



BRITISH
SOCIETY
OF SOIL
SCIENCE

THE GREAT WORM HUNT



Join us on a Great Worm Hunt and find out more about these fascinating creatures that live beneath the ground!

INSTRUCTIONS

Find out more about these fascinating creatures by going on your very own Great Worm Hunt!



- 1 Use your spade or trowel to dig a small hole in the ground. You will find more earthworms closer to the surface, after it has rained.
- 2 Use your [OPAL earthworm identification guide](#) to identify the number and type of earthworms you can see. Smaller children may need help with this step.
- 3 If required, you may want to review some [online resources](#) relating to earthworms and their habitats!
- 4 Put the worms back and cover them over. Be careful throughout to make sure you put the worms back into the ground as you found them!
- 5 If required, present your findings. Each 25cm x 25cm hole works out to be around 0.1 m² and the abundance of earthworms over each m² could be calculated if a number of holes have been dug.

OBJECTIVE

To find and identify earthworms in a small area of earth.

EQUIPMENT

You will need:

- Permission to dig a small area of earth of approximately 25cm x 25cm and around 10-20cm deep
- A small spade or trowel
- A ruler to measure the earthworms
- Access to the [OPAL earthworm identification guide](#)

Teachers may also consider whether they are required to undertake a risk assessment.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Let us know what you found on your [#GreatWormHunt](#)

 @Soil_Science

 admin@soils.org.uk

 www.soils.org.uk