

ANANSI AND THE POT OF BEANS

By Bobby and Sherry Norfolk

Pre-Kindergarten

Outcome:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the story through the use of reading, discussion, writing, counting, sequencing, and observation.

Overview:

Students will read and explore a folktale, while utilizing interdisciplinary connections in language arts, science, math, cooking, and art.

Materials:

Book, Anansi and the Pot of Beans

Crayons, scissors, glue

Math Activity: zip lock bags, each filled with 8 small objects such as pennies, crayons, or paper clips

Art Activities:

Egg Carton Spiders: 1 egg carton for every 12 students, pencil, 4 pipe cleaners for each student, markers

Handprint Spiders: black, brown, or gray construction paper (1 sheet per student), scissors

Spider Webs: black construction paper, disposable metal pie plate, white paint, marbles, scissors

Science Materials: Lima beans (or other bean seeds) paper cups, soil, water, pencil

Cooking:

Bean Dip ingredients: 1 can (10 oz) bean with bacon soup, 1 cup mild chili sauce, 1 teaspoon onion, minced, 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, blender, crackers, napkins, plastic knife

Spider Treats ingredients: Round crackers, peanut butter, chocolate chips, mini pretzel sticks, plastic knives, napkins

Assessment Tools:

Trace the Spider worksheet

Counting Spiders worksheet

Sequencing Pictures worksheet

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

Introduction:

Teacher asks students to pretend they are spiders and asks:

- What would you look like?
- Where would you live?
- What would you eat?
- What would you be afraid of?

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Introduction cont.:

Teacher takes class for a nature walk to look for spiders or spider webs after reviewing the following safety rules:

- Do not touch anything including spiders, webs, or insects.
- Teacher is the only one who can pick up rocks, logs, or other objects.

Class returns to classroom.

- Ask students to name poems or songs about spiders.
- Class sings *The Itsy Bitsy Spider*, recites *Little Miss Muffet* and other poems and songs suggested by students or teacher.
- Inform class that they will be reading a story about a well-known spider from Africa, Anansi (Ah-non-see)
- Teacher introduces the book, Anansi and the Pot of Beans to students reading title, authors, and illustrator.
- Teacher reads story to class.

Discussion Questions to Assess Comprehension:

- What kind of creature is Anansi?
- Who did Anansi visit?
- What job did Grandma Spider give Anansi?
- What did Grandma tell him not to touch?
- Why did he touch it?
- Have you ever wanted to touch something you were told not to touch?
- Where did Anansi put the hot beans?
- What flew into the window in Grandma's kitchen?
- What did Anansi do with his hat when the neighbors came in Grandma Spider's house?
- What did the hot beans do to Anansi's head?

Writing Readiness:

Trace the Spider worksheet

Directions: Trace the spider's legs and then count them. Trace the number 8's.

Math:

Counting to Eight

- Teacher creates several zip lock bags with 8 small objects such as pennies, paper clips, crayons, and erasers placed in each.
- Students take turns counting these objects.
- Students complete Counting Spiders worksheet
Directions: Circle 8 spiders.

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Art:

- Egg Carton Spiders

Materials: 1 egg carton for every 12 students, pencil, 4 pipe cleaners for each student, markers

Directions: Teacher separates each cup from egg carton and makes 8 small holes (4 on each side) at the base of each cup. Students insert a pipe cleaner and each pipe cleaner creates two legs, directly across from each other, one on the left and the one on the right. Students draw a face and decorate the body.

- Handprint Spiders

Materials: black, brown, or gray construction paper, pencil, scissors

Directions: Fold a piece of construction paper in half. Place the palm of your hand (starting half way down) on the fold with 4 fingers pointing out. Trace fingers and cut out (Do not cut fold). Open up paper and decorate the spider.

- Marble Paint Spider Webs

Materials: black construction paper, disposable metal pie plate, white paint, marbles, scissors

Directions: Cut out black circles to fit inside the pie plate. Dip marbles in white paint and roll around in pan to create a spider web pattern.

Language Arts:

Sequencing Pictures worksheet

Materials: scissors, pencil, glue

Use this worksheet to have children make predictions about plant growth. Students can periodically check to see if their predictions about plant growth are accurate as they chart the growth of the plants grown in the Science activity below.

Directions: Cut out the pictures of the life cycle of a bean plant. Cut out the numbers and trace them. Place the pictures in order. Place the correct number under each picture. Glue onto another piece of paper.

