

# Worm Charming

How many worms can you charm out of the ground? No digging allowed!

All

Play-based  
Learning



## Activity

Worms respond to sound vibrations in their tunnels by coming to the surface, so bang or stamp on the same bit of ground for long enough and you're sure to meet some wrigglers.

Make it competitive by setting out individual plots equal in size and challenge small teams of children to retrieve as many worms as possible in 5 minutes.

Be careful to store the worms safely in small containers of moist soil once they have been charmed.

Count each stash at the end and declare a winner – maybe with a golden wormy trophy!

## What You'll Need:

- An area of grassland like a playing field
- Ropes, string or bamboo canes to mark out your plots
- Containers of moist soil for each worm charming team.

## Useful Tips!

The annual Worm Charming World Championships have been held in the village of Willaston in Cheshire ever since 1980 when a local farmer's son allegedly charmed 511 worms in 30 minutes!

This is a handy outdoor activity to use at a transition or if you notice children becoming a bit cold and in need of their spirits lifting.

Aside from being a fun way to connect with nature and foster care for living things, the task can also be used to support basic counting skills and to give children a sense of fair testing in science.

For more resources visit [www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources](http://www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources)

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