



Arachnids

By Ms. Gill's First Grade Class

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Introduction

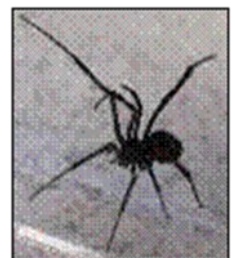
Some people think that arachnids are scary creatures. People are afraid of them because some are poisonous, some have fangs, and some are as large as dinner plates. But when you read what we learned about arachnids, you will probably not be afraid of them anymore.



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What are Arachnids?

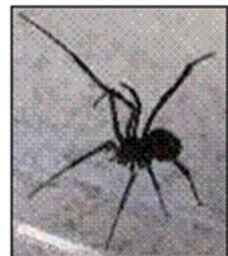
Arachnids are creatures that have eight, long, hairy legs, 2 body parts, most have eight eyes, some have six, and others have no eyes at all. They do not have a nose and they don't have ears. They live in different places, such as deserts, jungles, forests, caves, underground, in the water and even in our homes.



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Spiders

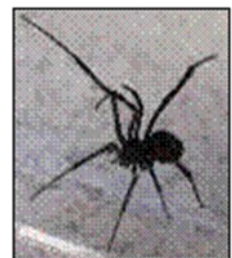
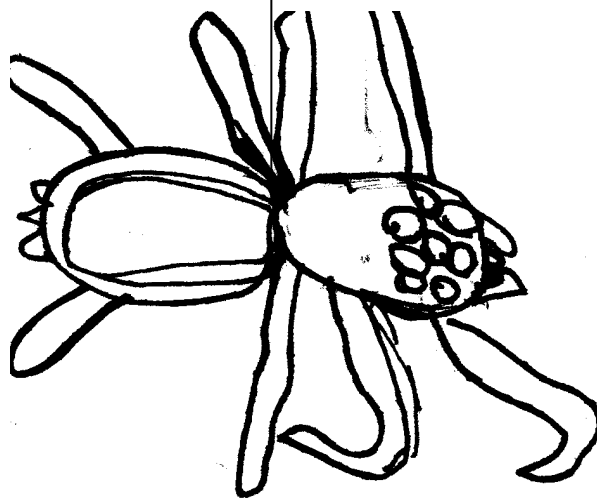
All spiders have eight legs, 2 fangs, 2 pedipalps; they are located near the spider's fangs. Spiders use their pedipalps to pull their prey into their fangs.



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What do Hobo Spiders look like?

Hobo spiders have a dark black color. They have gray markings on their abdomen. They have a little bit of bluish, yellowish coloring. Hobo spiders have eight eyes, but they cannot see colors. Their webs are shaped like funnels. Their bites can be harmful to people.



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Where do Hobo Spiders live?

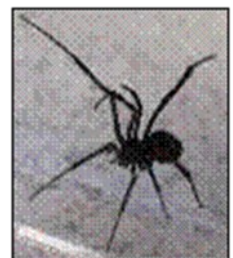
They can be found in Europe and as far west as Utah in North America. They live in the woods and forests and in piles of leaves.



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What do Hobo Spiders Eat?

Hobo spiders eat different kinds of insects.

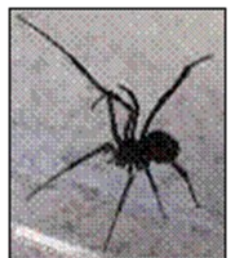


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What do Black Widow Spiders Look Like?

Male Black Widow spiders are pale gray. The females have an hour glass shape on their abdomen and it looks like 2 triangles put together. The hour glass can be orange, red or yellow. Black Widow spiders have eight eyes that are set in a circle. They have little tiny hairs on their body.

They use their legs to smell and hear because they do not have a nose or a mouth.



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Where do Black Spiders Live?

Black Widow spiders live in the woods, houses, holes, rocks, and trees. Most of them live in the northern parts of North America.



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What Do Black Widow Spiders Eat?

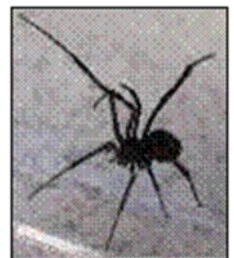
Black Widow Spiders eat creatures such as small lizards, frogs, mice, and even snakes. They also eat bees, millipedes, wasps, insects such as butterflies, moths, caterpillars, and other bugs. They sink their fangs into their prey and turn their insides into a liquid. Then they drink the liquid from their prey's body.



