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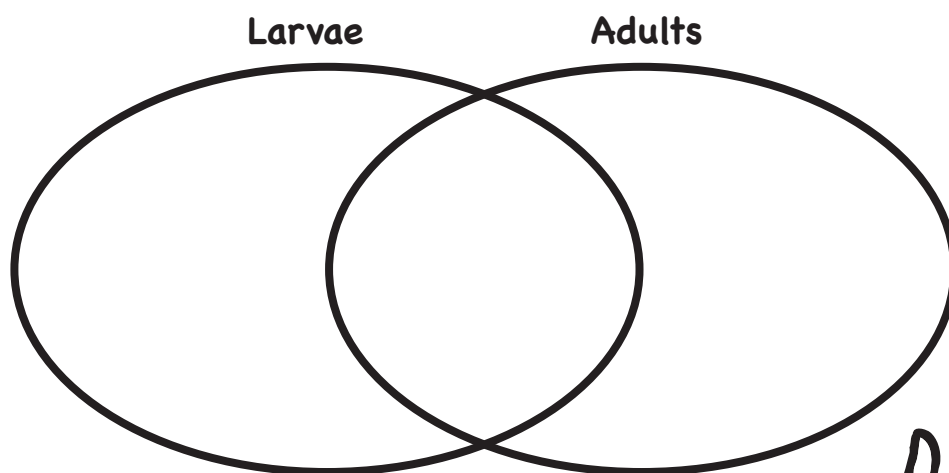
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Insects (cont.)

Lesson 4: Ladybird Beetle Larvae

Introduce the class to the ladybird beetle larvae. Explain that these are ladybird beetle larvae, or “baby” ladybugs. Explain that most people call these insects ladybugs, but their real name is *ladybird beetle*. Ask the class, *How are these different from or the same as the adult ladybird beetles you have seen?* Record student responses on chart paper using a Venn diagram comparing ladybird beetle larvae and adult ladybird beetles. Explain to the students that they will observe ladybird beetles each day to see if there are any changes. Have the children draw a picture of the ladybird beetle larvae in their *Insects Science Journals* (Observation 2, page 67).

Inquiry Skill—Compare and Contrast



Lesson 5: Mealworms

Part 1: Introduce the class to the mealworms. Explain that these are the larvae of grain beetles. Explain the habitat you created for the mealworms. Tell the children that mealworms are scavengers that eat rotten grain and fruit, which they find in their environment. Tell them that the mealworms live in and eat the oatmeal and that they eat the apple for moisture (water). Ask the children if they have ever seen mealworms before. Some students may be familiar with them because they are used as bait for fishing and as food for pets such as lizards, turtles, and birds. Explain to the students that they will observe mealworms each day to see what they do and if there are any changes.



Part 2: Explain to the children that they will work in pairs to observe mealworms. Provide each pair with a paper plate, a hand lens, and 2–3 mealworms. After they have observed their mealworms, they will draw a picture of their mealworms and write about them in their *Insects Science Journals* (Observation 3, Prediction 2, page 68).

Inquiry Skills—Observation, Predicting

Insects (cont.)

Lesson 5: Mealworms (cont.)

The following activities are fun to have the children try with the mealworms after they have completed Part 2 (see page 54).

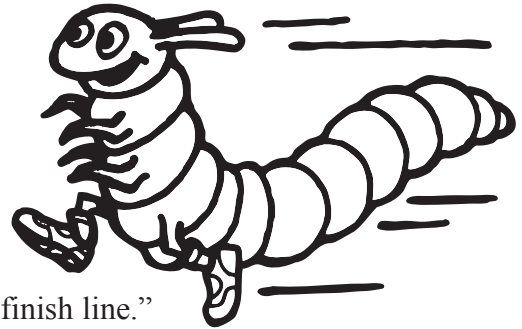
Mealworm Races

Materials (for each pair)

- 2 mealworms
- paper plate

Directions

1. Place two mealworms on one side of the paper plate.
2. Draw a line on the opposite side of the plate for the “finish line.”
3. Observe the mealworms to see which one “races” across the finish line first!
4. Record the results in your *Insects Science Journals* (page 69).



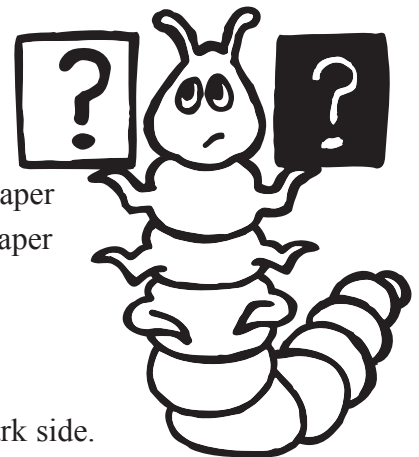
Light or Dark?

Materials (for each pair)

- 2 mealworms
- paper plate
- 4 1/2" x 6" (11.4 cm x 15.2 cm) piece of white construction paper
- 4 1/2" x 6" (11.4 cm x 15.2 cm) piece of black construction paper

Directions

1. Place each paper on one side of the paper plate.
2. Place two mealworms on the paper plate.
3. Observe the mealworms to see if they crawl to the light or dark side.
4. Record the results in your *Insects Science Journals* (page 70).



