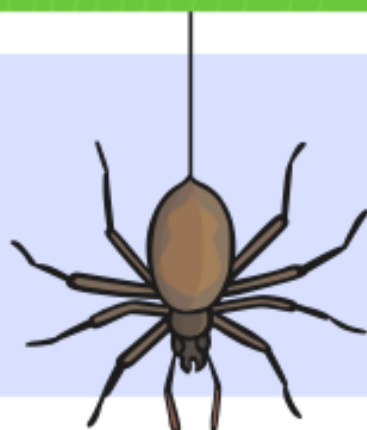


Spiders

Spiders can come in all shapes and sizes. Some are so small they can sit on the head of a pin; others are bigger than a grown man's hand. Though people think they are insects, like bees and wasps, they are in fact arachnids. This means they have eight legs and not six. They also do not have antennae on their heads.



Super Spider Facts

You can find spiders on every continent of the world, except for Antarctica. It is too cold for them to survive there.

Different Types of Spider

The largest spider in the world is the Goliath bird-eating spider. They are named after the famous giant in the Bible story of David and Goliath. They live in South America, in the rainforests. The name is a bit confusing, as they don't actually eat birds. They mostly eat worms and toads.

The smallest spider in the world is Samoan moss spider. They are about the same size as a full stop. Even though they are tiny, these spiders are still very poisonous but their fangs aren't long enough to bite into a person's skin.

Some More Amazing Spider Facts

- There are about 40 000 species of spider in the world.
- Fear of spiders is known as arachnophobia.
- Most spiders are completely harmless to people. Only a few species are venomous.
- Some spiders are covered in hairs which can make skin very sore.

Nearly all spiders catch their food by making a web that acts like a trap. This web is made from very thin but very strong silk. When insects fly into it, they get stuck and the spiders can then wrap them up in even more silk. Spiderwebs are very beautiful, made up of hundreds of small shapes, and can take a spider days to make. There are some spiders that don't make webs. They hide in holes in the ground and jump out on their prey as they walk past.

Questions About Spiders

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. What kind of animal are spiders?

2. Name two ways that spiders can defend themselves.

3. What is the world's smallest spider called?

4. What do spiders make to catch food?

5. Why is 'Goliath bird-eating spider' a strange name?

6. What do spiders make their webs with?

7. In what two ways are spiders different from insects?

8. Where would you choose to live if you had arachnophobia?

Questions About Spiders

Answers

1. What kind of animal are spiders?

Spiders are arachnids.

2. Name two ways that spiders can defend themselves.

Spiders can defend themselves by biting or using hairs that make skin sore.

3. What is the world's smallest spider called?

The world's smallest spider is the Samoan moss spider.

4. What do spiders make to catch food?

Spiders make webs to catch their food.

5. Why is 'Goliath bird-eating spider' a strange name?

It is a strange name because they don't even eat birds. They eat toads and worms.

6. What do spiders make their webs with?

Spiders make their webs by spinning silk.

7. In what two ways are spiders different from insects?

Spiders are different from insects because they have 8 legs, not 6. They also don't have antennae.

8. Where would you choose to live if you had arachnophobia?

I would live in Antarctica because this is the only place where spiders aren't found.