

# STEM starts now

Spider Homes

**Recommended Age:** 48–52 Months

**STEM concepts:** Science (physical science, life science), Technology (simple tools), Engineering (engineering), Math

**Materials:** white acrylic yarn, scissors, tape, plastic spider, paper plate, disposable cups, straws, cotton balls, pictures of cob web, sheet web, funnel web, and orb web. Expansion needs a computer and internet

**What to do:** Cut slits around the edge of the paper plate. Using the pictures of the spider webs tell your child that they are going to make a spiders home. You can do this one of two ways. Either begin building the web by wrapping the yard on the plate and attaching it to the slits making a Orb web and ask them to match what web you are making or encourage them to make one themselves. Using the other materials see if they can make a cob, sheet or funnel web.

**Language and Communication:** Talk about how spiders live and what they do with their web. Tell your child, “Spiders are born knowing how to build webs- they don’t need anyone to teach them.” Ask them if they knew how to make a web without directions.

**Expand the Activity:** Search “Young Garden Spiders Emerging and Spinning Webs”. Watch these videos and talk about what they see. Talk about how the babies just go right to spinning.

