

# STUDY QUESTIONS

## TO “EIGHT-LEGGED SUPERHEROES”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, September–October 2018, [www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine](http://www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine).

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*Minnesota Conservation Volunteer* magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

**Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback?** How about a pink heelsplitter, pimple-back, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what’s alive under snow? How animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing**.

**Find these stories and more online** at [www.mndnr.gov/young\\_naturalists](http://www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists).

*Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!*

# “EIGHT-LEGGED SUPERHEROES” STUDY QUESTIONS

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## 1. ALL SPIDERS:

- a. hunt
- b. live in trees
- c. spin webs
- d. a and c

## 2. NAME THREE WAYS SPIDERS ARE LIKE INSECTS. NAME THREE WAYS THEY ARE DIFFERENT. \_\_\_\_\_

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## 3. LONG LEGS HELP A SPIDER \_\_\_\_\_. SHORT, POWERFUL LEGS HELP A SPIDER \_\_\_\_\_.

## 4. WHAT ARE THE EIGHT WAYS SPIDERS USE SILK? \_\_\_\_\_

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## 5. MATCH THE TRAIT TO THE TYPE OF SPIDER:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Cobweb spider  | chases its prey                         |
| Jumping spider | makes funnel shaped webs                |
| Crab spider    | builds circular webs with spokes        |
| Cellar spider  | hunts mainly at night                   |
| Orb weaver     | has super long legs                     |
| Ground spider  | can leap up to 30 times its body length |
| Grass spider   | females are twice the size of males     |

**6. WHAT SENSE DOES A GRASS SPIDER USE TO TELL WHEN IT HAS CAPTURED AN INSECT IN ITS WEB?**

- a. Sight
- b. Sound
- c. Smell
- d. Touch
- e. Hearing

**7. HOW DO JUMPING SPIDERS USE SILK?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**8. WHAT DO GRASS SPIDERS AND COBWEB SPIDERS HAVE IN COMMON THAT SETS THEM APART FROM CRAB SPIDERS AND GROUND SPIDERS?** \_\_\_\_\_

**9. HOW DOES A CRAB SPIDER USE ITS LONG LEGS?**

- a. To leap quickly to capture prey
- b. To run across its web to eat a captured insect
- c. To escape predators
- d. To capture insects that are attracted to the flower it's sitting on

**10. WHAT DO SPECIAL EYE STRUCTURES HELP WOLF SPIDERS DO?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**11.** True or false: Some spiders know how to swim.

**BONUS:** Jumping spiders can leap 30 times their body length. In feet and meters, how far would you be able to leap if you had that skill?

# MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1. True or false: All spiders spin webs.

2. WHAT TOOL ARE SPIDERS' MOUTHPARTS MOST LIKE?

- a. A scissors
- b. A hollow needle
- c. A knife
- d. A tweezer
- e. A grinder

3. HOW LONG OF A STRAND OF SILK CAN A SPIDER CARRY INSIDE ITS BODY?

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4. HOW DOES THE ABILITY TO CHANGE COLOR HELP A GOLDENROD CRAB SPIDER THRIVE? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. NAME THREE TRAITS WOLVES AND WOLF SPIDERS SHARE? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. NAME THREE WAYS IN WHICH WOLVES AND WOLF SPIDERS DIFFER? \_\_\_\_\_

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## STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: VOCABULARY CARDS

Cut along horizontal lines, fold in the middle and tape or staple. Blanks are provided to allow you or your students to add new words or phrases

When spiders **AMBUSH**  
insects, they

To **ATTACK BY**  
**SURPRISE** is to

FOLD

An object that is  
**BULBOUS** is

An object that is  
**SHAPED LIKE A BULB** is

FOLD

A collection of **DIFFERENT**  
**OBJECTS** is

A collection of **DIVERSE**  
**OBJECTS** contains

FOLD

**IMMATURE INSECTS**  
are called

**LARVAE** are

FOLD

When substances  
**SOLIDIFY**, they

When substances **TURN INTO**  
**SOLIDS**, they

FOLD

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Devices that **CONTROL THE FLOW OF LIQUIDS** are known as

**SPIGOTS** are devices that

FOLD

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A **SUBMERGED** object is

An object that is **UNDER WATER** is

FOLD

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**A HARMFUL SUBSTANCE INJECTED INTO A VICTIM** is known as

**VENOM** is

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

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