

Plants need sunlight and water to grow

Plants then grow, flower and produce fruit or vegetables for us to eat!

Plants produce their own seeds which can disperse and travel in different ways.

Worms are the organic grower's best friend. They help create compost, they are food for the birds, and they are a natural way of improving the soil.

Good soil is vital for feeding plants and allowing them to become strong and healthy enough to grow, produce flowers and/or fruit and vegetables for us to eat and enjoy. When the plant dies, it creates organic matter which helps feed the worms and therefore creates healthy soil.

We may be able to see plant growth above ground, but it is so important that we look after what is going on below ground too.

Plants germinate from seed or bulb which then start to grow.

Up above

Plants then die at the end of their lives and become organic matter.

'Plants get support from their roots which draw up water from the ground.'

Seeds are spread by animals, humans or wind and the process starts again

'Leaf litter dwellers' are found in a compost bin or decaying vegetation on the surface. These types of worms can also be found in a 'wormery'.

A worm's world

'Shallow burrowers' can be found towards the top layers of soil. Common earthworms will consume their own bodyweight in organic matter and soil daily.

The nutrient-rich worm casts provide valuable food for many fruit and vegetable plants, the nutrients are drawn up by plant roots.

When worms poo, they create 'worm casts' which are rich in nutrients- good for the soil and plant growth.

'Deep burrowers' create a network of burrows that allow water, air and nutrients to enter, improving soil health and structure.

EXTENDED ACTIVITIES

Want to investigate further?

Why not try our seed dispersal, compost timeline or life cycle of a plant resources!