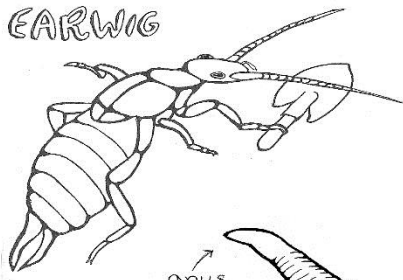


Building
Session 2

Preparation and Materials needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Materials needed for this session: empty single serve milk/juice carton (1 per scout), large size craft sticks (50 sticks per scout), wood glue, the “Who made all this dirt” color sheet, and crayons/markers ✓ Have the attendance sheet out and ready ✓ Review the session to be prepared to lead the discussion. Do not read it to the scouts, be prepared ahead of time to smoothly lead the session.
Gathering	Who made all of this dirt coloring sheet
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pick 2 scouts to hold the flag, 1 scout to lead the Oath, and 1 scout to lead the Law. ✓ Ensure all of the scouts are focused and ready to begin
Talk Time	Dirt and Composting
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1 of building a planter from recycled material • Create a “Cobra Weave Chain”
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Point out positive behaviors and activities shown during this session. ✓ Tell the scouts what next session will be. ✓ Have the scouts clean up the room
After the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enter the advancements per rank. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiger – • Wolf – Council Fire 6.c • Bear – Fur, Feathers, and Ferns 6 • Webelos – • Arrow of Light – ✓ Enter attendance ✓ Turn in any needed documents into the district/council ✓ Call, text, or e-mail 2 parents to share something positive about their scout. Make sure every scout has a positive comment before you return to these scouts.

WHO MADE ALL THIS DIRT?

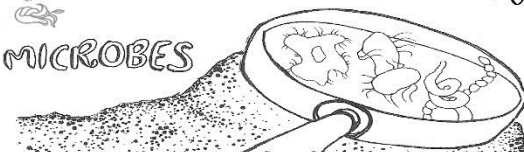
EARWIG



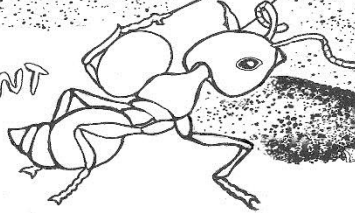
@greenhands_growingkids
artwork: lana lucretia



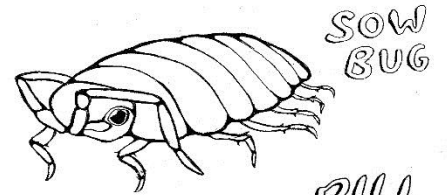
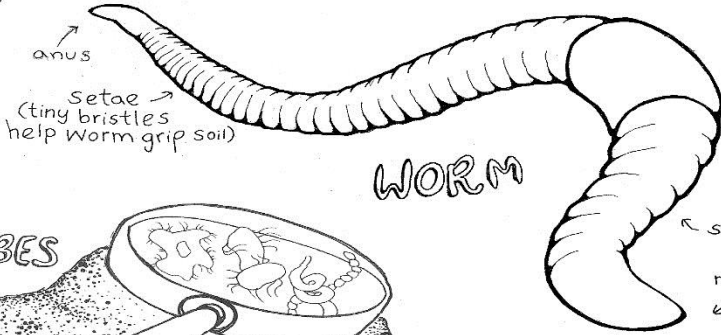
MICROBES



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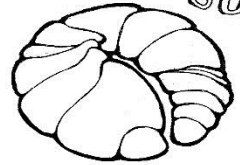


WORM

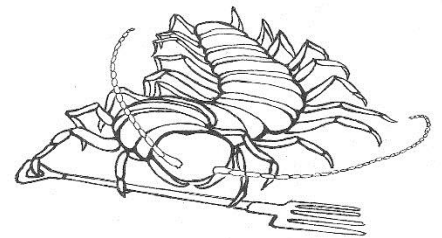


SOW BUG

PILL BUG

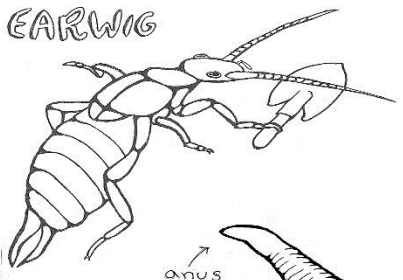


CENTIPEDE



ORGANIC RESIDUALS

EARWIG



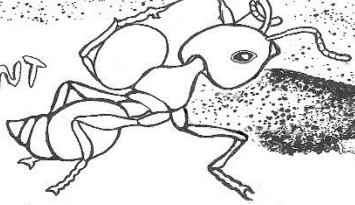
@greenhands_growingkids
artwork: lana lucretia



MICROBES

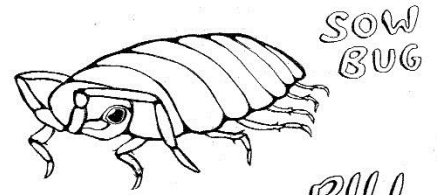
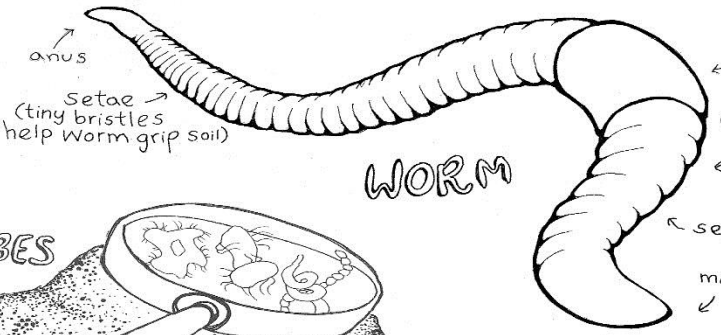


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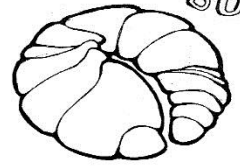
WHO MADE ALL THIS DIRT?

