

Station Guide

Web Design



How do spiders make their silk and **why** do they make webs?

Quick Facts:

- Spiders make silk, long and stringy bits of fiber, in their abdomens.
- Spiders are an incredibly diverse group of animals and use silk in a variety of different ways.
- Spiders can make up to seven types of silk.
- Not all spider webs look the same and they don't all have the same goals.

Your Challenge: Design a web using the available materials! Remember, spiders can make lots of different types of silk and use that silk to make lots of different types of webs.

First, start by talking as a family about what you want the goal of your web to be.

Next, make a plan. Check out the inspiration and building materials. Work together to make a plan for your web. Feel free to use the available scratch paper to sketch out your design.

Then, start building! Take turns adding pieces to the web. Don't be afraid to backtrack and try a new approach if something isn't going how you had planned.

Not sure what type of web you want to build? Check out the Station Table for examples of different types of webs and their goals. Need more ideas? Ask your facilitator, they **LOVE** answering questions!

Tips for Adults: Use your imagination to help your family design and build a web. You've probably tied a lot of shoes in your day, time to put that skill to good use tying "spider silk"! Help your team work together, sharing ideas for the web and taking turns building. Make sure to share your ideas too!

Tips for Kids: Use your imagination to help your family design and build a web. Try to be patient with your younger siblings as they add pieces to the web and make sure everyone gets a turn building, even the adults on your team! Don't worry if you need to start over at some point, spiders do it all the time.