



STUDENT WORM JOURNAL

Name _____

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

What is composting?

What is vermicomposting?

Why are red wiggler worms important?

What is decomposition?

What are decomposers?

What are some examples of decomposers?



WORM FACTS

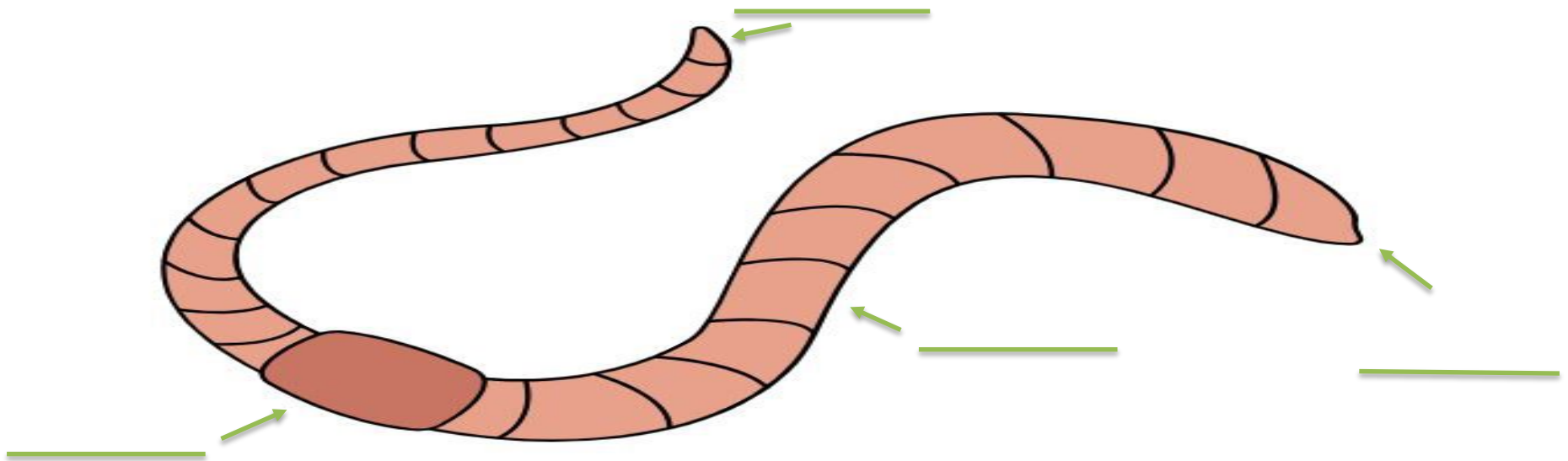
Use this page to write down any worm facts you want to remember from books, websites, or other resources.



PARTS OF A WORM

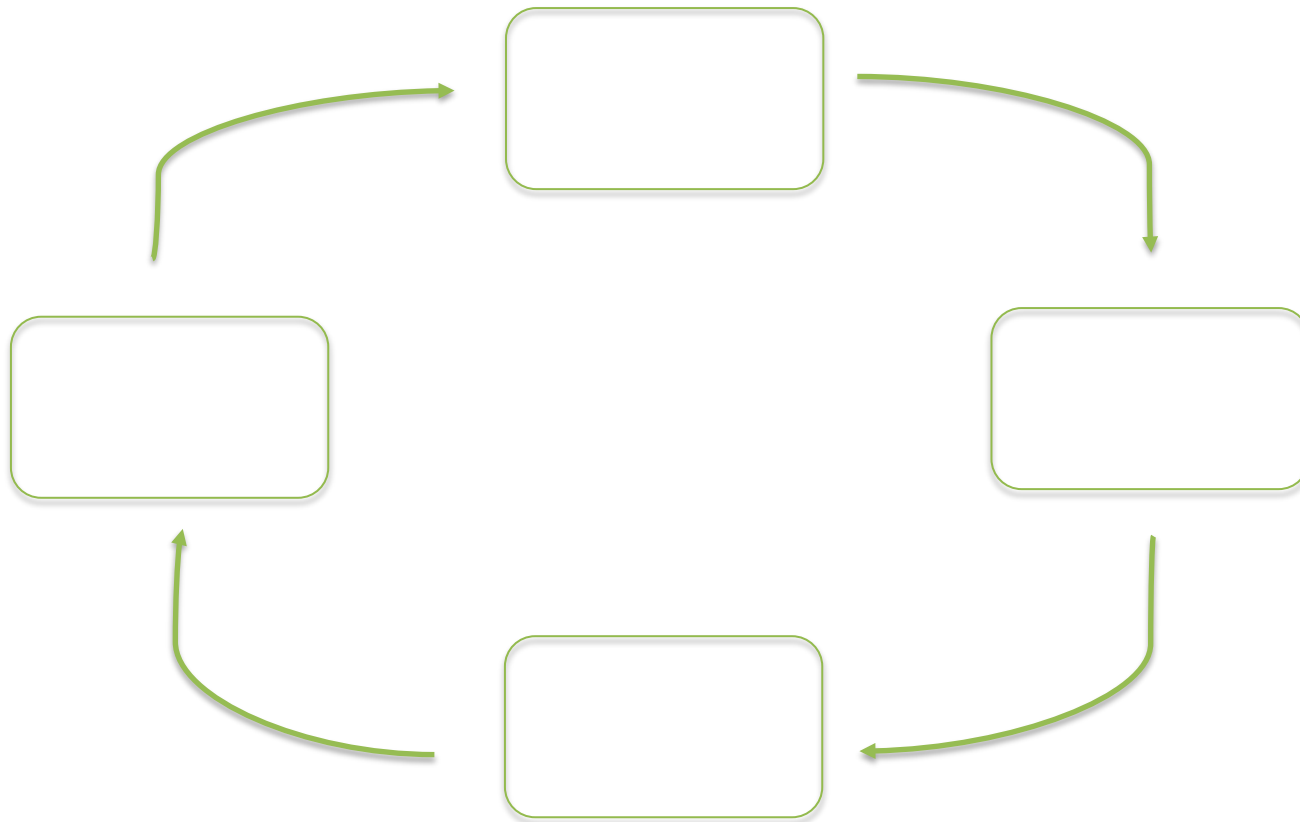
Label the parts of a worm. Identify the purpose of each part. Add a picture of castings and label them.

