

Spiders

Structure

Language features

Title

Classification

Description

Series of paragraphs about the subject

A new paragraph for each new topic

Concluding sentence

Rounds off the report

Spiders

Scientists classify spiders as Arachnids. (They are not insects.) There are thousands of different kinds of spiders of various sizes, shapes and colours.

All spiders have two main body parts and eight legs. Their heads are not separate.

Most spiders have eight eyes but some, such as the spitting spider, have only six eyes.

Many spiders live in permanent homes. Some hunting spiders go from shelter to shelter. Web-making spiders usually live on their webs, which are made of spider silk. This is very strong and elastic. It is drawn out from silk glands in the spider's body, and is also used to make food traps and sacs to protect their eggs.

Spiders eat insects and other small animals. Most spiders kill or paralyse their prey with poisonous fangs. They can't chew, so they turn their food into liquid by using digestive juices from their mouths.

Some people are fascinated by spiders, while others are terrified of them. Although some spiders are dangerous, they eat pests in gardens and are generally very useful to people.

Generic term 'spiders', not any particular type of spider

Topic sentences preview what paragraph is about

Technical language e.g. 'silk glands', 'sacs'

PARTS OF A SPIDER

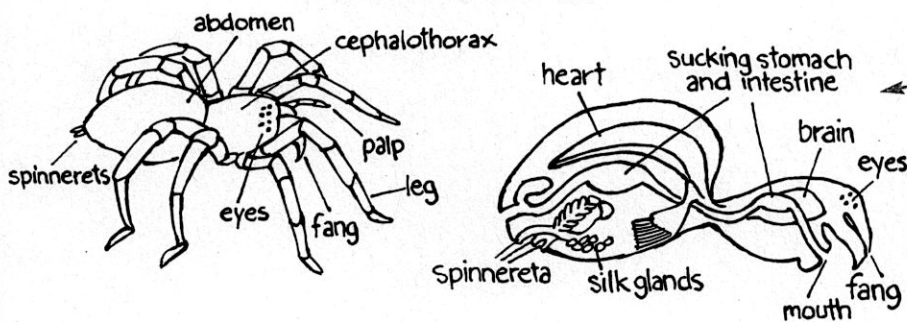


Diagram with labels

Writer's Challenge

Information reports help us to learn about the subject. Write three things that you learnt about spiders from this report.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____