Name: _____ Date: _____

How Spiders Spin Webs

Circle group

A spider is not an insect. An insect has six legs. A spider has eight. Many spiders spin webs.

A spider makes silk inside its body. The silk comes out of tiny parts at its back end. It starts as a liquid. Then it turns into a thin, strong thread.

First, the spider spins a few long threads. They make a frame. Then it adds more threads, round and round.

Some threads are sticky. A fly bumps into the web. It gets stuck. The spider feels the web shake. It comes to eat.

Questions

1. How many legs does a spider have?

_____

_____

2. Where does a spider make silk?

_____

_____

3. What does a spider spin first?

_____

_____

4. What happens when a fly bumps into the web?

_____

_____

5. How does the spider know a fly is there?

_____

_____

6. Why is a spider not an insect?

_____

_____

Words to know

insect: a small animal with six legs
silk: a thin, strong thread
web: a net of silk that a spider makes
sticky: able to hold on to things that touch it

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

How Spiders Spin Webs

Triangle group

A spider is not an insect. An insect has six legs, but a spider has eight. Many spiders can spin a web.

A spider makes silk inside its own body. The silk comes out of tiny parts at the back of the spider. It starts out as a liquid and quickly turns into a thin, strong thread. Spider silk is stronger than a string that is just as thin.

First, the spider spins a few long threads to make a frame. Then it adds more threads, round and round, to fill in the web.

Some of the threads are sticky. When a fly bumps into the web, it gets stuck. The spider feels the web shake and comes to eat.

Questions

1. How many legs does a spider have?

_____

_____

2. Where does a spider make its silk?

_____

_____

3. What does a spider spin first?

_____

_____

4. What happens when a fly bumps into a sticky web?

_____

_____

5. How does the spider know a fly is in the web?

_____

_____

6. Why is a spider not an insect?

_____

_____

Words to know

insect: a small animal with six legs
silk: a thin, strong thread
web: a net of silk that a spider makes
sticky: able to hold on to things that touch it

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

How Spiders Spin Webs

Square group

A spider is not an insect, because an insect has six legs while a spider has eight. Many kinds of spiders are able to spin a web.

A spider produces silk inside its own body. The silk emerges from tiny parts at the back of the spider. It begins as a liquid and quickly hardens into a thin but remarkably strong thread.

To build a web, the spider first spins a few long threads to make a frame. Then it adds many more threads, circling round and round, until the web is complete.

Some of the threads are sticky. When a fly bumps into the web, it becomes trapped. The spider feels the web shake and hurries over to eat.

Questions

1. How many legs does a spider have?

_____

_____

2. Where does a spider produce its silk?

_____

_____

3. What does a spider spin first when it builds a web?

_____

_____

4. What happens to a fly that bumps into a sticky web?

_____

_____

5. How does the spider know that a fly is trapped?

_____

_____

6. Why is a spider not classed as an insect?

_____

_____

Words to know

insect: a small animal with six legs
silk: a thin, strong thread
web: a net of silk that a spider makes
sticky: able to hold on to things that touch it

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: How Spiders Spin Webs

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: How Spiders Spin Webs

Easier · 93 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.5

1. Eight.
2. Inside its body.
3. A few long threads for a frame.
4. It gets stuck.
5. It feels the web shake.
6. An insect has six legs and a spider has eight.

Triangle: How Spiders Spin Webs

This passage · 120 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. Eight.
2. Inside its own body.
3. A few long threads to make a frame.
4. It gets stuck.
5. It feels the web shake.
6. An insect has six legs and a spider has eight.

Square: How Spiders Spin Webs

Harder · 120 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.5

1. Eight.
2. Inside its own body.
3. A few long threads to make a frame.
4. It becomes trapped.
5. It feels the web shake.
6. An insect has six legs, but a spider has eight.