

Spooky Spiders!

A virtual lesson to enjoy at home.

Read Aloud!

Halloween is right around the corner, and it's time to learn about spooky spiders! But spiders aren't really spooky...they're spectacular!

Spiders are not insects. Insects have six legs, but spiders have eight. Insects have three body parts, and spiders have two. Spiders are arachnids!



Spiders are careful to walk on the parts that aren't sticky so that they don't get caught in their own web. The flies, ants, mosquitoes, and other insects that do get caught become the spider's meal.

Some spiders use silk to line their homes, called burrows. Spider silk is also used to make cocoons for eggs. A female spider can lay up to 3000 eggs at one time! When the babies hatch, they're called spiderlings.

Spiders make silk with their spinnerets. The silk is used to form beautiful webs.

Why do spiders make webs? To catch their dinner! Some of the strands of silk are sticky, and some aren't.

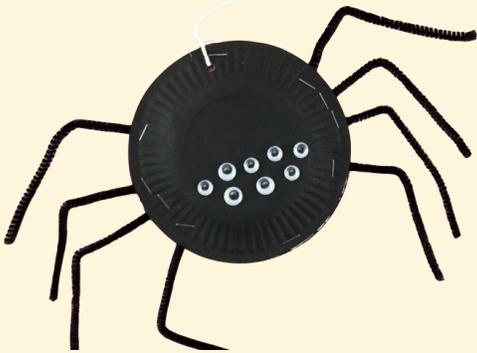


Spider face paint is fun on Halloween!

THE ENTRANCE AND WOODLAND BRIDGES ARE GREAT PLACES TO SEE SPIDER WEBS AT ADKINS ARBORETUM! IN THE MORNING AND AFTER A LIGHT RAIN, THEY SPARKLE WITH WATER DROPLETS.

Make a Spooky Spider!

1. Have your child paint two paper plates.
2. While the paint dries, cut four chenille pipe cleaners in half.
3. Press the two paper plates together with the painted sides facing out.
4. Stick the ends of the pipe cleaners between the plates to make eight legs.
5. Staple everything together.
6. Have your child glue eight googly eyes on the spider. (99% of spider species have eight eyes!)
7. Hang your spider from a window for Halloween spookiness.



Click here
to sing
"The Itsy
Bitsy
Spider!"

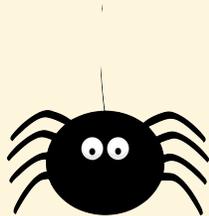
*Science sticklers: Real spiders have two body parts, so if you want to be anatomically correct, adjust plans accordingly. Legs and eyes attach to the front section, aka the cephalothorax.

Snack Time!



Nursery Rhyme Time!

*Little Miss Muffet
sat on a tuffet,
eating her curds and whey;
there came a big spider
who sat down beside her
and frightened Miss Muffet away.*



Created by Jenny
Houghton for



ADKINS ARBORETUM

IT TAKES SPIDERS ABOUT AN HOUR TO SPIN THEIR WEBS. SPIDERS MAKE A NEW WEB EVERY DAY!