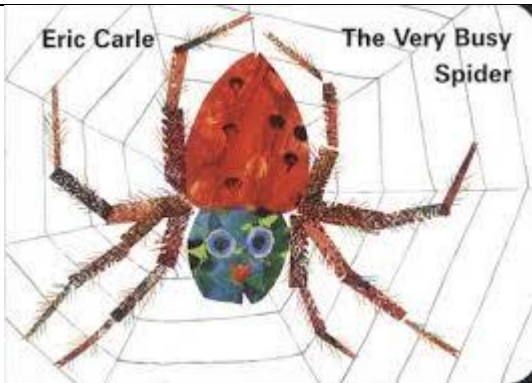


## SUMMER TERM WEEK 10: NURSERY HOME LEARNING

Try to complete 2/3 activities a day with your child.



# The Very Busy Spider



### Maths Activities

- Webs are very complex patterns. Have a go at being a very busy spider! How will you make yours? What shapes will you use? Will you make it a 3D web? Can you go over, under or through it? If you have made a sticky web with tape, see who can get the most flies to stick to it! (You could use pom poms or other rolled up tape.) Throw 10 or 20 “flies” and see how many stick onto your web or are outside your web.
- Play – draw the spider. Throw the dice and each number represents a different part of the spider that you can draw. First person to complete their spider drawing is the winner.
- At snack time, create caterpillar snacks! Cut grapes downwards in half and place them next to each other on a plate to create the body. Add a slice of strawberry for the face and raisins for eyes. Encourage the children to count the different body parts!
- Cut out a butterfly shape and model painting patterns onto one half of the butterfly. Fold the paper so that the patterns are symmetrical on both sides.
- **Numberblocks** watch a clip on Cbeebies every day at: [BBC or Cbeebies](#), and have fun recreating the number characters with blocks or objects around your house. Use this guide



### Literacy Activities

- Read some non-fiction books about spiders.
- Discuss the sounds that different minibeasts make and encourage the children to make the sounds. Alter the volume of the different minibeast sounds that are being made.
- Use this [Rhyming String Spider Webs Resource Pack](#) to create your very own rhyming webs! The children choose which words rhyme and dangle them from the webs.
- Provide each child with a mirror and make the sounds of different minibeasts, whilst looking in the mirror. Discuss what is happening in their mouth as they make the different sounds.
- Read everyday. Chose some rhyming books and encourage children to hear the rhyming words and carry on the string of rhyme. Choose books with lots of repetition so that children can join in.
- **Create a phonics tray** for things starting with ‘s’.
- **Draw a picture of what you did today.** Write down what your child tells you about their picture.
- Read other Eric Carle books including:

The Grouchy Ladybird, The Very Quiet Cricket, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very Lonely Firefly.

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[here to give](#) you ideas on what to do with your children whilst watching an episode.

- Sing a number song:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p065s47t>



### Topic Activities

- Watch 'The Very Busy Spider' by Eric Carle  
<https://safeYouTube.net/w/wzol>
- Look at the video without the sound – can children re-tell the story?
- Stick some large sheets of paper over a table top and encourage children to draw a story map. Encourage them to talk about and retell the story in their own words.
- Sing familiar nursery rhymes with the children that contain minibeasts, such as 'Incy Wincy Spider' and 'Little Miss Muffet'.
- Draw some pictures of the characters and cut them out. Stick them on lollipop sticks or spoons to create stick puppets. You could also create shadow puppets to act out the story.
- Provide some 'spider shaped paper' for children to draw/write on.
- Try to re-create one of the wonderful drawings in the book – discuss this character with your grown ups – what are they like? What do they look like? Would you like to play with them? Why? Ask your grown up to write down what you say.

#### Personal, Social and Emotional:

- Show the children an image of a spider. Ask the children how they feel when they see a real spider. Discuss why some people may feel scared.
- Have a 'Dress as a Minibeast Day!' The children can dress up as a minibeast of their choice and then take part in a minibeast parade or put on some music and have a minibeast party. They could take turns to walk down a 'catwalk' and show members of your household their outfit.

#### Let's get moving:

- Use masking tape or string to create a large scale spiders web – encourage your child to climb through the web without touching the string.
- Play some minibeast-themed music or songs, such as, 'The Flight of the Bumblebee' by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/lnol>

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Encourage the children to move to the music.

