Cook-a-Book Storytime
Dirt Dessert

**Duration:** 30-45min.

*The “cooking” part of “Cook-a-Book” can be done at any time throughout the storytime. In my experience, it works best to “cook” ¾ through your storytime leaving one longer book for your final story so the participants will eat their dessert while listening and the food will be kept in one area of the library.*

**Materials:**
- Pudding cups (chocolate for the “dirt” effect but it’s good to have some vanilla on hand)
  - Or 5 Packages of instant pudding for a cheap alternative
- 1 package of Oreo cookies
- Gummy worms
- Spoons
- Plastic bags

**Procedure:**
- Give each participant a pudding cup, a plastic bag, spoon and an Oreo Cookie
  - Variation: *Have a teen volunteer make “pudding cups” from instant pudding and small cups.*
- Have participants put cookie in the bag and smash it on the table.
- Participants will add cookie crumbs and worms to their cups to create a “wormy garden.”

**Suggested Storytime Components**

**Jokes**

What creature can feel without hands, move without legs, has no eyes, yet can see light and dark?
* A worm.

How can you tell which end of a worm is which?
* Tickle it in the middle and see which end laughs!

What is worse than biting into an apple and finding a worm?
* Biting into an apple and finding half a worm!

What do you get when you cross a worm with an elephant?
* Big holes in your garden.

**Stories**

- *Winnie Finn, Worm Farmer* by Carol Brendler
- *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin
- *Marty McGuire Digs Worms* by Kate Messner
- *Wiggling Worms at Work* by Wendy Pfeffer
- *Yucky Worms* by Vivian French
- *Grandpas are for Finding Worms* by Harriet Ziefert
- *Worms for Lunch?* by Leonid Gore
- *Ants in Your Pants, Worms in your Plants* by Diane deGroat
- *Worms!* by Alan MacDonald
- *Wimley the Worm Wants a New Home* by Larry Janoff
Rhymes

**Did You Ever See an Earthworm**
Did you ever see an earthworm,  
An earthworm, an earthworm,  
Did you ever see an earthworm, Move this way and that  
Move this way and that way,  
And this way and that way,  
Did you ever see an earthworm  
Move this way and that?

**WIGGLE WORMS**
Once there were some little worms.  
And all they did, was squirm and squirm.  
They wiggled and wiggled up and down.  
They wiggled and wiggled all around.  
(Let your children around for a while)  
They wiggled and wiggled and wiggled until,  
They were tired and could sit very still.  
(Have children sit down)  
Now they could listen,  
Now they could see  
All of the things  
I have here with me

**“This Old Man Came Squirming Home”**
Lyrics at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/t092.html.

The first verse goes like this:
This old man, He ate one, He ate one worm in a bun, Knick-knack, paddywhack, Give a dog a bone, This old man came squirming home.

**“Nobody Likes Me”**
Nobody likes me Everybody hates me  
Guess I’ll go eat worms.  
Long, thin, slimy ones Short, fat, juicy ones  
Itsy, bitsy, fuzzy, wuzzy worms.

Down goes the first one Down goes the second one Oh, how they wiggle and squirm.

Long, thin, slimy ones Short, fat, juicy ones  
Itsy, bitsy, fuzzy, wuzzy worms.

Up comes the first one Up comes the second one Oh, how they wiggle and squirm.

Long, thin, slimy ones Short, fat, juicy ones  
Itsy, bitsy, fuzzy, wuzzy worms.

The Apple and the Worm
I bit an apple  
That had a worm.  
I swallowed the apple,  
I swallowed the worm.  
I felt it squiggle,  
I felt it squirm.  
I felt it wiggle,  
I felt it turn.  
It felt so slippery,  
Slimy, scummy,  
I felt it land - PLOP -  
In my tummy!

I guess that worm is there to stay  
Unless . . .

I swallow a bird some day!

**Too Sad**
It’s such a shock,  
I almost screech  
When I find a worm inside my peach!  
But then, what really makes me blue  
Is to find a worm who’s bit in two!

**Willie Ate a Worm**
Willie ate a worm today,  
a squiggly, wiggly worm.  
He picked it up from the dust and dirt and wiped it off on his brand new shirt.  
Then slurp, slupp he ate it up, yes Willie ate a worm today,  
yes Willie ate a worm today, a squiggly, wiggly worm.  
Willie ate a worm today, he didn’t bother to chew, and we all stared and we all squirmed when Willie swallowed down that worm.  
Then slupp, slurp Willie burped  
yes Willie ate a worm today, I think I’ll eat one too.