

Creepy or crucial crawlies?

i This resource supports you to implement a short sequence of inquiry about Australian scientists and scientific discoveries. It culminates in students' participation in the Restore Science campaign, where they can highlight their love for and/or the importance of investing in Australian science.

AC Year 3: [AC9S3H02](#); [AC9E3LY07](#)
Year 6: [AC9S4H02](#); [AC9E4LY07](#)

What do you think about spiders?

There are lots of different opinions about spiders. Some people love them. Other people don't mind them as long as they're outside the house. A few people are downright terrified of them!

But did you know that Australian scientists have found something in funnel web spider venom that could save lives?

Read

Learn about how Australian scientists are using spider venom to protect the heart.

The deadly spider that could protect your heart

Discuss

- What do you think about spiders?
- What common body features do all spiders have?
- What role do spiders play in our environment?

Watch



Spider Man

We meet Eamon, who's had an interesting job over the past few weeks: babysitting spiders from the QLD Museum while it's been closed to the public.

Behind The News - May 13, 2020

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/spider-man/12224766>

Investigating spiders

You might

- Go on a spider hunt in the school grounds, looking for spiders or evidence of spiders.
- But remember to only observe from a safe distance. Never touch a spider in its natural habitat. You may hurt yourself, or the spider!
- Watch the video below about spider habitats.



Our Animals: Spider habitat

Have you ever seen a redback's web?

ABC Education / Jan 13, 2023

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/spider-man/12224766>

- Draw a labelled scientific diagram of a spider.
- Make a 3D model of a spider.
- Use sticky tape to make a model of a spider web.
- Survey people in your class/school on their feelings about spiders, and what they would do if they came across one in the house.
- Present your data on a graph.

Spiders creep you out?

That's okay, just focus on a different small animal instead, perhaps an insect.

Spider-y science



Individual task

Create a text to explain something that you've learnt about spiders.

Your text can be anything you like- a letter, an interview script, a comic book or a news report—be creative!

Publish your text and send it to your local MP through the [Restore Science](https://restorescience.com.au/schools) website (<https://restorescience.com.au/schools>), or have your teacher send it for you.

As a class

Take a photograph that shows the class engaged in Science. You might be designing, testing or gathering data.

Write a list of ideas about which spiders or insects might help cure diseases, and how.

Create a text that identifies what you love about science and why it is important. Send your text to your local MP through the [Restore Science](https://restorescience.com.au/schools) website (<https://restorescience.com.au/schools>).