

Earthworms aren't the most charming creatures, but they have a huge impact on the environment.

When I was younger, in about 3rd grade, we went on a field trip to the dump; I was upset to see so much garbage being thrown away. Later, I thought about how I could prevent as much garbage that was going into the dump. My Aunt has a compost bin with earthworms in it and I thought that was a good way to reduce as much harm to the environment, then I reasoned: There are earthworms in my Aunt's yard, so why can't earthworms be in everyone's yard?

Earthworms help to increase the amount of air and water that get into the soil, making the soil better for growing plants in. They feed on nearly anything compostable, such as banana and orange peels, coffee grounds with the filter, eggshells, tea bags, and oatmeal. When they eat, they leave behind a free and effective fertilizer, which is packed with nutrients to assist plants with their growing. Earthworms also bring down some of the top layer of soil and mix it with the bottom layer, almost like turning the soil. If there are earthworms in your garden, that means you have very good soil.



Earthworms live in wet conditions, like sodden soil or mud. They can't survive in dry conditions because if their body dries out, they will die, so if you have earthworms to put in your garden or compost bin, make sure those places

are fairly wet. In one acre of land, over a million earthworms can be found, if the land is wet, and depending where you live and what season it is, their very easy to find.

Earthworms cut the amount of garbage that gets into landfills and dumps in half, which is an incredible thing, for just a little old earthworm. They are like farm or garden helpers, with no cost, if you get them from the ground.



I think earthworms are very important, and this essay was an explanation of why we need them in our backyards, in compost bins or our gardens. One little earthworm has a big impact, so more of them means less garbage and less environment harm.

This has been my Essay on "What small change could everyone make to positively impact the environment?"

By: Anja Symon

Grade: 6

School: H.E. Bourgoin