

UPS AND DOWNS IN THE LIFE OF A WORM

Focus Lesson: Ups and Downs in the Life of a Worm

Common Core Standards:

Materials:

Yucky Worms by Vivian French
 Chart paper
 Markers
 Clipboards
 Paper

Time: 1 hour

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.9

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Thinking Skill:

Taking on another's perspective
 Looking at both sides of an issue
 Using evidence from a text

Objective:

Students will see how beneficial worms are to the environment while also seeing how dangerous the environment can be for worms.

Connection:

Students will see their own connection with the worm as well as how a worm fits into its ecosystem.

Explicit Instruction:

Start a discussion with students about worms.
 Where do worms live?
 What do worms do all day?
 What do worms eat?
 Do worms have teeth?
 Do worms do anything that benefits people?
 Is it dangerous being a worm?
 What do they think the best part of a being a worm is?
 What do they think the worst part is?
 What is the best thing worms do for us?

Read *Yucky Worms* by Vivian French.

Guided Practice:

On chart paper create a pros/cons list. Explain to students that on the pros side will be good things about being a worm or good thing that worms do for the environment, such as break up soil so there is room for roots to grow. On the cons side is something negative about being a worm, such as getting eaten by a badger.

After list is complete go back to book to confirm that information is accurate.

Independent Practice:

Hand out paper and clipboards and have each student create one pro and one con illustration using the class generated pros/cons list about the life of a worm based on evidence from *Yucky Worms*.

Reflection – Group Share:

Have students share their illustrations with the class and explain their answers using the class pros/cons list. Make sure students are using evidence from the text to support their answers

Reading list:

Yucky Worms by Vivian French

Teacher Note: