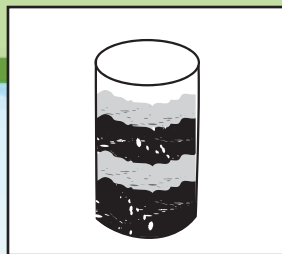
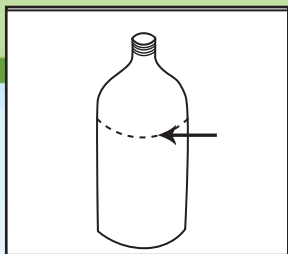


# How to make a Worm Farm



Earthworms are really important for the soil. They dig and tunnel below the surface, which helps carry air and nutrients deeper into the soil. The greater the soil's nutrients, the greater chance plants have to grow. This project demonstrates how good worms really are at turning over the soil.

## What you'll need:

- A large clear plastic soda pop bottle
- Some soil and sand
- Vegetables and leaves
- Earthworms
- Cellophane or clear plastic wrap

## Directions:

1. Cut off the neck and shoulders of the bottle a half-inch below where the sides begin to straighten out. Keep the bottom portion to use as your earthworm farm.
2. Fill the bottle with four alternating layers of soil and sand, starting and ending the layers with soil. The soil layers should be 5cm thick and the sand layers 1cm thick. Leave the soil loose so the worms can burrow easily.
3. Sprinkle bits of potatoes and onions on the surface for the worms to eat. Add a few leaves to give the worms coverage.
4. Collect earthworms from your lawn. Soak a section of your lawn with a garden hose until the earthworms surface, or hunt for worms under rocks.
5. Place the worms into the farm. Cover it with cellophane, then poke holes into it so the worms can breathe.
6. Place the container in a dark, cool place.
7. After a few days, take notice of how mixed the layers have become as a result of the worms burrowing their way to the top, then back to the bottom again.
8. Gently release the worms back into your yard.