WORM

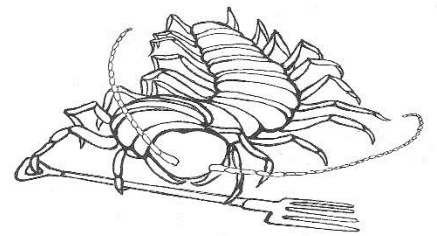


SOW BUG

PILL BUG



CENTIPEDE




ORGANIC RESIDUALS

Talking Time: The Dirt on Composting


Leader – Last session we talked about the importance of birds for the environment. This week we will talk about dirt and how bugs make our dirt good for growing things through composting.

Use the information below to teach the scouts about composting.

Student Fact Sheet C-1

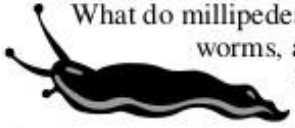


The Dirt on Composting!



Decomposers Help our Planet


What do millipedes, banana slugs, worms, and mushrooms have in common? They are all **decomposers** or living things that eat **organic matter**. Organic matter includes pieces of plants and animals that were once alive and are now in a state of rotting or **decay**. This includes leftover food like orange peels, half-eaten sandwiches, and apple cores. When decomposers eat organic matter, they pass it through their bodies and break it down into **compost**.



Compost looks like dirt or **soil** and is the color of dark chocolate. It is crumbly and smells clean and fresh like the earth after it rains. Compost acts like a vitamin pill—it adds important vitamins or **nutrients** to the soil. Just like people need vitamins to stay strong and healthy, so do plants. When the soil is full of nutrients, more plants are able to grow. Compost can help produce more food for people in a natural and earth friendly way.

Nature's Way of Recycling

Out in nature, decomposers live under logs, rocks, and leaves. They feast on organic matter and leave behind nutrient rich compost for meadows, forests, and mountains.




This is nature's way of recycling!

Decomposers can live in many different places, including our backyards. Since decomposers help in a process called **composting**—where the natural process of decay is sped up—some people create


homes for decomposers by layering leftover food and yard clippings in piles outside. These are called **compost piles** and with all the different layers, they can look like backyard lasagna!

Earth Builders




Decomposers living in the compost pile—such as worms and pill bugs—have important jobs. They help keep the pile warm, they dig, they chew, and they digest our leftover food into compost. For instance, earthworms pass food through their bodies and leave behind **castings** or nutrient rich pieces of crumbly compost that provide plants with vitamins. These castings or compost can be added to houseplants, gardens and even to farmland where farmers grow our food.

Food Comes from the Earth



Although the earth is large, only a fraction of our land can be used for growing food. This land is called **topsoil**. Topsoil is the top six inches of soil that contains nutrients that plants need to grow. Most topsoil is covered by roads, buildings, houses, and parks. Some topsoil is unusable in areas like mountains that are too rocky or steep to grow food crops. Other times, topsoil is blown away by the wind or washed away by rain. In other situations, too much farming in one area, or **over-farming**, has drained or **depleted** important nutrients from the soil. Because of this, only a small amount of topsoil is left for growing food to feed the six billion people on Earth.

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Activity: Make a planter using recycled material – This is step one of two sessions

Material:

- Individual milk/juice carton
- Wood glue
- Craft sticks
- Multi-colored permanent markers
- Garden dirt
- Herb seeds

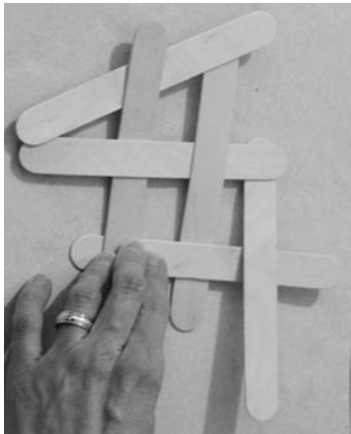
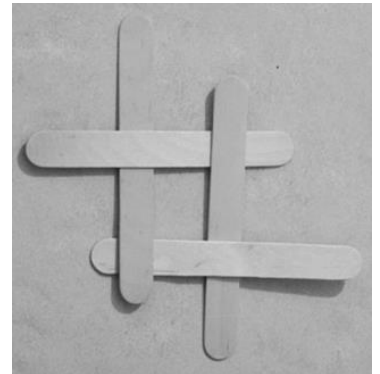
Step One:

1. Give the scouts the milk carton, wood glue, and the craft sticks.
2. Tell the scouts to cover the carton with the craft sticks. Allow the boys to create their own way to cover the carton.
3. Have the scouts glue the craft sticks together onto the carton
4. Make sure all of the scouts have their name on their creation
5. Set them aside to dry

Activity: Cobra Weave Chain Reaction

This chain reaction is usually called the cobra weave. Here's how to build one:

Step 1: Arrange 4 craft sticks into this pattern. Make them look exactly like this.



Step 2: Add another stick to the top to secure the end. This stick must go diagonally across to hold down the ends of the top horizontal stick and the right vertical stick. If it won't hold them both down, slide those two sticks out farther until they are successfully held down by the stick you added.

This next photo also shows the first chain stick added.

Step 3: Build the chain by adding craft sticks, one at a time to each side. Each stick should go over one stick, and under one stick.

Step 4: Keep building the chain until the boys are ready to set off the chain reaction. Have the boys count off 10-1 and let it go.

