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Earthworms live underground in burrows. They stay underground unless it is cloudy or dark, and the air is damp. Earthworms must have wet skin to breathe.

An earthworm's waste is called castings. An earthworm deposits castings at the top of its burrow, as shown in the picture below.



Image courtesy of USDA-NRCS

a. Describe **one** way that earthworm castings help an ecosystem.

Earthworm burrows are small tunnels that may be many feet long.

b. Identify **two** ways that burrowing in soil helps earthworms survive.

c. Describe **two** ways that earthworm burrows might help an ecosystem. Explain **each** of your answers.