Science:

Planting Beans

Materials: Lima beans (or other bean seeds), paper cups, soil, water, pencil

Directions: Fill cups about 2/3 full with soil. Use the eraser end of a pencil to poke a hole in the soil. Plant seed in hole. Cover with soil, water, and place in a sunny location.

Observe plants daily. Water as needed. Chart results.

- Number of plants that grew.
- Plant height.

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Cooking:

- Bean Dip

Materials: 1 can (10 oz) bean with bacon soup, 1 cup mild chili sauce, 1 teaspoon onion, minced, 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, blender, crackers, napkins, plastic knife

Directions:

- Place ingredients in blender.
- Blend until smooth.
- Serve on crackers.
- Makes about 1½ cups.

- Spider Treats

Materials: Round crackers, peanut butter, chocolate chips, mini pretzel sticks, plastic knives, napkins

Directions:

- Spread peanut butter on crackers.
- Place 8 mini pretzel sticks as the legs on each cracker.
- Place another cracker on top of the one with peanut butter and pretzels.
- Place 2 chocolate chips as eyes on top of cracker, using peanut butter as “glue”.

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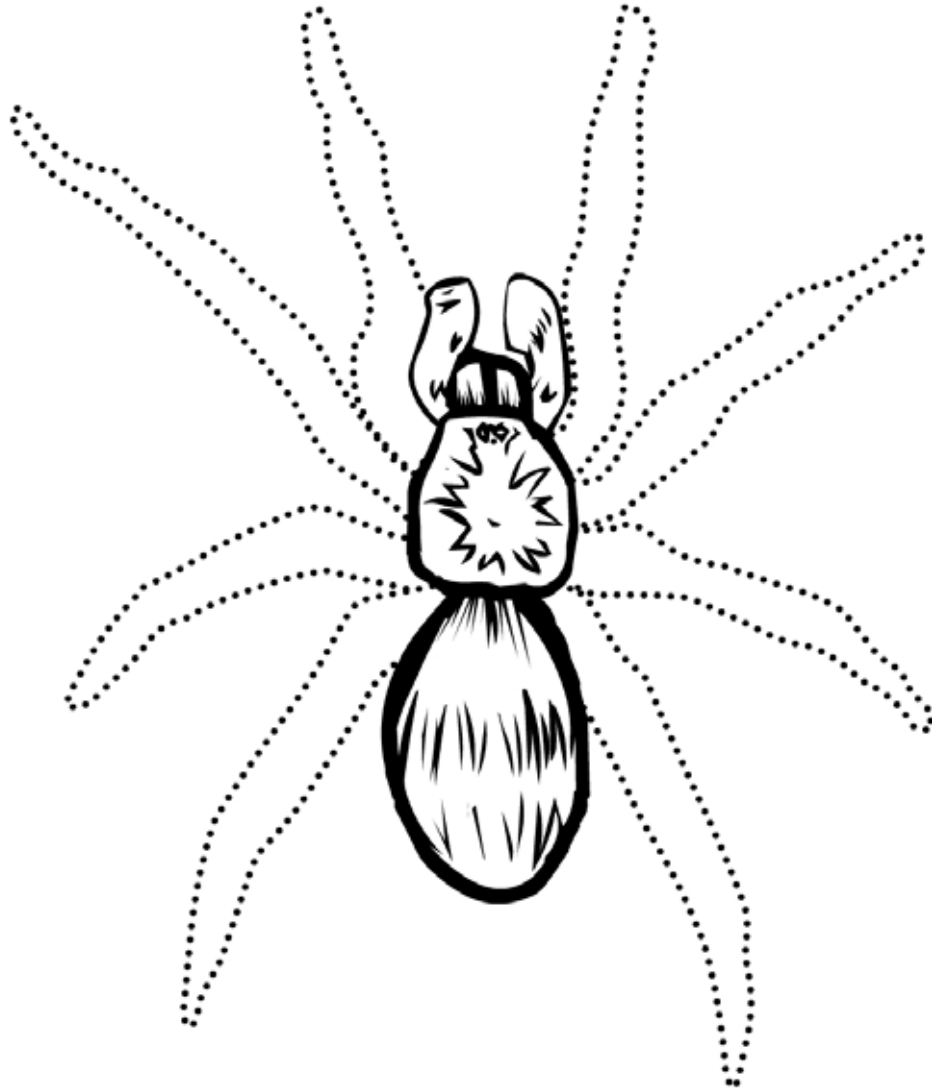
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Name _____ Date _____

Trace the Spider

Directions: Trace the spider's legs and then count them. Trace the number 8's.