- Create a spider's web outside on the floor, using wide sticky tape. Challenge the children to walk on tiptoes around the web without falling off it!
- Try this 'Cosmic Kids Yoga' - Spider Power

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/7rol>

Or for a higher energy workout, try [one of these five minute workouts](#)

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- It is important to continue to develop strength and dexterity in your children's hands. There are a number of ideas [here](#) so choose something that you have resources for at home.
- Create spider web string paintings with the children. Show the children how to carefully dip a piece of string into white paint and then place the string onto black paper to create straight and circular lines.
- Create paper cup spiders! Paint the cups black, let them dry and add googly eyes (or buttons of bottle lids). Support the children as they hole punch the cup 8 times and add 8 straws.
- Encourage the children to try finger painting to create or decorate some minibeasts. They could use their fingerprints to create a long caterpillar or add black spots to a red ladybird.
- Add sticky tape around the outside and in diagonal lines across a large activity tray to create a spider's web. Add plastic spiders and tweezers for the children to collect the spiders.
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- Trickle glue on top of some black paper in the shape of a spiders web. Use your fingers to sprinkle glitter on top to create a spiders web. Webs could also be made with white chalk.

### **Get Creative:**

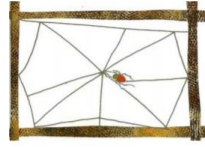
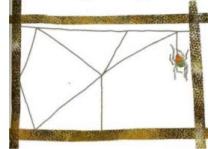
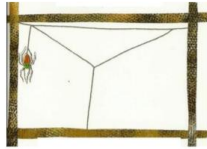
- Create pebble ladybirds with the children, using stones. Paint the stones red, add black spots and varnish with PVA.
- Show the children videos of minibeasts and discuss how the minibeasts move. Play music and encourage the children to move like the different minibeasts in time to the music.
- Model how to paint symmetrical butterflies and support the children as they paint their own butterflies.
- Show the children a video clip which shows the life cycle of a butterfly and then create a butterfly life cycle dance. Curl up in a ball like an egg, wriggle like a caterpillar on the floor, spin around to create a chrysalis and move arms up and down to fly like a butterfly!
- Have a range of junk-modelling materials available for children to create their own minibeast houses and model minibeasts.
- Add these [Minibeast Stick Puppets](#) to lolly sticks to create stick puppets. Provide a large box as a theatre for children to put on a minibeast show.
- Add these [Incy Wincy Spider Stick Puppets](#) and instruments to encourage the children to sing and act out the popular nursery rhyme.

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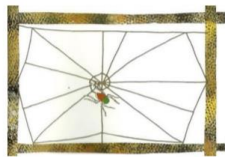
- Provide paper and pencils for the children to create observational drawings of any minibeasts they see.
- Have a go at drawing your own web:

### Talking Together



Lets look closely how the spider does it!

Can you follow the steps? Draw your own web! This builds a pattern going outwards! An orb pattern.



### Investigate:

- Work together to create a minibeast hotel outside. Discuss what minibeasts like to eat and where they like to live. For example, somewhere dark. You could use tissue boxes, cardboard tubes, etc.
- Embark on an exciting real minibeast hunt.
- Incorporate honey into a snack during snack time. You may like to make honey sandwiches with the children. Show the children the honey; discuss where it comes from and which minibeast helps to make it.
- Look for some spiders and spider webs. Encourage the children to use magnifying glasses to look at the webs in more detail.
- Add frozen minibeasts to an activity tray. Challenge the children to be the first to free their minibeast!
- Watch a spider weave it's web in slow motion:

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/G8oI>

### Developing Independence.

It is very important for your child's development that they begin to complete tasks independently.

Start small and make sure that you have plenty of time so that you and your child don't feel rushed. Here are some ideas of tasks that your child can complete independently whilst at home. Choose one to focus on each day:

- Tidying up their toys – try putting some of your favourite music on while you do it. Here's the song we use during tidy up time at nursery.

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/xPXD>

- Create a fruit snack area. Encourage children to help wash and prepare the fruit for you to eat. Pouring their own drink.
- Getting dressed by themselves in the mornings or undressed in the evening. Find a designated place to put clothes when finished.
- Set the table and clear dishes away.

## **SUMMER TERM WEEK 10: NURSERY HOME LEARNING**

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- Ask an adult how you can help for 10 minutes. Or set a timer and find something to clean, wipe, or put away until the alarm sounds.
- Choose their own activity from the suggestions above.