Word Bank Mouth Tail end Segments Clitellum





LIFE CYCLE OF A WORM





WORM JOURNAL TEACHER KEY

GRADE

Grades: K-5

SUBJECT

Life Science

DURATION

60 minutes

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What is compost? **The dark, crumbly, nutrient-rich soil-like material produced by decomposing organic matter.**
- What is vermicomposting? **The process of using worms to break down organic waste into nutrient-rich compost.**
- Why are red wiggler worms important? **They eat organic matter and break it down into small pieces. Their castings (worm poop) create nutrient-rich soil. They also allow air and water into the soil when they burrow.**
- What is decomposition? **The natural process where organic matter, like dead organisms or plant matter, is broken down into smaller parts**
- What are decomposers? **An organism that breaks down dead or decaying organic material (e.g., worms, bacteria, fungi).**
- What are some examples of decomposers? **bacteria, fungi (like mushrooms and yeast), earthworms, insects (like beetles and flies), snails, slugs, millipedes, some invertebrates, and certain sea creatures like sea urchins and tube worms.**



WORM FACTS

Use this page to write down any worm facts you want to remember from books, websites, or other resources. You can sketch pictures with facts at the bottom.

Worms breathe through their skin. Worms have no teeth

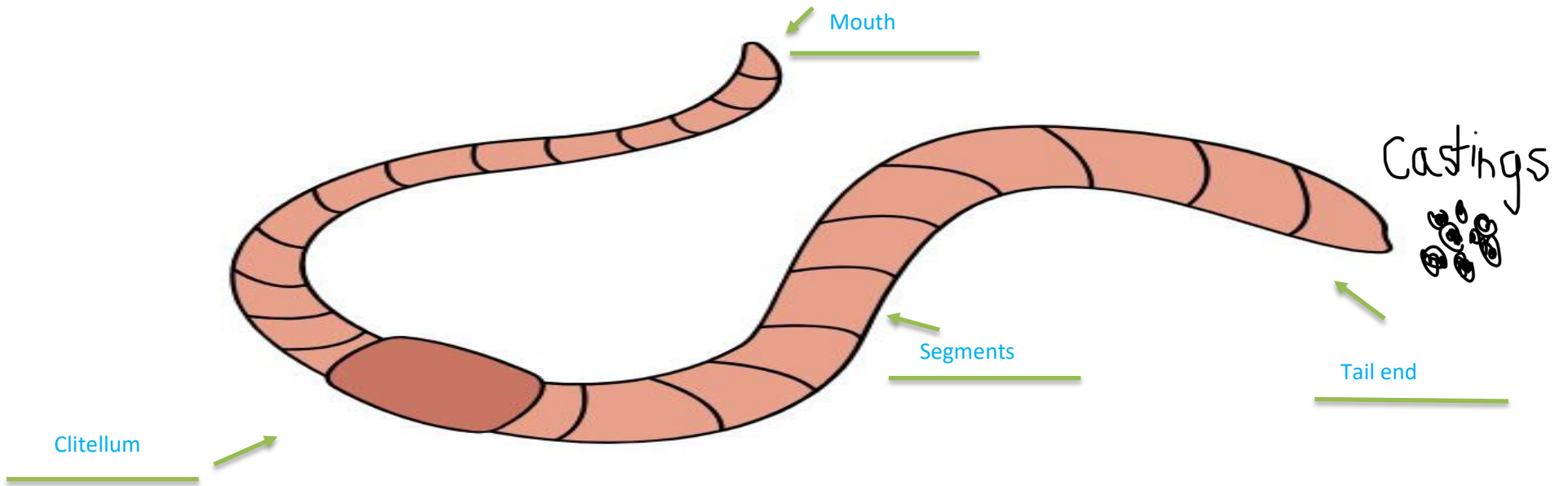
Worm poop is called castings.	Worms do not have eyes.	Worms can eat half of their body weight in food each day.



