

# Worms <sup>that make you</sup> squirm

(We're talking about parasitic worms, not earthworms!)

Okay, so what do you know about worms? They're yucky - correct! They're wriggly - correct also! And when it comes to ponies they're very bad news indeed! Worms are bad for ponies in two ways: Firstly ponies have to share the food they eat with the worms in their belly causing the pony to lose weight and secondly worms can cause a pony to become unwell by blocking up important tubes inside its body. All ponies have a tiny amount of worms inside them, but it can be bad news if they spiral out of control.

The most common types of worms that affect ponies are tapeworms, redworms and roundworms. But how on earth did those worms get into a pony in the first place? To answer this question we must look closely at the life cycle of a worm. Take a look at the diagram to find out more...

