

Spider Trivia



Spider Trivia Questions & Answers

Question: Americans swallow 8 spiders a year in their sleep!

Answer: False. Spiders don't like to hang out in places where they can't find food. There's not a lot of food for them in your bed! This is just a myth.

Question: Daddy long legs are the most poisonous spiders out there but they don't have teeth large enough to bite us!

Answer: False. Daddy-longlegs are not even spiders. They have only one body segment instead of two like spiders. Some daddy long legs are not even venomous at all. Daddy-longlegs have mouthparts that are similar to those of crabs or scorpions that they use to hold prey while they eat. To protect themselves, daddy-longlegs produce a pungent odor most predators find distasteful making strong venom unnecessary. Daddy-longlegs will eat small insects like aphids but will also scavenge dead insects and bird poop.

Question: Spiders don't stick to their own webs because they have special oils in their feet.

Answer: False. Spiders spin a variety of different types of silk and not all kinds are sticky. They know where to step or not step when they walk across their webs.

Question: Spiders blood is blue in color

Answer: True. Spider blood is called hemolymph and it is pale blue in color.

Question: Spider Silk is stronger than kevlar which is used in bulletproof vests.

Answer: True

Question: There is no reason to study spider silk.

Answer: False, Scientists and engineers all over the world are looking at spider silk to learn more about how humans can make smarter, stronger materials.

Question: All spiders make geometric or circular webs.

Answer: False. All spiders can make silk but not all make webs that are geometric or circular. Some spiders make funnel shaped webs or webs that use trip wires to catch prey.

Question: All spider webs are designed to catch prey.

Answer: False. Tarantulas for example lay silk down in their burrows to make a softer home and to sense approaching prey.

Question: Female black widows ALWAYS kill the males after mating.

Answer: False. Sometimes males will quickly get away before being eaten.

Question: Arachnid is just a fancy way of saying "spider".

Answer: False. Spiders are a type of arachnid. Mites, ticks and scorpions are also arachnids.

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Question: The only spiders that are venomous are ones that are brightly colored.

Answer: False. While color is often a good indicator of whether something is poisonous or venomous or not, it is not always the case.

Question: All spiders are venomous.

Answer: True. All spiders produce venom which they use to catch prey and defend themselves. Not all venom though is strong enough to hurt or kill a human.

Question: All spiders have two eyes, just like humans.

Answer: False. Most spiders have eight eyes, some have twelve and some have none! Spiders that don't have eyes live deep in caves where light doesn't penetrate. Why bother having eyes if there is no light to see by?

Question: There is only one kind of spider silk.

Answer: False. Spiders can make nine different types of silk, each type of silk has a different purpose. Some types of silk are used for wrapping up and protecting eggs, some silk is for keeping the prey from escaping once it is caught and there are a few types of silk for web making.

Question: All spiders can make silk.

Answer: True. The big difference comes in how they use that silk.

Question: There is a difference between Venomous and Poisonous.

Answer: True. Venom is something toxic that is injected into you via a fang or stinger. Poison is something toxic that you eat. Spiders are venomous but not poisonous.

Question: Spiders are insects.

Answer: False. Spiders are arachnids. Insects have 6 legs and 3 body segments. Arachnids have 8 legs and 2 body segments.