

# Life Cycle of an Earthworm



**Cocoon**

**1** Earthworm eggs are held in a protective cocoon until they hatch. The cocoon is buried in the soil. Up to five eggs usually hatch from a cocoon.



**Hatchling**

**2** Hatchlings break out of their egg and burrow into the soil. They are up to 3cm long and are a paler colour than adult earthworms. They feed and grow in the soil until they become adults.



**3 Adult Earthworm**

Earthworms become fully grown adults when they are around 2 or 3 months old. They form segments on their body and can reproduce.