

**THE BLACK WIDOW
SPIDER MYSTERY**
created by
GERTRUDE CHANDLER WARNER

Illustrated by Hodges Soileau

ALBERT WHITMAN & Company
Chicago, Illinois

Scary Spiders!

Black widow spiders? Yikes! The Aldens are caught up in a very creepy mystery. Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny will have to keep their wits about them to untangle the latest clues.

How about you? Would you know an arachnid from an anteater? Test your detective skills with the following spidery activities. Grab a pencil and have fun. And remember, be nice to our eight-legged friends!

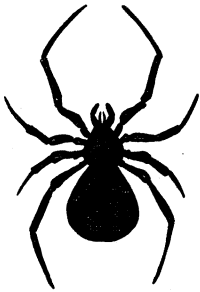
Spiderweb Maze

The fly is trying to escape the sticky spiderweb.
Can you help her find her way through the maze
to freedom?

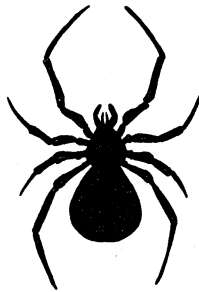


Creepy Crawly Copies

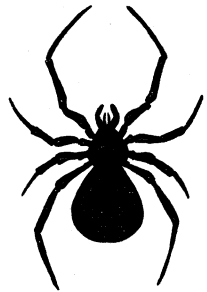
If the six spiders below seem identical at first glance, just look a little closer. One of these spiders is different from the rest. Can you circle the spider that's unique?



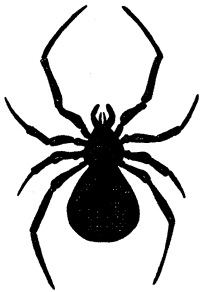
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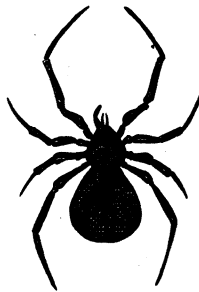
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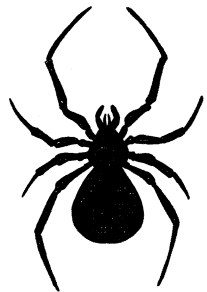
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4



5



6

Spider Spell-Off

Scientists call eight-legged creatures like spiders *arachnids*. It's a fun word to say — and even more fun to play around with. Using only the letters found in *arachnid*, how many other words can you spell? (For example, using the *r*, the *a*, the *c*, and the *d*, you can spell *card*.) Write the new words in the spaces below.

ARACHNiD

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Make-a-Web

Spiders spin complex webs in which they live, eat, and sleep. If you were a spider, what would your web look like? Draw it in the space below. You could even draw yourself, in spider form, on it!

Sneaky Spiders!

When they don't want to be found, spiders are great at hiding. Can you find and circle all ten spiders hidden in this library?



Spider Scramble

The names of some common spiders are scrambled below. Can you solve each scramble and write the names of the spiders correctly on the lines provided?

