



ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

Shiny
Woodlouse



GlaxoSmithKline

Invertebrates ~ Woodlice and Worms



They live in the ground and under logs and are nature's best recyclers. Everything is recycled in nature. Do dead logs and rotting leaves sound nice for tea? It's lucky that worms and woodlice think so because they turn it back into soil for the trees and plants.

There are 38 different types of woodlouse. Only one type rolls into a ball and is called a Pill Woodlouse. There is one tiny white one that lives in ants' nests disguised as an ant grub so the ants will look after it!



In the olden days, woodlice used to be given as pills for indigestion. Does that sound yucky? Its not so crazy as woodlice shells have calcium in just like modern indigestion tablets. They are just a bit more wriggly.



MYTH OR FACT?
If you cut a worm in half both parts will live

Myth – If part of a worm is cut off, the part that contains its important parts will live but the cut off end will not. It will jerk and twitch as a cunning plan so the predator will notice and eat it, leaving the main part to escape and survive.

COMPOST CORNER

Worms and woodlice like nothing better than to be buried inside a load of rotten fruit and veg.

Help them out by keeping a compost bin in your garden.

Worms found in compost bins are not earthworms but Brandling or Tiger worms. When they stretch out you can see that they are stripy.

To keep them happy put green compost (veg bits, weeds, old flowers and teabags) and brown compost (woody things like twigs, old newspapers and brown cardboard) in equal quantities.

Come out and go wild with Essex Wildlife Trust



You can join us on a mini beast hunt, come crabbing or pond dipping, or create amazing pieces of art. Contact your nearest EWT visitor centre for activities in your area.

Abberton nr Colchester 01206 738172
Bedfords Park nr Romford 01708 748646
Chafford Gorges nr Thurrock 01375 484016
Fingringhoe nr Colchester 01206 729678

Hanningfield nr Chelmsford 01268 711001
Langdon nr Basildon 01268 419103
Thorndon nr Brentwood 01277232944
General enquiries 01621 862991

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ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

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www.essexwt.org.uk



We are celebrating our 50th birthday and you can join in the fun. Send us a list of 50 different types of wildlife you can find in your garden along with your name, age and address and we will send you a prize.

