



SPIDER WEB SAFARI

GET READY

All spiders have the ability to spin silk. Many of these will use that silk to build a web for catching prey.

Different types of spiders will create webs of different shapes and sizes.

CAREER CONNECTION

A scientist that studies spiders and their relatives is called an **arachnologist**.

WHAT YOU NEED

You don't need anything special for your spider web safari. All you need is an outdoor place to explore and a willingness to be patient and look carefully.

It's important to look but do not touch the spiders you find. This keeps you and the spiders safe!



TRY THIS:

Chances are you have many different species of spiders living in your community. One way you can learn about the spiders in your neighborhood is to look for different types of spider webs.

Step 1: Find a Exploration Spot

Find a safe outdoor space to look for spiders and their webs. Check with an adult before starting your exploration.

Step 2: Look Carefully for Webs

Look very carefully for different shapes of spider webs. Many spiders are very small and make their homes in cracks and crevices. Some make their homes in bushes. You will likely spot the web before the spider.

Step 3: Look Carefully for Spiders

Once you've found a spider web, see if you can find the spider that wove the web. Spiders may be visible right in the middle or hiding at the edge of the web.

Step 4: Share your Discoveries

Tell a family member or friend what you discovered. What web shapes did you see? How many spiders did you discover?



WHAT YOU DISCOVERED:

Many spiders use a sticky web to trap prey. The spider will bite the trapped prey to inject venom and wrap it in silk. It uses a special digestive juice to feed on the prey. After feeding, the spider will remove its former meal from its web. Spiders are a great help to humans. They eat harmful insects and are an important part of our ecosystem.