

# Read. Think. Explain.

An active reader is always looking for big ideas and deeper meaning in a story. In this activity, you'll answer questions about the character and the author's message in "The Day the Worms Moved In."

**Directions:** Answer the questions below, using information and details from the story to back up your ideas. Use a separate piece of paper if you need more room.

**1. Why is Maddie so afraid of worms?**

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**2. What are some details that illustrate Maddie's adverse reaction to worms?  
Why do you think she keeps her phobia a secret?**

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**3. What choices does Maddie consider when she sees that worms are escaping from the compost bin? What does the choice she makes show about her?**

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**4. What main message do you think the author would like you to take away from this story?**

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