

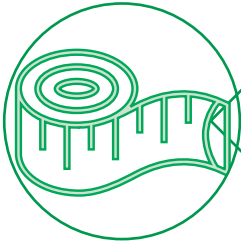
# Earthworm

## Habitat Hero



**Common Name:** Common Earthworm  
**Irish Name:** Péist talún  
**Scientific Name:** *Lumbricus terrestris*

**Seen in Ireland:** Year Round



**Size:** The common earthworm is up to 30 cm long and is pink in colour.



**Habitat (where it lives):** Earthworms live in soil and feed on dead plant material. They can be found in soil in gardens, school grounds, woodlands, in fields and other grasslands.



**Diet:** Earthworms live in soil and feed on dead plant material. They are really important to farmers and gardeners as they recycle the soil and keep it healthy.



**Life:** Earthworms can live between 4 and 8 years.

# Earthworm Life Cycle



# Earthworm

## Some more Facts:

- The common earthworm is up to 30 cm long and is pink in colour.
- Its body is made of up to 150 segments (parts).
- There are stiff hairs 'chaetae' on the underside of its body which help it move.
- They have no eyes!
- As Earthworms move through the soil, they form small tunnels which then allows air and water to move easily through the soil afterwards.
- They are really important to farmers and gardeners as they recycle dead plants and return nutrients to the soil.
- They also help the soil with their 'worm casts' (basically their poo!)
- This is great for all plants!
- Worms sometimes come to the top of the ground to look for extra tasty food, such as fallen leaves in Autumn.
- When its there it will try to keep its tail inside its burrow so that it can escape quickly if danger threatens; birds such as thrushes and blackbirds think that earthworms are delicious

