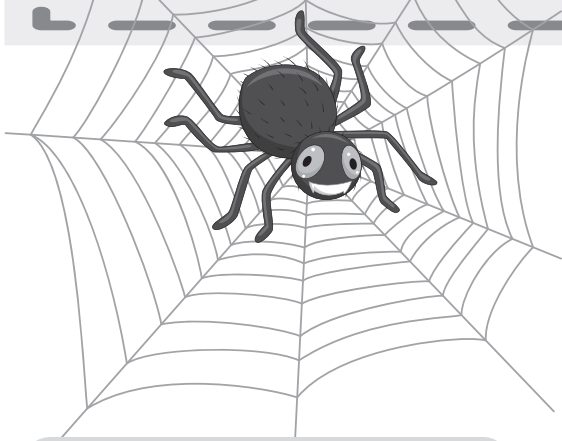


Spiders, Scorpions, and Worms



Naming Alphabet Letters

As you move through your day, encourage your child to notice and name alphabet letters. Look at a sign on a store or restaurant, the school, or a book. Point to a letter and say: *I see a z in that word—pizza.* Encourage your child to find and name another letter.

Who's Hiding?

Place a sheet of white paper underneath a bush. Gently shake the bush to see what little creatures fall onto the paper. Have your child look (without touching) at the little creatures. Ask: *Is it an insect? Is it an arachnid? How do you know? Can it fly or crawl?*

This week, your child will learn about three creatures that many people don't like: spiders, scorpions, and worms.

They will learn that not all of these creatures are dangerous and how to stay safe around those that are dangerous.

Word of the Week

arachnids

Arachnids are small animals with two body parts and eight legs.

Use the Word of the Week at home.

You might say: *That little spider is an arachnid.*

Do you see its eight legs?

More Words to Know

cobweb
compare
legs
length
scorpions
spiders
worms

Digging for Worms

Carefully dig a hole in the garden or a flower bed in search of worms. Remind your child that earthworms help keep the garden healthy. They keep the soil loose around plants. Worms do not like the sun, which is why they live underground. After viewing the worms, do not leave them exposed to the air and sun for too long.

Which Is Longest?

Invite your child to roll play dough or modeling clay into "worms." Ask: *Which worm is the longest? the shortest?* Encourage your child to line the worms up to compare their length. Add additional challenges (*Try rolling a longer worm. Arrange your worms from shortest to longest. How can you make the worm longer?*) You are helping your child practice math vocabulary and skills and practice control and strength of small muscles.

Coming Next Week: We will begin a new theme about animals and their homes.