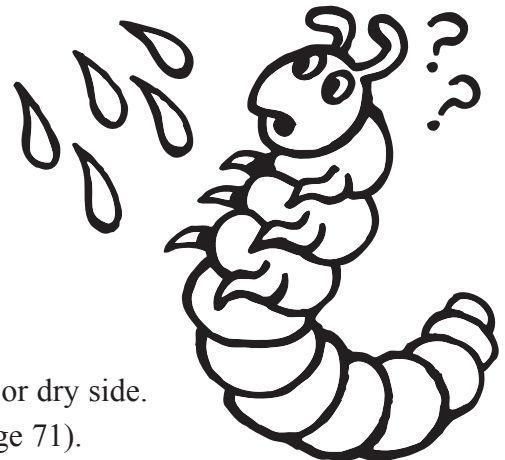
Wet or Dry?

Materials (for each pair)

- 2 mealworms
- paper plate
- access to spray bottle filled with water

Directions

1. Using a spray bottle, wet one side of the paper plate.
2. Place two mealworms on the paper plate.
3. Observe the mealworms to see if they crawl to the wet or dry side.
4. Record the results in your *Insects Science Journals* (page 71).

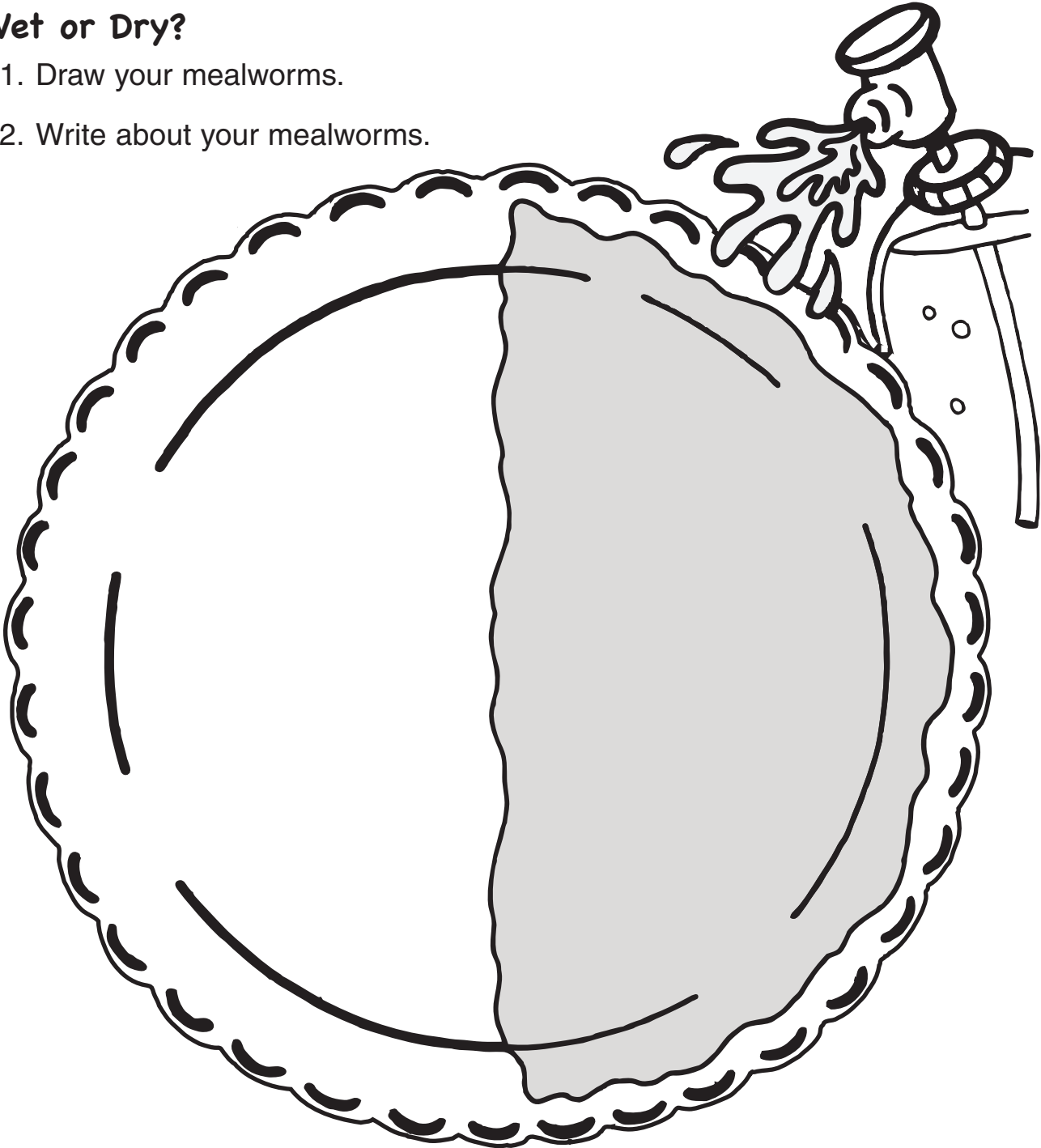


Science Journal



Wet or Dry?

- 1. Draw your mealworms.
- 2. Write about your mealworms.



Observation: Do the mealworms like wet or dry best?
