Can live for up to 10 years.

There are around 34000 different types of which many are so small that it is impossible to see them without a microscope.

The longest kind is called the African Giant which can grow up to 6.7 metres long.

Have both male and female reproductive cells.

Can survive if they are cut into two pieces. The part with the head will live on.

Eat their own weight in soil and organic waste each day. Gardeners love them as they help to break up soil. Their poo also make compost which enriches the soil.



Have no bones or skeletons.

Do not have eyes. Instead they have receptor cells which help them to sense light. They do not like light and will die if left in the sun for too long.

Must keep moist in order to absorb oxygen from the air.

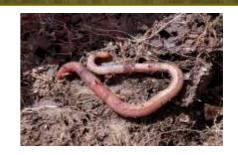
The most common type we find in gardens are called Earthworms. They can dig down over 6 feet below the surface of the soil.

Have no legs but are covered in hairs and bristles that help them to move.









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