

Name: _____

Spider Webs

By Kelly Hashway



Terrance gripped his desk as Mr. Martin showed another picture of a giant spider. Terrance was terrified of spiders. He always had been. Unfortunately, tomorrow's field trip was a spider watching adventure in the woods. Terrance couldn't imagine anything more frightening. He was so lost in his fear he didn't even hear the bell ring.

"See you all tomorrow," Mr. Martin said.



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Yeah, like eat me, Terrance thought as he left the classroom and headed home.

He barely slept that night, worrying about the field trip. He thought about faking sick to get out of going, but his mom was too smart to fall for that. Besides, she'd signed the permission slip, so she knew about the trip.

As Terrance entered the classroom, Mr. Martin smiled. "Everyone ready to be amazed?" He waved them out of the room and to the bus. The trip wasn't long at all, only a few miles. Mr. Martin took them to a wooded area and pointed to a shed in the middle of it. "This has become a spider haven. They build webs all over it."

Terrance followed his classmates to the shed, his eyes darting everywhere, not wanting to get caught off guard by a spider. Then he saw it. Light glistened



off the wet spider webs hanging everywhere. Their intricate patterns and designs made Terrance's mouth drop. For a moment, Terrance forgot about the spiders. He was too busy looking at the webs. They were amazing, just like Mr. Martin had said.

Then he saw a huge spider. He stepped back until he realized the spider wasn't coming toward him. It was spinning a web. "Look." Terrance



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1. Terrance was afraid of...
 - a. field trips
 - b. insects
 - c. forests
 - d. spiders
2. Why didn't Terrance pretend to be sick on the day of the field trip?
 - a. He knew he would be amazed by the spiders.
 - b. He wanted to be with his friends.
 - c. He knew his mother wouldn't believe him.



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- a. Many animals are more dangerous than they appear.
 - b. You can overcome your fears.
 - c. You should always listen to parents and teachers.
 - d. The smallest things in life can be the most amazing.
5. Read the following passage from the story. Write a definition for each of the underlined words. Use a dictionary if you need help.

Mr. Martin took them to a wooded area and pointed to a shed in the middle of it. "This has become a spider haven. They build webs all over it."

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right.



1. _____ gripped

a. not paying attention



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5. _____ wooded

e. pretending

6. _____ haven

f. grabbed onto

7. _____ off guard

g. safe place

8. _____ intricate

h. promise

Now try this: Write a sentence using each of the vocabulary words above.

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wooded - having lots of trees; forested

haven - safe place

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8. d. intricate

h. promise

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