

## Earthworms Do Good Work



*Photo Credit: Earthdirt*

Earthworms live underground. Do you know how wiggly worms help plants?

Earthworms dig tunnels in the dirt. The tunnels help bring air and water into the dirt. That keeps the dirt wet and healthy.

Earthworms eat dirt and leaves as they make tunnels. They leave their droppings in the dirt. Those droppings help the dirt stay healthy. Plants grow well in healthy dirt.

Some people buy earthworms to put in their gardens. Those people want to keep the dirt healthy!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** For questions 1-4, circle the correct answer.

1. What lives underground, is wiggly, and helps plants grow?

- a) grubs
- b) birds
- c) earthworms

2. What does this passage want you to know about earthworms?

- a) Earthworms do good work because they help plants grow.
- b) Earthworms are slimy and disgusting. Never touch them.
- c) Earthworms are bad for your garden because they eat your plants.

3. Earthworm tunnels and droppings keep dirt wet and healthy. Plants grow well in healthy dirt. What does this information tell us about what plants need to grow?

- a) Plants need to eat earthworm droppings to grow.
- b) Plants take in water and other things from the dirt to grow.
- c) Plants need to eat earthworms to grow.

4. What is the main lesson in "Earthworms Do Good Work"?

- a) Earthworms keep dirt healthy, which helps plants grow.
- b) Earthworms live underground and they eat dirt and leaves.
- c) Earthworms are dangerous, especially to plants and people.

5. A) What do earthworms make that help bring air and water into dirt?

Earthworms bring air and water into dirt by making

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B) Draw a picture of an earthworm in the dirt.



6. What did you learn from "Earthworms Do Good Work"?

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7. **Class Discussion Question:** Explain why someone might want to buy earthworms for his or her garden.