

Your group will be making a poster to share your data from each investigation with the class. While you are waiting on worms to react, a good use of your time would be to work on the poster.

ALL EXTEND INVESTIGATION OPTIONS

LIGHT INVESTIGATION

HOW DO EARTHWORMS REACT TO LIGHT?

How do you think the earthworms will behave when given the choice between light and darkness? Why do you think this?

Directions:

Prepare a chamber to test your worm's reaction to light. The chamber should resemble the one below:



1. Put a moistened paper towel in the bottom of the chamber.
2. Place three worms in the middle of the container where the light and dark meet.
3. Allow the worms to rest for 10 minutes.
4. Document any movement (or not) of the worms.
5. Collect observations and tally the worms' behavior using the table on the next page, or record the data in your notebook.

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Earthworms' Response	Observations (include the number that preferred this side)
Moved to the light side	
Moved to the dark side	
Unusual Behavior (Earthworms did not move, or one or more worms had half its body on each side of the paper towels)	

Identify the stimulus:

Identify the response:

Did your results support what you thought would happen? YES NO

Explain

How does what you learned in this lab help explain the earthworms' behavior you witnessed in the video at the beginning of this lesson?



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TEMPERATURE INVESTIGATION

HOW DO EARTHWORMS REACT TO TEMPERATURE?

How do you think the earthworms will behave when given the choices among different temperatures? Why do you think this?

Directions:

For each of these temperature investigations, place a paper towel in the bottom of the behavior chamber. **The paper towel should only cover half of the box so you can see if they prefer to stay on that towel or not.** When testing out the hot paper towel, be sure it is not too hot because you don't want to harm the worm. The towel should not be so hot it burns your hand.

Cold Investigation

1. Wet a paper towel and place it in the freezer for 5 minutes. Your teacher may have already done this for you.
2. Get 3 worms.
3. Put the frozen towel in the bottom of the chamber, covering only half of the bottom.
4. Place the worms on the towel.
5. Record observations in the table on the next page or in your lab notebook.

Tap Water Investigation

1. Wet a paper towel using tap water.
2. Get 3 worms.
3. Put the wet towel in the bottom of the chamber, covering only half of the bottom.
4. Place the worms on the towel.
5. Record observations in the table on the next page or in your lab notebook.

Hot Water Investigation

1. Wet a paper towel using hot water, or briefly microwave a wet paper towel. **DO NOT MAKE THE TOWEL TOO HOT!**
2. Get 3 worms.
3. Put the wet towel in the bottom of the chamber, covering only half of the bottom.
4. Place the worms on the towel.
5. Record observations in the table on the next page or in your lab notebook.

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Earthworms' Response	Observations (include the number that stayed on the towel)
Movement on tap water paper towel	
Movement on frozen paper towel	
Movement on hot paper towel	
Unusual Behavior (Earthworms did not move, or one or more worms had half its body on each side of the paper towels)	

Identify the stimulus: _____

Identify the response: _____

Did your results support what you thought would happen? YES NO

Explain

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ODOR INVESTIGATION

HOW DO EARTHWORMS REACT TO ODORS?

How do you think the earthworms will behave when given the choices among different odors? Why do you think this?

Directions:

1. Cover the bottom of your chamber with a wet paper towel using tap water.
2. Choose either the left or right side and put several drops of vinegar on the paper towel on that side.
3. Get 3 worms.
4. Put the worms in the middle of the chamber.
5. Record observations in the table below or in your lab notebook.

Earthworms' Response	Observations (include the number that preferred this scent)
Move towards scented side	
Move towards unscented side	
Unusual Behavior (Earthworms did not move, or one or more worms had half its body on each side of the paper towels)	

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Identify the stimulus: _____

Identify the response: _____

Did your results support what you thought would happen? YES NO

Explain

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VIBRATION INVESTIGATION

HOW DO EARTHWORMS REACT TO VIBRATIONS?

How do you think the earthworms will behave when you tap on one side of the chamber?
Why do you think this?

Directions:

1. Cover the bottom of your chamber with a wet paper towel using tap water.
2. Get a tuning fork.
3. Get 3 worms.
4. Put the worms on one side of the chamber.
5. Hit the tuning fork on the side of a table, then lightly hold the fork against the bottom of the chamber. If forks are not available, then just use your pencil and tap the bottom of the chamber repeatedly.
6. Record observations in the table below or in your lab notebook.

Earthworms' Response	Observations (include the number that preferred this side)
Move towards vibrations	
Move away from vibrations	
Unusual Behavior (Earthworms did not move, or one or more worms had half its body on each side of the paper towels)	

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Identify the stimulus: _____

Identify the response: _____

Did your results support what you thought would happen? YES NO

Explain

How does what you learned in this lab help explain the earthworms' behavior you witnessed in the video at the beginning of this lesson?
