

# MISSION CONSERVATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

October 2023 – Creepy Creatures

## Indoor Activity: Paper Spider Webs

Spider web silk is sticky, strong, and stretchy. It's used for various things such as catching and storing food, transportation, and communication. A Male black widow spider can smell a female black widow's web pheromones from 200 feet away! Jumping spiders use webs as an anchor point before jumping over deep chasms, in case they need to suddenly change direction. Dive bell spiders use their webs as a shelter and a place to store oxygen while living under water. Let's make our own webs!



### Materials:

- 8 Popsicle sticks
- Construction paper
- String / Yarn
- Pom Poms
- Pipe Cleaners
- Tacky glue or hot glue gun
- Paint / Markers

### Procedure:

- Paint popsicle stick whatever colors you like. These will work as an anchor for your web and hold its shape.
- Cut a rough circle shape out of your construction paper about 2 inches in circumference.
- Glue 4 of your popsicle sticks to your construction paper circle evenly to create a cross (plus sign) formation.
- Glue the other 4 popsicle sticks evenly on the remaining corners of your circle. Allow 10-15 minutes for glue to cool or dry.
- Glue your string to one of the outer points of your web then anchor popsicle sticks and glue string from stick to stick creating your own unique spider web. Add as many or as little rows as you want.
- Cut out pipe cleaner legs and glue them to the pom-pom creating yourself a little spider to glue to your web.

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## Outdoor Activity: Herp Journal

### Materials:

- Construction paper
- Copy paper
- Pencil
- Stapler
- Water bottle
- Stick or hook (for safe flipping)



### Procedure:

1. Fold construction paper in half horizontally (hamburger style)
2. Fold 5 – 8 pages of copy paper the same way
3. Staple the folded ends crafting a book spine
4. Decorate your journal
5. Go for a walk by a forest, river, stream, or park and start looking for slimy, scaly friends!
6. Note down every slimy, scaly friend you come across and if you're unable to identify them, note down or draw pictures of your best description of the animal to research later.

### Tips:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Listen carefully to the sounds around you. You may hear animals before you see them.
- Respect signs and stay on marked trails in nature parks.
- Never flip (wood, tin, logs, rocks etc..) with your hands. (use a stick or hook).
- Flip (wood, tin, logs, rocks, etc..) away from you.
- Never handle animals you find. Remember that you're visiting their home and want to keep them as stress free as possible.

