



Teachers' notes

About The Book:

Worm is a funny, gentle story about an earthworm who accidentally discovers life above the ground. Worm lives underground, munching through the earth and life is pretty predictable — or so he thinks.

Worm is also a playful meditation on the way we perceive the world, and how our understanding and expectations are often limited by our particular experiences and point of view.

Worm encourages young readers to think about how they see the world, and what happens when they move outside a familiar place or routine and begin to look at life from a different perspective.

Author/illustrator's notes

The design of the book has two distinct aesthetic themes: Underground and Outside.

Underground gives a sense of simplicity and familiarity, with its warm brown tones, earthy textures and snug tunnels.

Outside is dazzling, with electric colour, sharp edges and hallucinatory forms. Objects that are familiar to us – flowers, plants, sun, sky – are completely new and extraordinary to Worm, and are therefore presented using strange combinations of colour, pattern, texture and perspective so that the reader shares Worm's sense of surprise, puzzlement and wonder.

Written & Illustrated by Nicki Greenberg
Published by Windy Hollow Books

AFTER READING

What did you find out about worms from this book that you didn't know before?

What else can you find out about worms?

This book is about an earthworm. What other types of worms are there?

Make a class chart about the life cycle of a worm.

Start a worm farm in your class.

Using old large boxes create worm tunnels that end up somewhere surprising.

Art

Nicki Greenberg has created two worlds with two very different styles. Underground and Outside.

Experiment with creating Underground pictures using earthy tones and textured art materials.

Now experiment with Outside. Collect pieces of foil, coloured papers, sequins, leaves and other bright materials to create your own sparkly gardens.

Lie on the ground outside and imagine seeing the world from the worm's perspective. Now draw what you see. How different is it from what you would see if you were standing up? How different is it from what you would see if you were a bird?