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The Life Cycle of a Black Widow Spider

First the female spider lays her eggs and then she spins an egg sac where the baby spiders grow. Some egg sacs are connected to plants, leaves and grass. Baby spiders are called spiderlings. When they are ready to come out, they spin a long transparent line and float into the air. The spiderlings eventually grow into adult spiders.



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Interesting Facts about Black Widow Spiders

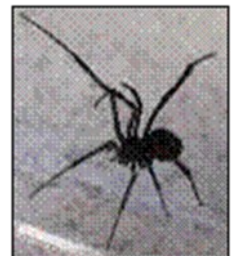
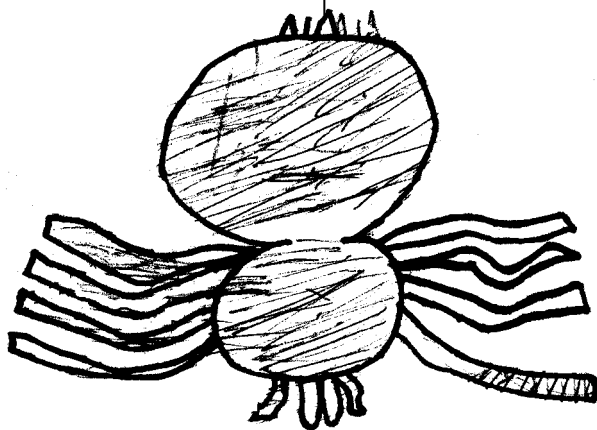
If a Black Widow baby loses a leg, a new leg will grow back. Adult females are four centimeters long. They have very poisonous fangs. They are ten times more poisonous than a rattle snake and sometimes a female spider eats its mate. It is a sensitive spider.



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What do Tarantulas look like?

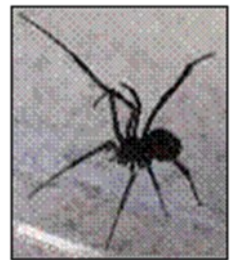
Tarantulas are brown and black. They can be small or big and can grow as large as a dinner plate. Their body, legs, and abdomen are hairy. Tarantulas like most spiders have eight eyes and have eight legs.



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Where do Tarantulas live?

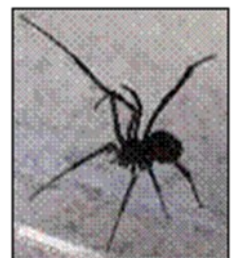
Tarantulas live in the southwestern part of the United States, the rainforests, in the desert, and on plants.



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What do Tarantulas eat?

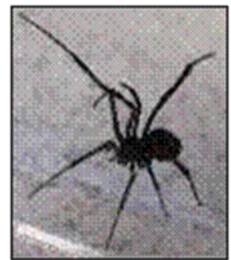
They eat birds, frogs, and insects such as millipedes, wasps, butterflies, and ants. They use their poisonous fangs to catch their prey.



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The Life Cycle of Tarantulas

First the mother tarantula lays eggs. Next she spins an egg sac where the baby spiders grow. Then the spiderlings come out and are ready to leave. Last, the spiderling grows to become an adult spider. They shed their skin as they grow.



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Interesting Facts about Tarantulas

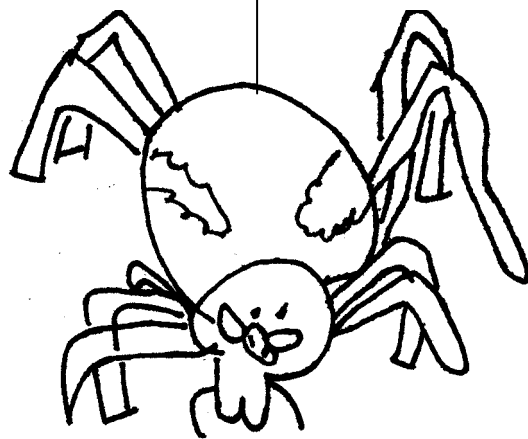
In the deserts of Australia, hundreds of tarantulas can be found. Tarantulas can withstand a lot of heat. In fact, they can live in temperatures as hot as 99 degrees. In tropical places, some people even eat tarantulas.



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What do Crab Spiders look like?

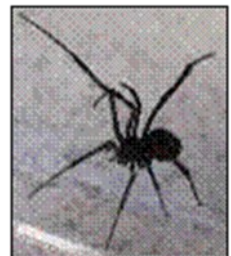
Adult crab spiders have 8 eyes and 8 legs, but little crab spiders only have 6 eyes. They are called crab spiders because they move sideways like crabs.



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What Do Crab Spiders Eat?

Crab spiders sit quietly on plants and flowers and wait for their prey. Then they catch their prey and eat them.



