Season 2

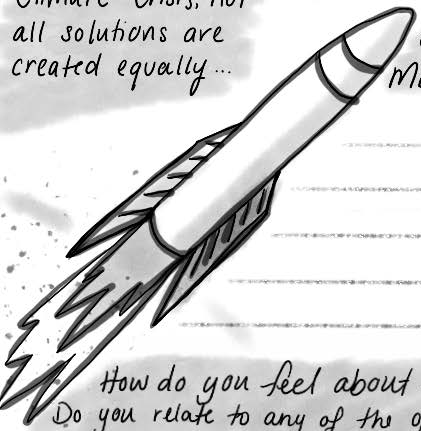
Ep 6: Undigging the Hole

# NICE GENES!

a podcast by Genome BC

Repairing the Environment: Climate Special II

When it comes to the Climate Crisis, not all solutions are created equally...



Why is the 'solution' of moving civilization to Mars a dangerous one?

How do you feel about the Climate Crisis? Do you relate to any of the opinions from the UBC students?

# The mighty world of MICROBES

- bacteria
- archaea
- protozoa
- fungi
- algae
- slime molds
- lichens

*viruses and prions are often included in this category, but neither are considered living organisms.

In what ways can microbes help react to disasters like oil spills and forest fires?

Credit: Captain Planet Foundation

Circle the 4 ways that microbes reduce harm to the environment and human health in the mining industry.

- help direct where to dig
- offer new microbes to learn about
- purify materials
- restore ecosystem after mining
- reduce effect of toxic materials
- increase value of mined materials
- form biofilm to protect workers

# Rise of the superworm!

*Zophobus morio*

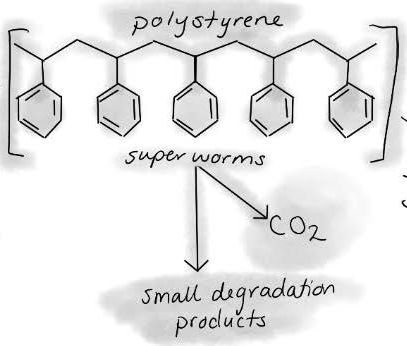
Can these larvae or "superworms" survive entirely on plastic?

circle one → YES / NO

Should we start spreading these superworms all over the planet to help breakdown plastic?

circle one → YES / NO

Why or why not?




adapted from Yang et al., 2019

What can microbes help us understand about the limits of life on our planet Earth?

See the worms in action on Dr. Rinke's twitter

@ChristianRinke

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- make some edible DNA!

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