

Unit : Handout :
1 : 12 :

Lesson 3: Exploring Blackworms

Purpose: - Observe a blackworm and compare its structure to that of a related organism.
- Observe, sketch, and measure a blackworm.

Guiding Questions: How is the blackworm an example of an organism?

Part 1 Instructions: See Mr. Ower for a petri dish with the blackworm. When working with living or preserved organisms, it is required that you are respectful. You will be making basic observations about the black worm and responding to the questions below.

1. Observe your blackworm in its container. Use your hand lens to assist you. Record observations about the blackworm in the space provided below. (Observations can include, but are not limited to, its appearance, how it moves, etc.)

2. What familiar organism does the blackworm resemble? _____

3. In what way(s) does the blackworm resemble this organism?

4. In what way(s) is it different from this organism?

5. Explain how you can tell the anterior (front or head end) from the posterior (rear end) of your blackworm.

Part 2 Instructions. Open the IBI textbook to page 43. Get a drawing sheet for you and your partner.

1. Place the petri dish on the microscope stage and focus on the blackworm under low power (see Figure 3.1 on page 43).
2. Prepare a detailed drawing of your blackworm on your drawing sheet. Follow all guidelines for scientific drawings. Title your drawing "*Lumbriculus*: The California Blackworm."
 - 2.1. A helpful hint: the worm is going to be moving as it will be looking for a safe place to shelter. It may help to take a picture with your iPad. This is tricky as it requires the perfect positioning of your iPad over the lens. Feel free to try it. But if you can't get it, keep moving on!
3. Use a small plastic ruler to measure the width of the organism.
4. Label at least three structures on the blackworm on your drawing. Use the reading selection "More than Just Bait" on pages 49-53 as a reference.
5. Peer review your work with another person at your table. Follow the 10 rules on page 4 of handout 9. Circle the numbers on the drawings for each rule that is not followed.
6. Insert a picture of your drawing in the space below.



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