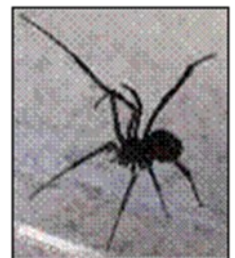
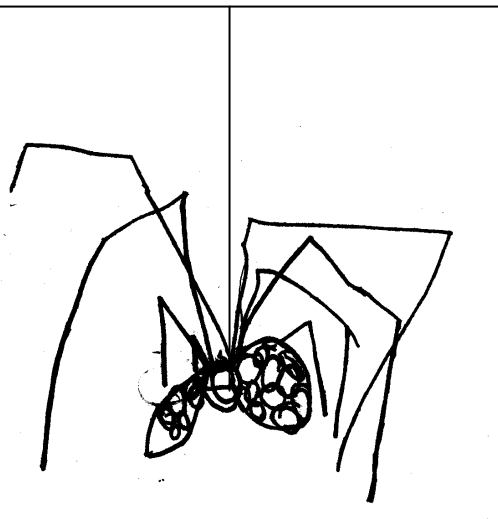
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The life Cycle of Spider Crabs

First the female spider spins an egg sac and then lays its eggs in high places. When the Crab spiderlings come out of their egg sacs, they float in the air and land on the ground. They grow into an adult Crab Spider.

What do Daddy Long Legs look like?

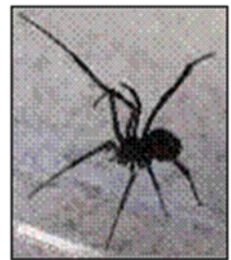
Daddy Long Legs got their name because they have 8 long legs and carry their eggs to other places. Daddy Long Leg spiders have 2 main body parts. They are called the cephalothorax and the abdomen. Their bodies are in the shape of a cylinder and are quite small. They have 8 eyes. They can vary in color from light tan to a greenish color.



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Where do Daddy Long Legs Live?

Some Daddy Long Legs live in people's basements, corners and in caves. Some live outside and under leaves. They can be found in the United States and also live in other countries such as Australia.



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What do Daddy Long Legs Eat?

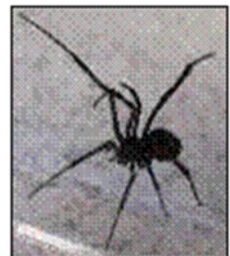
Daddy Long legs eat flies, mosquitoes, ants and moths.



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The Life Cycle of Daddy Long Legs

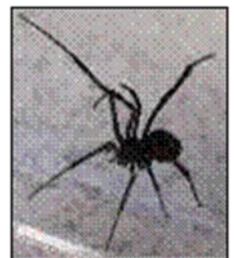
First the spider lays its eggs. Next they spin an egg sac where the baby spiders grow. Then the spiderlings come out and are ready to leave the egg sacs. Last, spiderlings grow to become an adult spider.



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Interesting Facts about Daddy Long Legs

When a leg on a Daddy Long Legs spider is broken, it can grow a new one. When a person touches its web, the spider will go after that person.

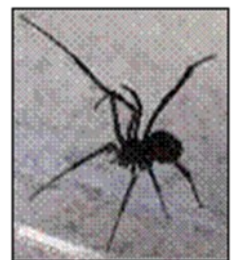


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Conclusion

Spiders are very useful creatures. Did you know that spiders eat pests that might destroy crops?

If you look close enough, you might find one of these spiders in your house, in your garden or somewhere in your neighborhood.



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Resources

We gathered our information from the following books:

Are You a Spider? by Judy Allen and Tudor Humphries

Black Widow Spiders by Bill McAuliffe

Daddy Longlegs Spiders by Jill C. Wheeler

Hobo Spiders by Jill C. Wheeler

How Spiders Live by Fred and Jeanne Biddulph

Spider Man by Peter Patterson

Spider, Spider by Joy Cowley

Spiders by Esther Cullen

Spiders by Rebecca Gilpin

Spiders by Sally Morgan

Spiders by Carolyn B. Otto

Spiders by Jane P. Resnick

Spiders by Lisa Trumbauer

Spiders and Their Webs by Fred and Jeanne Biddulph

Spiders are Special Animals by Fred and Jeanne Biddulph

Spiders Can't Fly by Brian Birchall

Spinning a Web by Lisa Trumbauer

Super Spiders by Jason Blake

Tarantulas are Spiders by Norman I. Platnick

The Black Widow Spider by Alice B. McGinty

The Crab Spider by Qlice B. McGinty

Trap Door Spiders by Patricia Whitehouse



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