

Title of book: Diary of a Worm

Author's name: Dorren Cronin, Harry Bliss (Illustrator)

Publisher: Scholastic INC

Copyright year: 2004

Reading level: First grade

Genre: Fantasy

SYNOPSIS OF STORY: This book is about a worm who wears a baseball cap. The book is the worm's diary and it talks about what the worm goes through from day to day. It lets the children see what it really is like to be a worm. It does this by showing what a worm is like, for example how their butt and head kind of look alike. Another one is how people dig for them to use them as bait. This book also goes into the differences that children may have and how the worm dealt with them is also how a child could handle the problems too.

THEME: Science

ACTIVITY ONE:

- **Indicate origination of idea:** Abby White
- **Objectives:** The students are going to be able to keep a diary for two months and write in it everyday.
- **Description of activity:** After reading the book show children how the worm wrote the book like it was a diary. Tell them that they are going to do this. Explain to them that they can write about what ever they want. If the teacher would like they could come up with a method like Ms. Pointe had, which would be to have the children make some sort of sign above the page if they do not want the teacher to read their journals. This could make children write more and also help them get some of their anger that a child very well could have. Either tell the children that they need to bring in a note book to class to use, or provide them with books. Make sure to give them enough time each day to write. You can have them work on these for as long as you would like, all year would work good.

ACTIVITY TWO:

- **Indicate origination of idea:** Abby White and <http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/cafe/dirtpudding.html>
- **Objectives:** The students will create dirt pudding as a class and then eat it as a afternoon snack.

- **Description of activity: Materials needed:** instant chocolate pudding, chocolate wafer cookies, gummy worms, a wooden spoon, a cup, or if you have one, it's fun to make it in a clean, medium-sized plastic flower pot, aluminum foil, a plastic flower.

Activity: Here's what you have to do:

1. Make the instant pudding according to the instructions on the box.
2. Crush your chocolate cookies into small bits using the back of a spoon.
3. Stir most of the crushed cookies into the pudding, mixing well. See how much it looks like dirt? But be aware, you can't grow real flowers in this dirt.
4. If you are using a plastic flower pot make sure it is clean and that you line the bottom with foil.
5. Pour the pudding into the flower pot, then stick the fake flower in the pudding to make it look real.
6. Top off the surface with the remaining cookie bits and a few Gummy worms and there you have it... Dirt Pudding!