



# TALCOTT MOUNTAIN SCIENCE CENTER & ACADEMY

## Homeschool Program

<b>Topic</b>	Zoology
<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Zacharczenko
<b>Date</b>	October 11, 2024

Here's some information about the activities your student did with us. Links at the bottom will help you explore further. Thanks!

### What did we do?

- Lesson: worms
  - Annelida, Platyhelminthes
- Activity: flatworm observations
  - Flatworm regeneration
- Snack break, nature walk outside
- Lunch/recess
- Lesson: moss life
  - Rotifera, Nematoda, Tardigrada
- Activity: moss life under microscope

### How did we do it?

- Worms: we learned about the phyla Annelida and Platyhelminthes, including several groups within them - earthworms, marine worms, leeches, flatworms, and tapeworms. We looked at some preserved specimens.
- Flatworm regeneration: we first watched the planarians with microscopes. Then, we cut some in half with a glass coverslip. Each week we will check to see how well they regenerate (the "tail half" should grow a new head!)
- Moss life: we learned about the phyla Rotifera, Nematoda, and Tardigrada, including fun facts about how they go through cryptobiosis to survive extreme conditions (and can stay frozen for thousands of years!)
- Moss life: we squeezed the water out of mosses that had been soaking in warm water since yesterday, looking for the microscopic creatures living on the mosses. We found 15 tardigrades, 11 rotifers and 10 nematodes.

### Where can we find out more?

- [All about tardigrades](#)



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- [Tapeworms that can infect humans](#)
- [How planarians regenerate - video - detailed research](#)
- [How planarians regenerate - video - overview](#)