

Name: _____

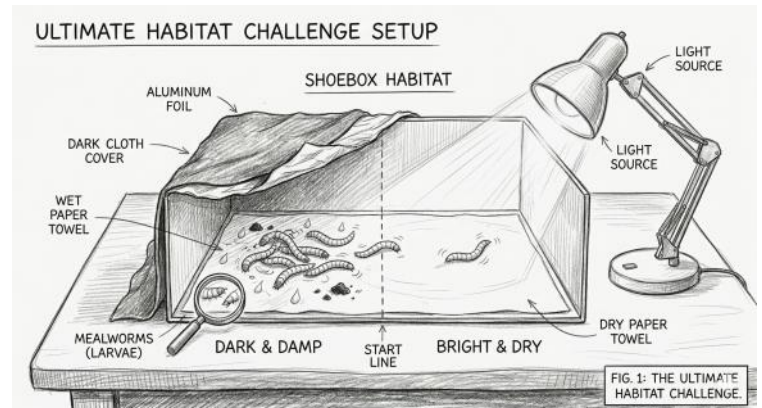
The Ultimate Habitat Challenge

Scientific Question: Do mealworms prefer to live in a dark, damp place or a bright, dry place?

Passage Connection: Reinforces the section Nature's Recyclers, where the text states mealworms "live in dark, damp places like under logs."

Materials Needed:

- A shoe box
- Black construction paper or aluminum foil (to cover one half of the box)
- A desk lamp or flashlights
- Paper towels (some wet, some dry)
- Mealworms (5-10 per group)



Procedure:

Setting the Scene: Line one half of the shoebox with black paper or foil to make it completely dark. Leave the other half uncovered.

Creating Zones: Place a damp paper towel on the dark side. Place a dry paper towel on the bright side.

The Start Line: Place your mealworms in the exact middle of the box, right on the line between the dark/damp side and the bright/dry side.

Prediction: Ask students to predict which side the mealworms will move to and why, using evidence from the text.

Observation: Use a flashlight or lamp to shine light on the bright side. Wait for 5 minutes.

Data Collection: Count how many mealworms are on each side.

Conclusion: Did the mealworms behave the way the text predicted? Why do you think they made that choice?