

## Craft Ideas for Spider Fest – Ogden Nature Center

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### Spider Web Craft

#### Materials:

- Painter's tape
- Crumbled up newspaper

#### Background

All spiders have the ability to make spider silk, and many use this silk to spin webs. If you took a piece of steel and stretched it to be as thin as spider silk, what do you think would be stronger? Spider silk! It goes from liquid to solid as it leaves the spider's body. Different spiders use different kinds of web designs to catch their prey. Some put them up into tree branches that span long distances, others put them at the mouth of ground burrows and others put them in corners of dark, damp places. What purpose does a web serve? What kinds of things do they catch? Do you think it is an effective way of catching prey?

#### Directions

We are going to test web designs by using Painter's Tape. We will break up into groups of 4 groups of 5. You'll need to think of a spot that is sturdy, can hold a vertical or hanging web. When creating your web, remember that you want the sticky side to be the side you are throwing at. Work to create a web that will catch the most bugs, in this case, crumbled up newspaper balls or whatever else you have around the house. To test, you will line up with your web a distance to land your bugs on the web. How old are you? If you are 7 years old, you will stand 7 feet away. 8 or 9? Same concept.

#### Evaluation

Which webs worked the best? Which ones didn't catch as many? What would happen if you had more/less newspaper? How does the weight of the newspaper affect the ability of the web to stay together? How does the force in which you throw it affect the web's ability to catch it? Feel free to test out other web designs and even different kinds of tape if you would like to see what works the best.

## Spider Necklace Craft



### Supplies:

- Bell
- Pipe cleaners
- Paint
- Paint brush
- Craft or hot glue
- Googly eyes

Place a small strand of yarn through the top of the bell.

Hold the bell by the string to easily paint around it with two coats of black acrylic paint. Once it's dry, paint on one coat of a clear sealer. Mod Podge works great for this and the paint won't scrape off the bell. You can speed up the drying time with a hair dryer. Each coat of paint dries in just a few minutes under the dryer.

Cut each pipe cleaner in half. Lay each piece horizontally along the bottom of the bell. Push them up inside the bell to hold them in place.

Make sure the legs line up with the top loop in such a way that once the string is put through to make a necklace, the spider is turned the correct way.

Bend the pipe cleaners to shape them like spiders' legs.

Glue on the googly eyes with hot glue or craft glue. Add a new piece of string the length desired for a necklace through the loop and tie in a knot.

### **Pinecone Spider**



#### Supplies:

- Pinecone
- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Glue (glue dots, craft glue, etc.)
- Googly eyes (various sizes)
- String

Search your yard or a local park for pinecone, the bigger and sturdier the better. Tie a piece of string or yarn to them to signify a web. Cut four pipe cleaners in half to use to make the legs, bend the ends of them to make little feet. Using glue dots or Elmer's glue (wood, craft or regular) stick the legs in between the fins of the pinecone and secure them. Glue googly eyes onto the bottom (flattest spot) on the pinecone. You can have fun hanging the spiders around the house or outside.