PARTS OF A WORM

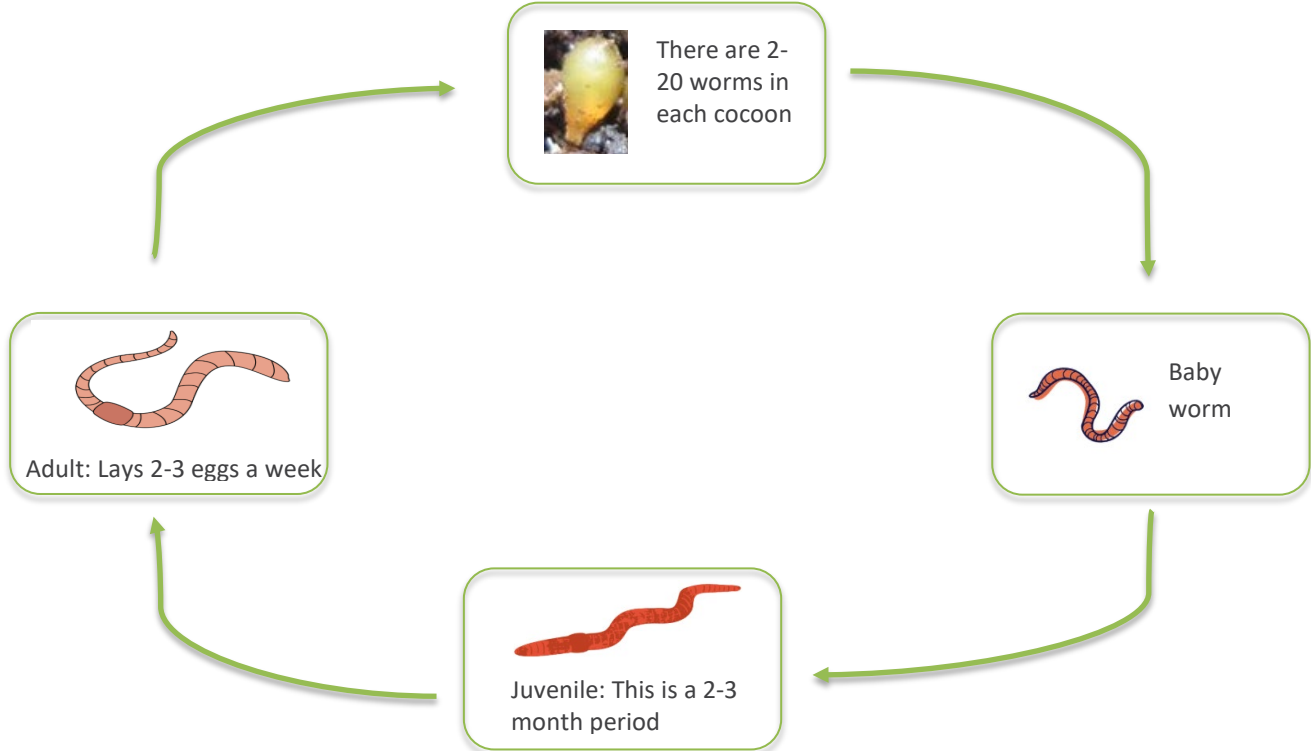
Label the parts of a worm. Identify the purpose of each part. Draw a picture of worm castings and label them.

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LIFE CYCLE OF A WORM





STANDARDS THAT CAN BE INTEGRATED INTO THIS LESSON

Grade	Standard
1	LS.1 Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
1	LS.2 Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.
2	LS.1 living things cause changes on Earth.
3	LS.1 Offspring resemble their parents.
3	LS.3 Plants and animals have life cycles that are part of their adaptations for survival in their natural environments.
4	LS.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.
5	LS.1 Organisms perform a variety of roles in an ecosystem.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit <https://www.swaco.org/201/Schools> or email schools@swaco.org.

