

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
KINDERGARTEN**

**Title of Lesson:** Where do Earthworms Live?

**Theme:** Life Science

**Unit Number:** 6      **Unit Title:** Plants and Animals

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

SKL2

SKCS1

SKCS4

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Earthworms, soil, habitats

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** This activity lets kids predict and then observe where earthworms prefer to live.

**Details:** Purchase the earthworms as close to the day of the experiment as possible. They will keep for several days if you put them in the refrigerator or freezer. Just be sure to not leave them in a very warm area for too long or they may die. Take a regular shoe box and cut off a third of the lid on one end. When the top is on the shoe box, part of the inside should be lit, and the rest of the inside should be dark.

Start by asking the students where earthworms live. Next, show the students the shoe box with the hole in it, and make sure they see that one part of the box is dark while the other is lit. Ask the students what they think will happen if the worms are left in the shoebox free to move, and record their predictions on the board. Spread the worms evenly throughout the box, and let the students make observations about the locations of the worms. Wait 20 minutes to give the worms a chance to move to the darker corner of the shoe box. During this time, you can talk about where other animals prefer to live and why. After 20 minutes, remove the lid to the shoe box and allow the kids to observe changes in locations of the worms.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

1 shoe box

**10 to 15 earthworms or night crawlers (can be purchased at local bait shop)**  
**A book to read while the earthworms move**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**Be sure to have the students wash their hands after touching the worms.**

**Sources/References:**

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)