

## Spider Rescue Race

Spiders we see in our houses are only trying to find insects to eat. If you don't want the spiders there, don't squish them. Instead, help them outside.

## Save a Spider



Rescuing a real spider:

1. Put a glass over the spider when it is on a solid surface. (You'll use a glass or clear plastic cup so you can see the spider's legs, so as not to squish them.)
2. Slip a card or envelope slowly underneath, and the spider will be forced to step onto it.
3. Holding the card firmly against the glass from the bottom, and asking someone to open the door for you, carefully take the spider outside and release it on a bush or on the grass.

### Now for the classroom race:

Have ready 1) several small, plastic spiders, 2) two clear cups, 3) two stiff cards, 4) if you want, 2 sheets of paper to represent two "kitchen counters", and 2 to represent two "bushes" outside. Or just designate chair seats to represent them.

Divide class into two equal groups and have them line up. Put a "kitchen counter" site near the head of each line (on a chair seat or table), and an "outside bush" site on a chair seat about 15 - 20' away.

Put a plastic spider on each "kitchen counter."

The first student in each line, carefully using the card and cup, will get the plastic spider onto the card by gently sliding the card underneath. Students will then move rapidly—but carefully; they don't want to disturb the spider!—to the "bush" chair and slide the spider onto the chair. Each will rush back to her or his line and hand the cup and card to the next student. Meanwhile, an adult will put a new plastic spider on the "counter" for the next racer. Other adults, or kids who have made their run, can bring "rescued" spiders back to you for reuse.



If a spider gets jostled and flips over, that racer will have to start again from the beginning. Gentleness is as important as speed.

The winning team is the first that has every student rescue a spider.

You may want print out the next page on card stock and cut into fourths, with enough for each student to take for home use.