1. CLBAK IWWOD _____

2. ADDYD NOLG SGLE _____

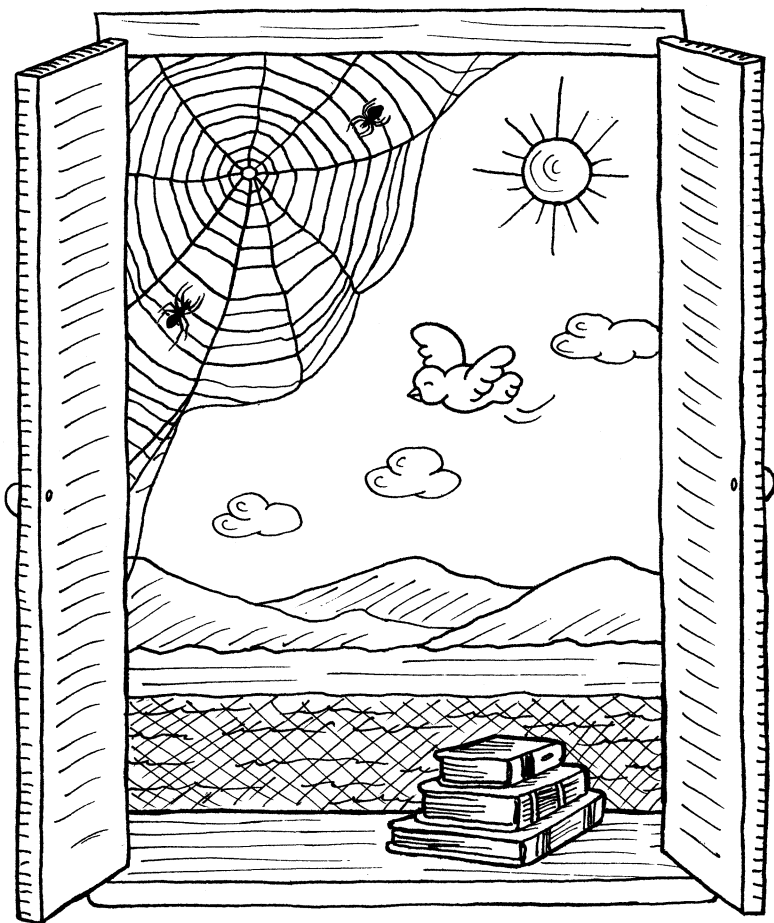
3. ATRAUTLAN _____

4. RWBON CRLSUEE _____

5. PMUNIJG _____

The Spider Scene

Good detectives must be very observant. Test your skills by carefully studying the picture below for one full minute. Then try to answer the questions on the next page — without peeking! Ready? Go!



Questions:

1. How many spiders are in the web?

2. How many birds are outside the window?

3. Is it daytime or nighttime?

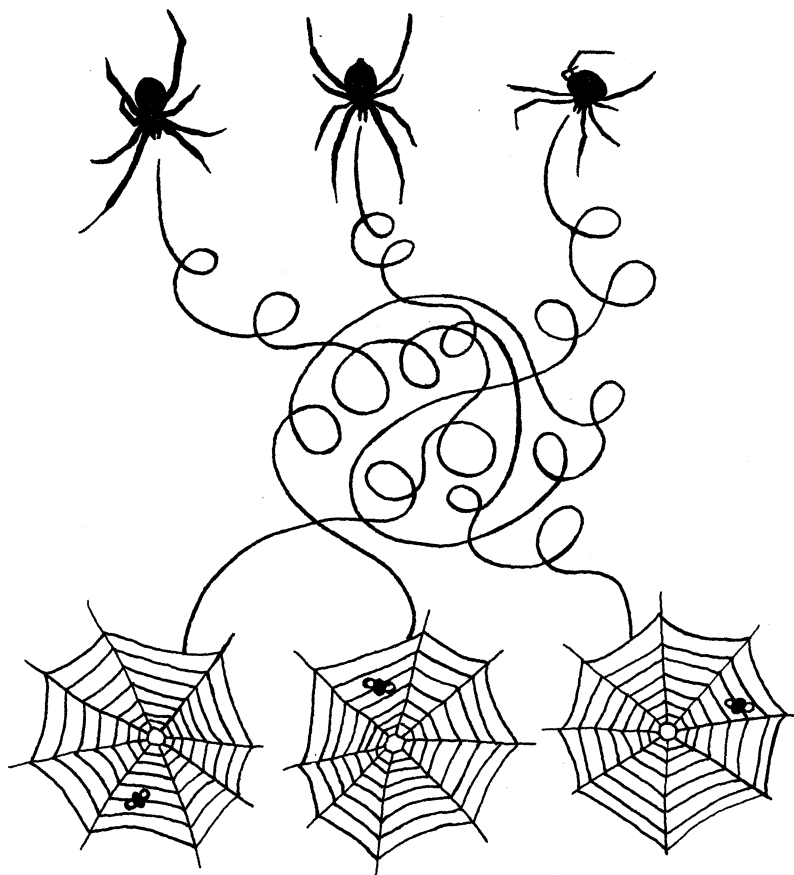
4. Are there curtains on the window?

