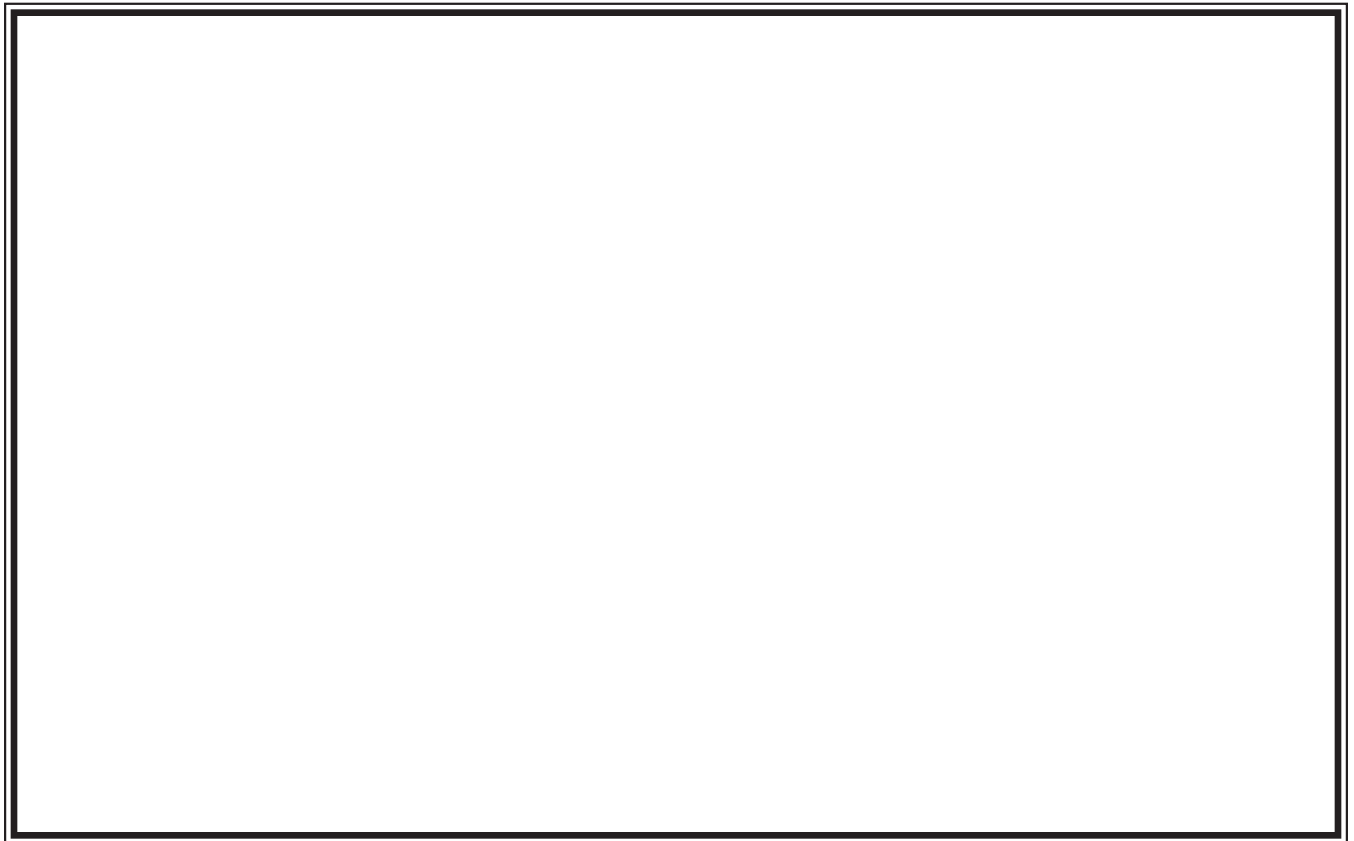
Worm Report

Worms fall into a special category of animals called invertebrates. Invertebrates are animals without backbones. Using a real worm, conduct the following experiments.

Locate the following parts of the worm. As you find the part on your worm, draw a picture of it in the space below. Be sure to label each part. Color your drawing the same color as your worm.

Be careful! Some parts listed below cannot be found on a worm! You may want to use an encyclopedia to help you.

Eyes	Legs	Tail	Bristles
Mouth	Head	Segments or Rings	Clitellum



Conduct the following extra experiments with your worm.

1. Place the worm on a piece of clear plastic or glass. Can you see through the worm's body? Can you see its blood vessels or its beating heart?
2. Turn the worm onto its back. Watch how it flips itself over.
3. Place the worm on a damp paper towel. Find the pairs of small bristles and gently touch them. What do they feel like?
4. Write several sentences summarizing your experiences with the worm.

Worm Facts

- The body of the earthworm is divided into segments or rings called *annuli*.
- Earthworms can be as short as $\frac{1}{25}$ of an inch (.1 cm).
- Earthworms can be as long as 3 feet (91 cm).
- Earthworms do not have eyes. Each segment of an earthworm has a pair of spots which detect light.
- An earthworm is moist to the touch because of a slimy coating which keeps it from drying out.
- If an earthworm's head or tail is cut off, it will grow back. This is called *regeneration*.
- Earthworms eat leaves, grass, and decayed plants.
- Earthworms are active at night; this is when they eat.
- There are more than 3,000 species of earthworms found throughout the world.
- The earthworm's mouth is on the first segment.
- An earthworm has bristles on the underside of its body. The bristles help it move through the soil.
- Earthworms can be red, grey, or brown.
- The pointed end that looks like a tail is really the head.
- Earthworms are helpful in keeping the soil rich in nutrients. This helps plants to grow.
- The earthworm makes tunnels in the dirt as it moves. This loosens the soil, allowing water and air to circulate and helping plants to grow.
- The earthworm does have keen senses of touch, smell, and taste.
- An earthworm does not have lungs. The worm gets oxygen through its skin. The earthworm must remain moist, but it cannot tolerate too much water or it might drown. The worm comes to the surface during heavy rains to avoid drowning.
- The worm moves by contracting its circular and long muscles that run throughout its body. The forward part of the worm's body has five pairs of hearts. Blood is pumped by muscular action.