

# Worm Charming

## *Enjoyment and Appetite for Learning*

*Enjoy being outdoors  
Motivated to participate and persevere  
showing resilience with new  
challenges*

### **Vibrations cause worms to rise to the surface. How many can you collect in 5 minutes?**

It is unclear why worms rise up out of their burrows upon feeling vibrations. The popular explanation is the vibrations mimic a mole, who can eat up to 100 worms per day! The technique is used by fishermen to retrieve worms for bait and birds for a nutritious food source.

#### **Activity:**

1. Mark out a plot 3m x 3m size using twigs or string.
2. Stamp on the spot for 5 minutes within your plot, trying to make continuous vibrations through the ground. Set the time for longer if needed.
3. As the worms rise up and out of the soil within your plot put them in the pot which contains damp soil.
4. Count how many worms you have charmed up and out of the ground. Make it competitive and compare numbers to another fellow competitor.

**Time:**  
5 min+

**Space:**  
Grass

**Equipment:**  
For Collection: Pot, Soil



Compare different plots with the number of worms found. Think about how it can be made to be a fair test - same plot size, length of time and number of stamps.

Worms like damp soil, so under these conditions you may find more worm. How else could you create vibrations through the ground?

#### **Notes:**

**World Worm Charming Championships in Cheshire each year. In 1980 511 charmed in 30 minutes!** <https://www.willastonprimaryacademy.co.uk/worm-charming/>

**More information on Worm Charming** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worm\\_charming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worm_charming)