5. How many books are on the windowsill?

6. In which corner of the window have the spiders built their web?

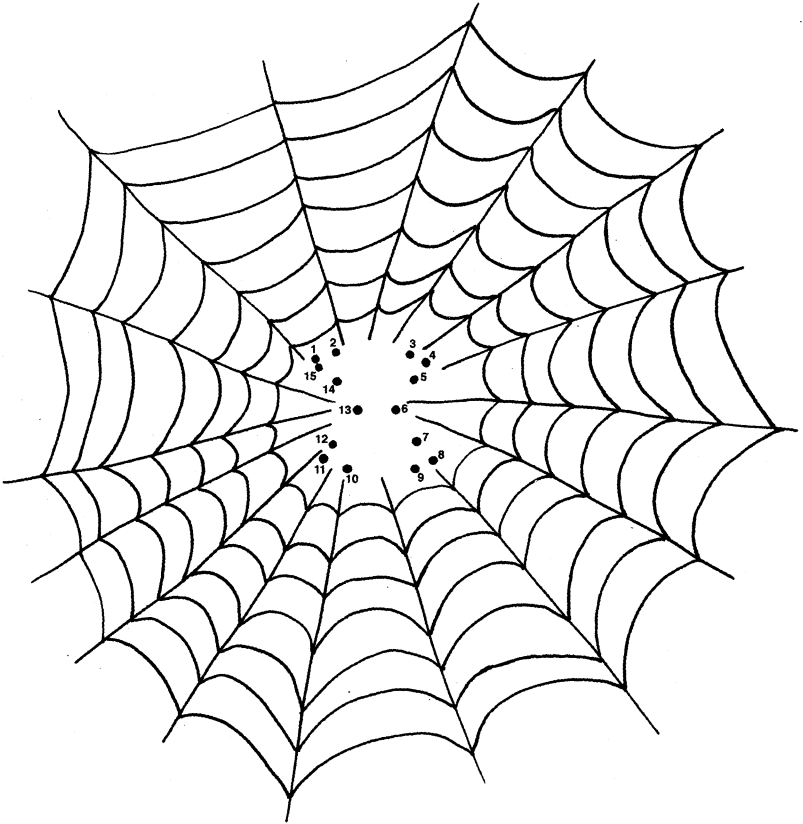
Tangled Webs

These spiders are all mixed up! Can you help each spider find the way back to her web? Hurry — dinner is waiting!



Spider Surprise

What's hidden in the spider's web? Connect the dots to find out!



Benny's Joke

Benny made up a joke inspired by the Aldens' spider mystery adventure. Circle the capital letters you see below and put them together to find the punch line.

What's a spider's favorite day of the week?

k r W n E l e B u q t N v s E h g p S D h v A d e Y w

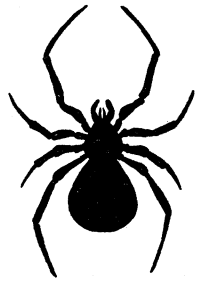
Answer: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ !

Answers

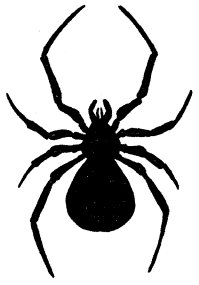
Spiderweb Maze



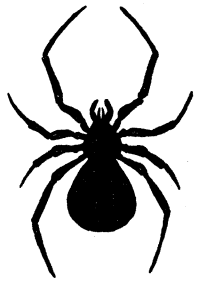
Creepy Crawly Copies



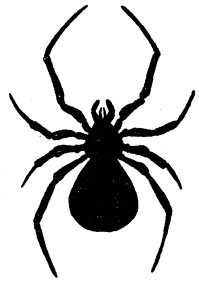
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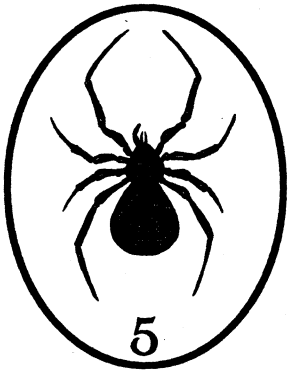
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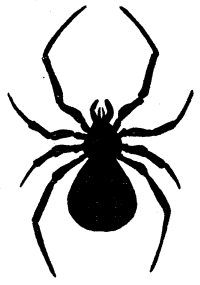
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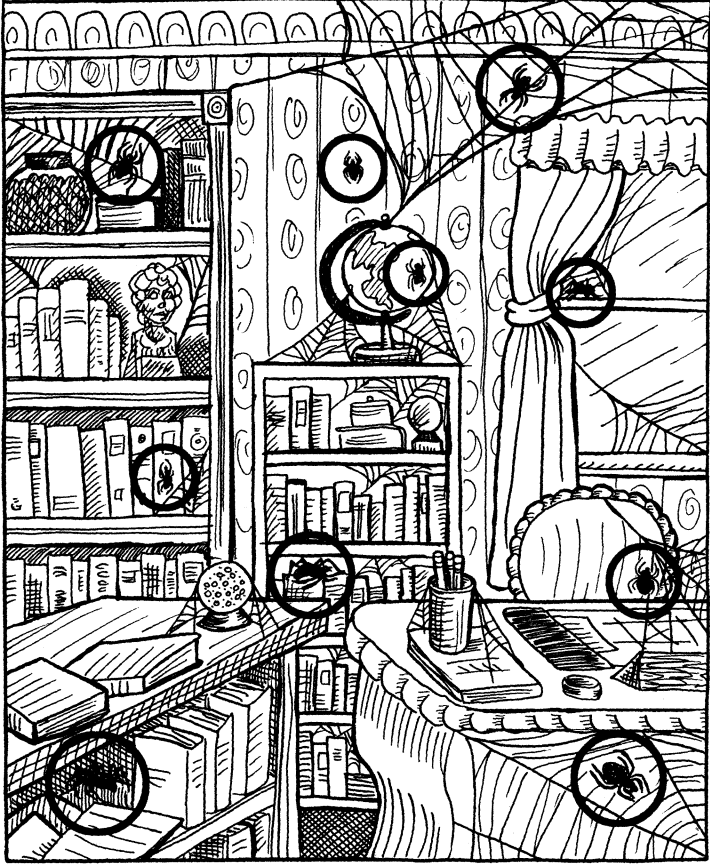


6

Spider Spell-Off

You can make a lot of words out of the letters in ARACHNID! We spelled: din, hid, chin, rid, can, ran, and, hand, hind, hard, drain, chair, hair, air, raid, rain, arc, arch, car, card, had, darn, chain. Did you find any others?

