



# Weaving Spider Webs

Spiders make silk with organs on their bodies called spinnerets. They use silk like a rope to move from place to place, to make a structure to rest in, to protect their eggs, to catch prey, and to wrap up their prey. Spider silk is extremely strong and flexible. Different spiders make different webs for catching prey.

Here are two different spiders to know: one to avoid, and one to welcome in your yard.

**Materials:** a paper plate for each web, yarn, tape, scissors, and coloring supplies

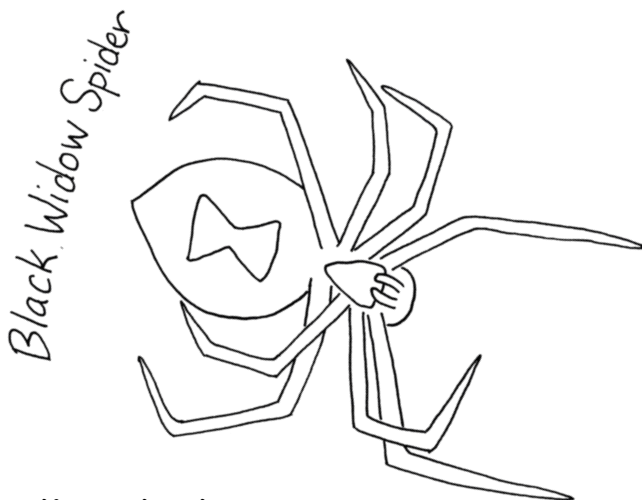
## Black Widow

All spiders have venom to kill or slow down their prey. The venom of most spiders is not dangerous to humans, but the Black Widow's venom can make a person very sick. It's good to know what their webs look like so you can avoid them. They are the only spider in this area that has a black, shiny body with a big abdomen. You may see red markings on various parts of the body, including the hourglass shape on the underside.

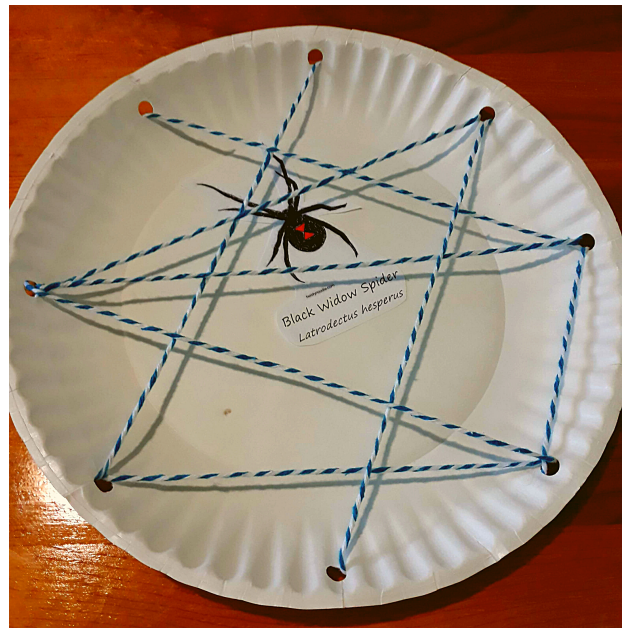
Black widow spiders usually make their webs in dark, undisturbed places, both indoors and outdoors. The web looks very disorganized and messy, a tangle of strands without any pattern we can recognize.

**Color the Black Widow black with a red hourglass. You can glue it to the paper plate before or after you make the web. Punch holes around the edge of a paper plate, as many as you like.**

**Start with a piece of yarn about 4 to 6 feet long. Put one end through a hole in the plate, and tape it to the back. Put the other end of the yarn into any other hole in the plate. Bring it behind the plate to another hole nearby, then cross the front of the plate to any other hole. Make some strands long and some short. Keep lacing it across the plate randomly until you run out of yarn. Secure the end with tape on the back of the plate.**



Color then cut out.





# Weaving Spider Webs

## Garden Spider

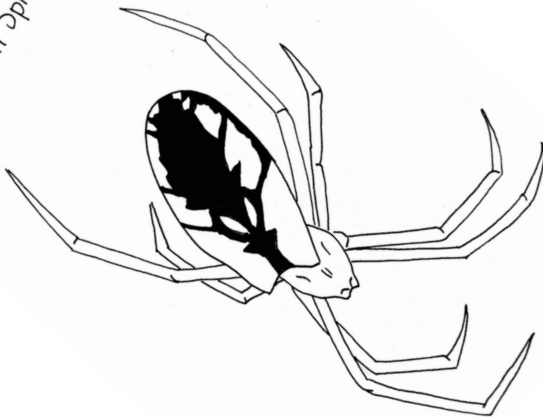
This colorful spider is nice to have around because they catch many insects. The Garden Spider's web is large and orderly, so it takes a little time and patience to make. But it's beautiful, so the results are worth it!

Color the spider bright yellow, orange, and black. You can glue it to the paper plate, or tape it to the web once you're done making it. Punch 8 holes in the plate, evenly spaced along the edge.

Cut a piece of yarn 3½ feet (42 inches) long. Put one end through a hole in the plate and tape it to the back. Find the hole across the plate and put the other end of the yarn through it, pulling it taut. Follow the pattern in the diagram, lacing through each hole once: A to E, E to F on the back, F to B, B to C on the back, C to G, G to H on the back, H to D. Tape the end of the yarn on the back of the plate after it goes through D.

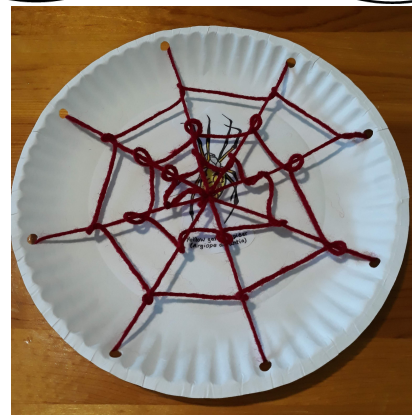
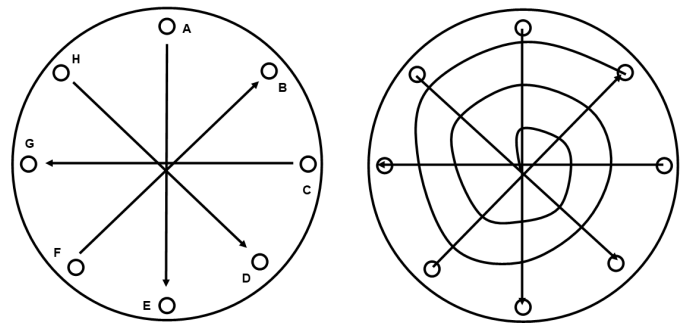
Nice work! Next make the spiral. Tie one end of the remaining yarn to the center, where all the strands come together. A double knot will do. Then tie it to one of the strands about an inch from the center, a single knot. Move to the next strand and tie it about an inch and a half from the center. For each strand, attach it just a little farther away from the center to create the spiral pattern. You can just loop it around the strands instead of tying it on, but make sure you pull it taut enough that it doesn't sag too much. Keep going until your spiral reaches the edge of the plate or you run out of yarn. Pass the end through the hole and tape it on the back.

Yellow Garden Spider



Color then cut out.

Weaving Diagram



Through donations, The REACH Museum is able to provide educational resources and materials to our community.

Please consider a donation by texting REACH to 243725