Itsy Bitsy Spider

Grade Level: K - 3
Content Areas: Music, Art, Science, Technology, and Language Arts
Time Frame: 90 minutes

MATERIALS

Itsy Bitsy Spider Book

Skein of Yarn (Any color)

Styrofoam Balls (Small and Medium Size for Each Student)

Pipe Cleaners (4 For Each Student Cut in Half)

Wiggly Eyes (2 For Each Student)

Strips of clear tape (One for Each student)

Vegetable oil

OBJECTIVES

Students will:
- Describe the characteristics of a spider.
- Classify whether a spider is an insect or arachnid by analyzing its characteristics.
- Describe and name the types of webs that spiders weave.
- Explore and explain why a spider does not stick to its own web.

VOCABULARY:

Key vocabulary

Before reading, focus on vocabulary. Read the glossary words and their definitions.

Itsy Bitsy - Very small

Waterspout - A pipe that runs along the side of a building to help keep water off the roof

FREE SONG

Click here to download or stream the Itsy Bitsy Spider song.

Find other Cantata Learning songs and books at http://www.cantatalearning.com.

PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES

Preparation:
Start by telling students they are going to learn all about spiders today. Start this lesson out by motivating the students by reading and singing *Itsy Bitsy Spider*.

Lesson Procedure:
1. Ask students after the story if they think that spiders are insects?
2. Have students name some features that an insect must have such as 3 body segments and 6 legs.
3. Ask students if spiders have those same characteristics?
4. Have students name some ways that spiders are different from insects.
5. Tell students they are now going to make their own spider to represent the parts of a spider.
6. Hand out Styrofoam balls, pipe cleaners, and wiggly eyes to students.
7. Make Spiders from a small and medium sized Styrofoam ball to represent each body segment. Insert 8 pipe cleaners (4 on each side) and joint them to make the spider stand. Glue on eyes.
8. Explain that spiders are arachnids and discuss the types of spiders you commonly see around your area.
9. Discuss how spiders catch their food. Tell students there are four types of web building spiders spin they are Orb, Triangle, Sheet, and Tangle.
10. Tell students they are now going to build their own web. Have the children make a circle on the floor, instruct them to use the skein of yarn to weave a web by wrapping it around them once and then throw it across the floor to someone else in the circle. Ask the children to step out of their loops leaving the web on the floor and return to their seat.
11. Ask students to brainstorm the reasons why a spider's prey might be caught in the web, but the spider does not stick on it. Write all responses on the board.
12. Have the children sit at their seat and give each of them a strip of tape and tell them to hold it down with one hand and use the fingers of the other hand to tiptoe like a spider across the tape. Ask students what happens.
13. Now, put a little oil on a napkin and allow the children to touch the oil and then "walk" across the tape again. Ask students what happens and then explain that this is how a spider's oil glands work and why they do not stick to the web.
14. Review what the students learned about spiders.

Language Extension:
Have the children write a story about what they learned about spiders to go along with their spider craft.

Technology Extension:
Have the students take the language extension of writing their own Itsy Bitsy story and making it a digital story.

Here is an example….

The itsy bitsy pig, went down the lane. Out came the cow, to see what he was doing.

Students can use TuxPaint to draw their illustrations and add text for the lyrics. This can be found here. There is a free app available too.

Little Bird Tales would be another awesome digital storytelling tool to use because students can add their text, voice and original illustrations (there is a drawing tool included) through drawing online or even uploading work done on paper. There is a free app available too.

Students can use PebbleGo Animals to research spiders and other insects too in the Insects and Spiders section.

If you want to check out PebbleGo, please visit it here.

Art Extension:
As an art extension, give students the task of creating their very own spider concentrating on the parts of the spider and characteristics they know. They can use a variety of materials to create their spiders. Once they are complete, create a giant web out of string and have the students place their spiders on it.

Music Extension:
Sing Itsy Bitsy Spider and concentrate on the hand movements. This is a classic nursery rhyme. This is an important one for all children to know.

Cooking Extension:
Marshmallow Spider (This recipe is from Little Giraffe Teaching Ideas blog. There are several spider recipes in this post.)

30 large marshmallows, 60 M & M's, large package of chocolate chips, red string licorice cut into 2 inch pieces. Poke 8 pieces of licorice into the marshmallows for legs. Melt the chocolate chips and dribble over the marshmallows. Put the M & M's on for eyes while the chocolate is still sticky.

Standards:

Kindergarten:CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.6, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K.1

First Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.6, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1

Second Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.6, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1

Third Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.6, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1

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