If you send twenty or more new subscriptions you get a fountain pen.

To win the special prize you must send thirty or more subscriptions in time to make the highest average of subscriptions per day, counting from June 20th to the day on which your list is received. For instance, if we receive forty subscriptions from A on July 10th, and fifty from B on July 30th, the prize will go to A.

Write to us as soon as you read this, and set to work at once.

SALT BEADS AND WAYS TO USE THEM.

Always on the lookout for new ways of busy work to occupy the little fingers, I chanced upon the following receipt:

Take one-half cup of cornstarch and dissolve in one-half cup water. Then stir salt into the solution and beat. You will have a mass of creamy dough which you can color any desired shade with ink, stencil color, or dye. Then mold small portions of it into beads. String on coarse straws or hatpins, and in an hour you will have several hundred beads which will be very durable and a delight to your little ones to use in number work.

Give a handful to each child and let them string in groups of twos, threes, etc.

Let the children place them on the desk in geometrical forms.

Let them form the Roman numerals with them

Have a wire across one corner of the room. On it string the beads. Let the little ones stand and count them and find answers to little examples by their aid.

I have also used the same dough (which will keep moist if covered with a damp cloth) for molding in the same way that I would use clay. — *Normal Instructor.*

HARD WORDS TO SPELL.

This list of words is said to have tripped up two famous college presidents: Anoint, battalion, bilious, caterpillar, comparison, chaperon, collectible, dissipate, dessicate, embarrassment, inoculate, innuendo, plaguy, paraffine, repellent, rarefy, sacreligious, sateen, supererogation, vilify.

ANIMAL STUDY.

H. G. PERRY.

EARTHWORMS.

(Continued from May.)

In examining specimens be sure to make them comfortable by keeping them moist and out of direct sunlight.

Note that in general shape the earthworm is cylindrical, and that it is practically all body, for there is little differentiation into head, trunk and tail regions, parts that were so prominent in the fish. However, the fore-part is somewhat pointed, and is sometimes called the head; and the hind or posterior end is slightly flattened, and is often called the tail.

Observe that the whole animal from end to end is made up of a series of rings, called segments or somites, which in the adult number over one hundred. The exact number is easily counted in dead specimens. No other animal form exhibits segmentation so fully and plainly.

The mouth is at the anterior end on the underside, just back of a projecting nose-like part, the prostomium, which is an outgrowth of the first segment.

Study the motion of these animals. It does not seem to be due to side movements of body-muscles as in the fish, but is a direct lengthening or pushing ahead of the forward part, followed by a contracting or drawing up of the posterior part. These contracting and extending movements often pass over the body from end to end in rapid succession. Place a specimen on a smooth surface, such as a wet glass. Is its motion as rapid as when on a rough surface? Why not?

On the underside of the worm are four rows of small bristle-like parts called setae. If a large specimen is held between the fingers the setae are plainly visible as it makes its body tense in its efforts to free itself. Close observation, however, shows that the rows of setae are in reality double, two bristles being so close together that they are often mistaken for one. All the segments save a few at the extreme ends are provided with setae, eight for each segment. Their direction is controlled by muscles in the body wall, and they are always pointed opposite to the direction of motion.

Under the epidermis are two muscular layers. In the outer layer the fibers encircle the body; in the inner they extend lengthwise. The alternate