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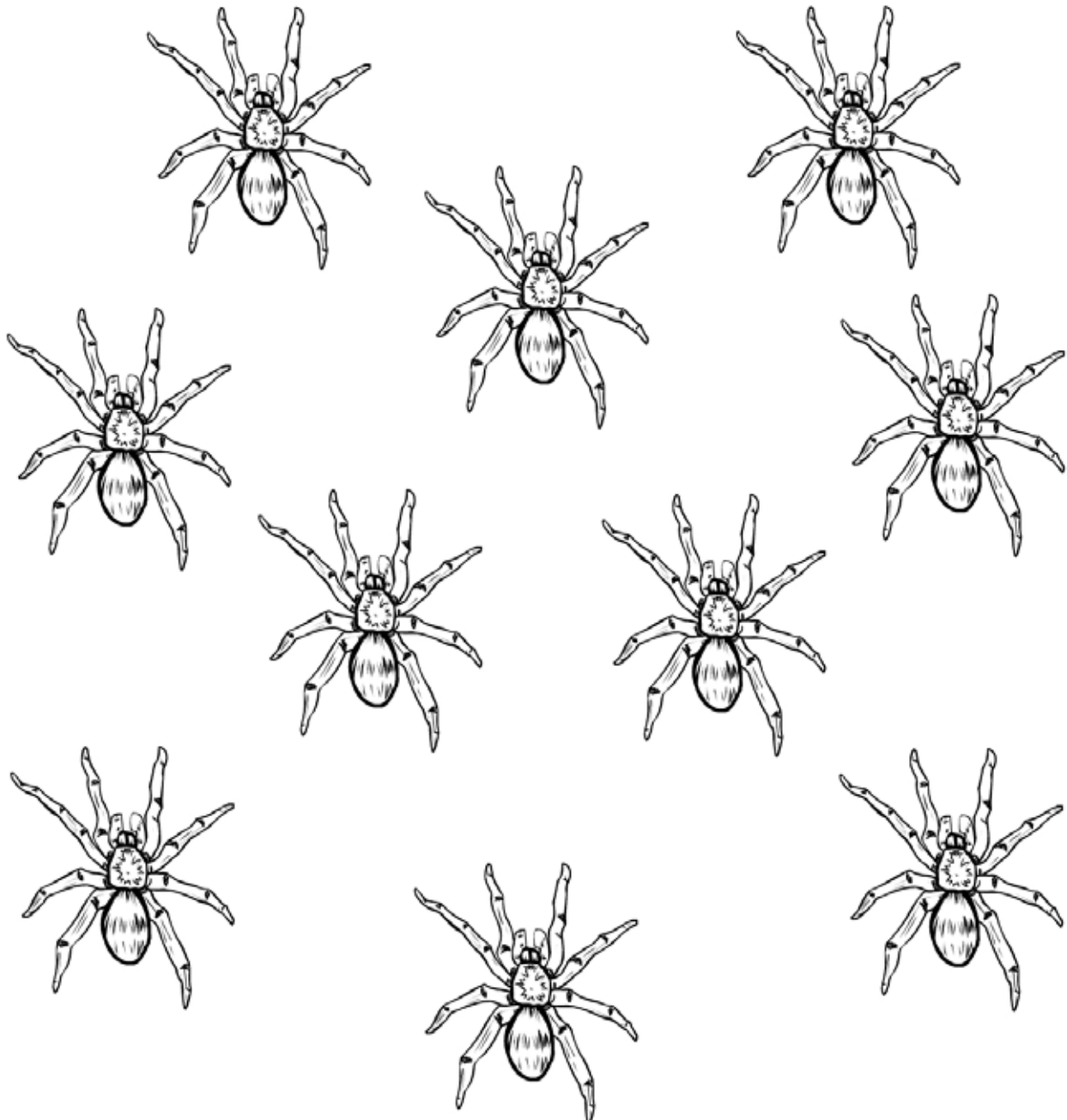
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Name _____ Date _____

Counting Spiders

Directions: Circle 8 spiders.



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Name _____ Date _____

Sequencing Pictures

Directions: Cut out the pictures of the life cycle of a bean plant. Cut out the numbers and trace them. Place the pictures in order. Place the correct number under each picture. Glue onto another piece of paper.

