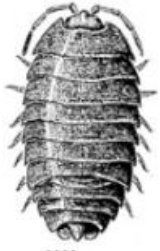
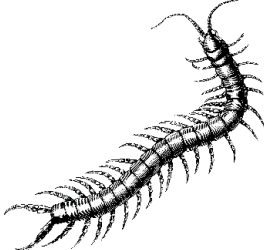

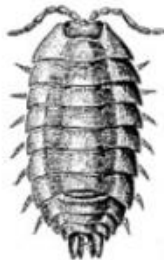
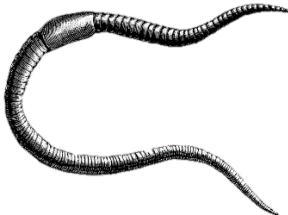

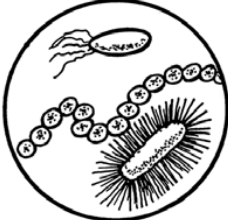

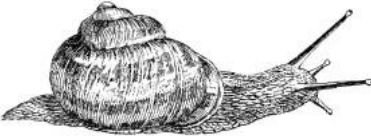



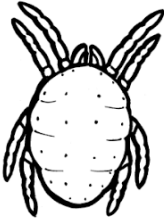

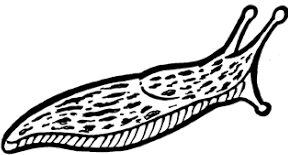


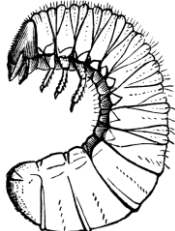


## Compost Critter Identification Sheet

Compost Critter Description		How many do you have?
<p><b>Pill Bug or Roly Poly</b> I am an isopod because I have 10 pairs of legs on my 1.5cm body. I am a dark grey colour and when disturbed I roll up in a ball. My exoskeleton makes me look like a little armadillo! I eat old leaves &amp; veggie scraps.</p>		
<p><b>Centipede</b> I'm quick, a fierce hunter &amp; eat earthworms! I use my pair of poison claws at my mouth to stop my prey from getting away. My body of 2.5-5cm length, has 15-137 segments with a pair of legs on each that spread away from the body. I am usually reddish brown in colour.</p>		
<p><b>Millipede</b> Millipedes and Centipedes belong to the same family. Millipedes have 2 pairs of legs per body segment and these legs point down to the ground. If startled, Millipedes will curl up or remain motionless. Centipedes will run away. Millipedes eat decaying plant matter and secrete an irritant to deter creatures from eating them.</p>		
<p><b>Sow Bug</b> I am an isopod too with 10 pairs of legs on my 1.5cm body. I am dark grey in colour, but can't roll up in a ball like my cousin Roly Poly. I am more of an oval and flat with exoskeleton plates. I breathe with gills so need a damp place to live. I eat vegetation and old leaves.</p>		
<p><b>Tiger or Red wriggler worm</b> My long, thin soft body is made up of little segments that have bristles to grip surfaces to move. I don't have eyes, I sense the light and I breathe through my skin. I eat bacteria, fungi and other decaying materials. I like dark moist places. (Earthworms are different and don't like nitrogen rich compost!)</p>		
<p><b>Worm cocoon</b> 3mm long, clear and yellowish, in the shape of a lemon two or more baby worms will hatch from me. After I hatch, I turn pea green.</p>		

Compost Critter Description		How many do you have?
<p><b>Bacteria</b> Colourless and so tiny they can't be seen with the naked eye – you'd need a microscope. Bacteria are everywhere and eat almost anything. Some live together in groups.</p>		
<p><b>Mould</b> Is a type of fungus, related to mushrooms. Most mould live on old food.</p>		
<p><b>Snail</b> Related to the slug in the family of mollusc, snails creep around on their muscular belly and carry a spirally curved shell on their back. They have a broad retractable foot and distinctive head. Prefers to eat living material but may be in the compost or worm farm from time to time.</p>		
<p><b>Beetle</b> A 1.5cm long insect with shiny, black, tough wings. A predator that eats slugs, snails and soft insects like caterpillars. Lives beneath stones, boards and moist places.</p>		
<p><b>Collembola</b> A close relative of the Springtail but can't jump. Less than 1.5mm long and white in colour. Eats mould and decaying matter.</p>		
<p><b>Springtail</b> Looks and eats just like a Collembola, but has a little spring on its tail to help jump high into the air.</p>		
<p><b>Mite</b> White or brown in colour and very tiny - it would take 25 mites to cover a 3cm long line. My body is round and fat so it's hard to see my 8 legs. I eat plant materials like mould and soft tissues of leaves. Some mites eat the manure of other organisms!</p>		
<p><b>Spider</b> Related to mites, with 8 legs, spiders are one of the least appreciated animals in the garden and compost. They feed on other insects, which can help control pests that would hurt a garden.</p>		
<p><b>Slug</b> Muscular discs on their underside are adapted for creeping and crawling. They lay egg masses that look like jelly. They eat living material but will make an appearance from time to time in your compost pile to eat fresh food waste and garden trimmings.</p>		

Compost Critter Description		How many do you have?
<p><b>Ant</b> With 6 legs, ants break organic material down into smaller pieces by building tunnels and moving soil into clumps.</p>		
<p><b>Fruit Fly</b> No bite, sting or buzz from this very small fly. Lays its eggs in warm moist places. Will hang around a worm farm if you haven't buried the food waste, but it's not harmful to earthworms.</p>		
<p><b>Beetle larvae or white grub</b> Typically resting in a 'C' posture. They flip themselves upside down and use the stiff hairs on their backs to move instead of their 6 tiny legs. They make tunnels and eat decaying matter.</p>		
<p><b>Maggot</b> Fly's lay eggs which turn into larvae (maggots), found in decaying matter.</p>	