

20. Anatomy of an Earthworm

☆FOR TEACHERS: (When you see the red words, please let him read the sentence which is the definitions of each word and that's below this article. After he read it, please explain it to him by your way or ideas.)



There are 4,400 species of worms - 2,700 different kinds of earthworms to be exact. It's hard to image something more interesting than watching an earthworm give birth or seeing his five hearts beat. Let's follow the lunch of an earthworm to see how its body works.

★FOR TEACHERS : Teacher will ask this question first "Are there any words you don't understand?" after explain those words, teacher will make some questions below each paragraph. And let him say the sentences according to your question. (If the student can't make that himself, you'll make the sentences And let him say it 3 times to memorize it.)

Pharynx: The earthworm's pharynx - or throat - is used to grab leaves and pull them back into its mouth. Then it gets them nice and wet with saliva.

Esophagus: Once the food is good and wet, it pushes the food down its esophagus, then onto its crop.

Crop: The crop is a storage compartment for food and other things an earthworm swallows. From the crop, lunch goes to the gizzard.

Gizzard: The gizzard is where the work happens. Any stones that have been swallowed and the strong muscles of the gizzard grinds up the leaves. These muscles work almost like teeth.

Intestine: Once the leaves are all ground up, they move to the intestine where the digestive juices break them down even more.

Bloodstream: Now that the leaf is all digested, some of it will pass into the bloodstream.

Anus: Whatever is leftover comes out the anus as castings or worm poop.



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