

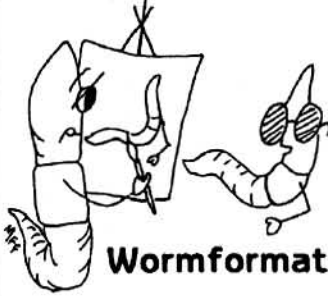
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Wormformation

Worms do not have eyes as we do. When you see an artist's cartoon of a worm with eyes you know that the artist is using her imagination. The artist is trying to give the worm expression and personality. Humans show their emotions of happiness, sadness, and surprise with their eyes. Imagine a worm drawing a picture of another worm. A picture drawn by a worm would not show human eyes. Perhaps a worm can sense if another worm is happy or sad by using another part of its body and does not need eyes at all. Scientists who study earthworms know that they sense light without having eyes.

Question

Do worms sense light? Try this experiment.

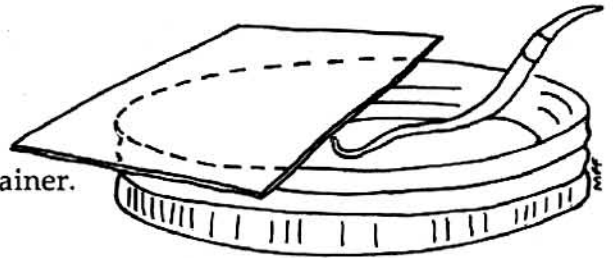
Materials

You will need the following materials to do your scientific study:

- a shallow container (jar lid)
- black paper or cardboard
- live worm (at least 1)
- moist paper
- towel
- a flashlight

Directions

1. Place moist paper towel in shallow container.
2. Cover half of the container with the cardboard.
3. Put worm in the uncovered portion of the container.
4. Shine the flashlight on the worm.
5. Observe what the worm does.



Record your observations in the box below and answer the question.

What did you observe? _____

Does a worm sense light? Yes No

How do you know? _____

Bonus Activity Use a red or amber plastic bag over lighted end of flashlight and observe the reaction of the worm to light. Record what you see the worm doing.