



BLenheim ESTATE

Build a worm World

What you need

- A large glass jar, fishbowl or fish tank – make sure it has a lid
- Soil • Sand • Gravel • Water • Earthworms • Old leaves • Grass clippings
- Vegetable peelings • Some black paper and a cool, dark cupboard

How to make it

- Make sure your jar, bowl or tank is clean.
- Add a layer of gravel to the bottom of the container - this will help with drainage.
- Add layers of sand and soil in layers. Make sure you add a little water to the soil as you go – you could use a spray bottle to do this. You should finish with a layer of soil near to the top of the container.
- Collect some earthworms from your garden. You can find them in the compost heap, under stones in damp places, or by digging a hole.
- Put your worms on top of the soil and add the old leaves, grass clippings and vegetable peelings.
- Cover your worm world with black paper and keep it in a cool, dark place (like a cupboard) for a couple of weeks. Then look at what the worms have done.
- You should notice that the soil and sand have mixed together, and the worms might have made some funky patterns as they burrow. You should also notice your vegetable peelings have been eaten or dragged down into the soil.
- Worms are very important because they keep soil healthy by mixing it and allowing oxygen into it. Once you've observed what your worms have done in their worm world, release them back into the garden.

