

Galena Creek Visitor Center
At-Home Learning Activity

Sticky Spider Web

via Hands on as we Grow



This activity is a fun, active way for kids to learn about spider webs and predator-prey relationships. This is a great indoor activity and can provide hours of fun for young kids. After it's set up, parental involvement is not necessary, and all you need is tape (painter's tape works best) and balls of paper, newspaper, or other lightweight material. This is a great activity for younger kids, grade K-4. In addition to motor skills, this activity teaches kids about biology, specifically predator-prey relationships.

Objective: This activity teaches kids about spider webs and how animals are adapted to catch prey through a fun game that can involve teamwork or competition through several different variations. At the end of this activity, kids will understand how spiderwebs work and how spiders are adapted to catch flying insects.

Discipline or Subject Covered: This activity mainly involves gross and fine motor skills for younger kids, but also incorporates STEM topics like biology and ecology.

Grade Level: This activity is best for grades K-3

Materials:

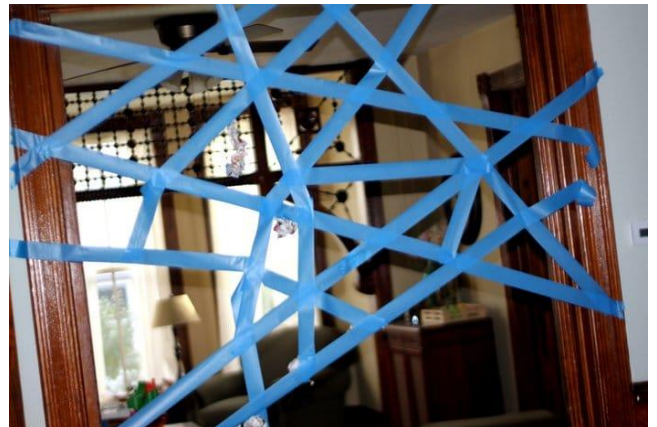
- Tape (painter's tape works best because it's colored, sticky, and comes off easily)
- Wads of newspaper or other lightweight material
- Doorframe

Procedure:

1. Put tape across the door frame at different angles to create a web with spaces between the tape. You can make it as dense or as open as you want and as big or small.

2. Ball up strips or sheets of paper so they're about 2 inches in diameter. Each child can decorate their balls so they know whose are whose, or you can just play with them plain.

3. Give the balls to the kids and see how many they can get to stick to the tape.



Variations:

- Have the kids try to get the balls through the web instead of sticking them

- If you build one on the bottom half of a doorframe, have the kids try to climb through without knocking any tape down
- Have one child (or parent) be the spider and stand on the other side of the web. If an insect makes it through but the spider catches it before it hits the ground, it still gets caught.



Discussion:

Discussion Questions:

- If you were a flying insect and had to get through this web, how would you get through without getting stuck?
- What are some physical adaptations insects might have avoid getting stuck?
- In nature, where are some good places for spiders to build webs so they catch a lot of insects
- What is the importance of web shape and design? Why do most spider webs have a distinct pattern?
- How have spiders evolved to catch flying insects?

Other Resources/Further Information:

Watch this [BBC video](#) of a spider building a web!

Learn how spiders use vibrations to detect prey with this fun easy at-home [activity!](#)