Sneaky Spiders!



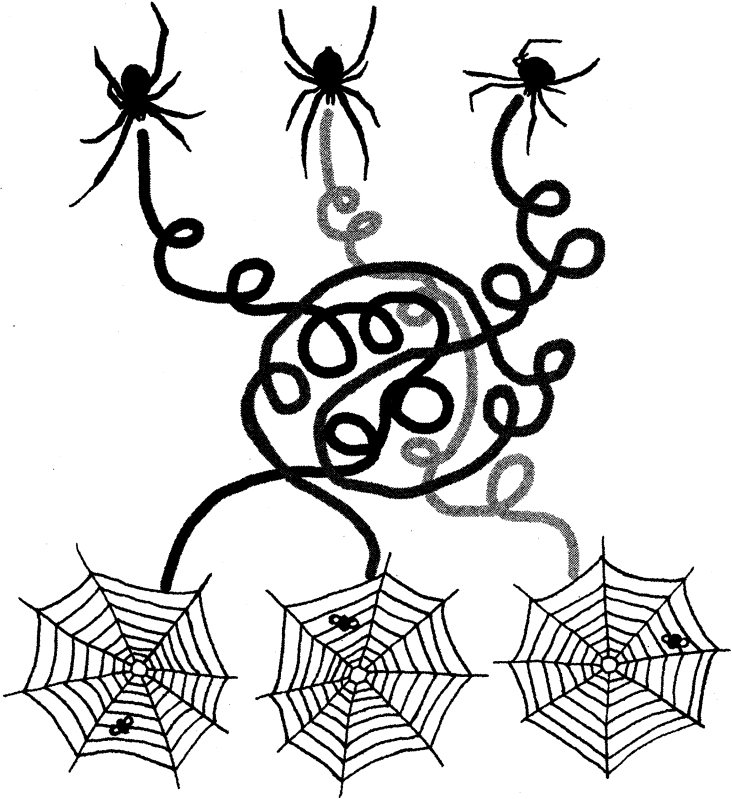
Spider Scramble

1. Black Widow
2. Daddy Long Legs
3. Tarantula
4. Brown Recluse
5. Jumping

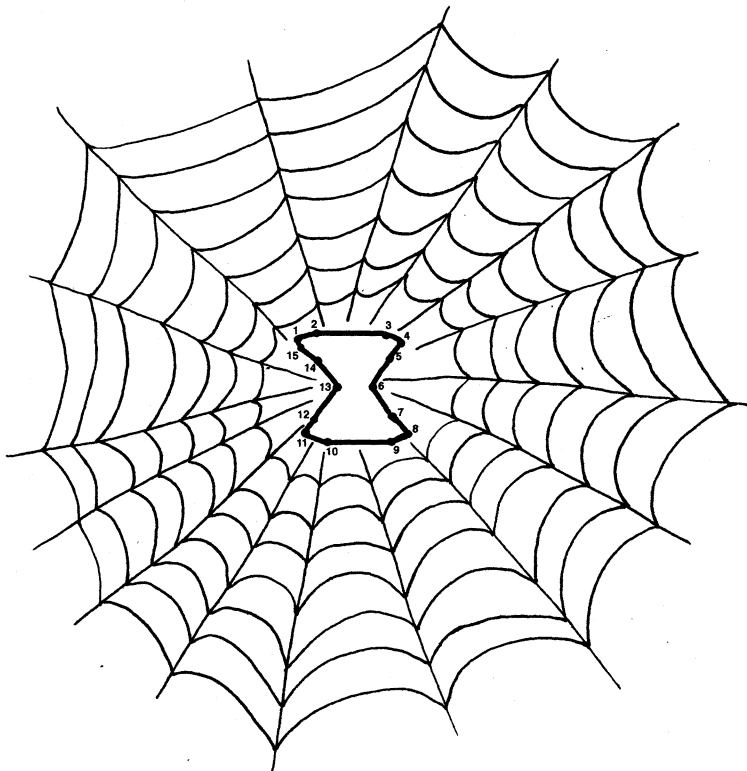
The Spider Scene

1. Two
2. One
3. Daytime
4. No, there are shutters
5. Three
6. The upper left hand corner

Tangled Webs



Spider Surprise



Benny's Joke

What's a spider's favorite day of the week?

Wednesday!