

Worm charming kit

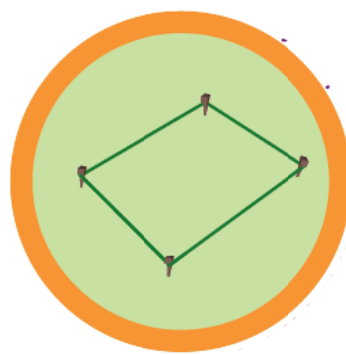
Worm charming is a brilliant way to get up close to these fascinating wiggly creatures and learn all about them. Plus it's tons of fun :D)

You can do it in teams at school or with your group. Or you can try it at home with your family – experiment to test which methods work best, or choose one method and compare the woods, your garden or park to see which is home to the most worms.

1. Split up into teams and think of a name.



2. Measure out and mark your plots. Draw straws to see who charms where.



3. Decide on your method and get all of your equipment ready.



4. Start the clock and turn on your charms!



5. Keep all the worms you charm safe in a 'worm pod'.



6. When the time is up, stop charming and count up your worms.



7. Don't forget to measure them, weight them and count up their segments too.



8. Present awards to the winners, then take your wiggly friends back to their homes.



The traditional and most popular worm charming method is to stick a garden fork into the ground and hit it to create vibrations which travel through the soil.

It's thought this mimics the vibrations created by moles digging their tunnels, and prompts the worms to head to the surface to escape and avoid being eaten.

What ideas can you think of to send vibrations through the earth and charm worms to the surface?



Start your own adventure at naturedetectives.org.uk

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