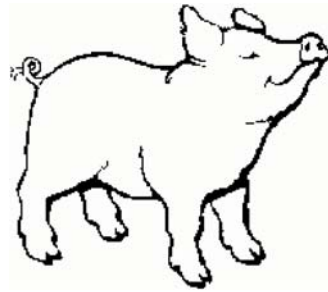


Character Map

Draw a line to match the characters from *Charlotte's Web* with a description of the part they play.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Wilbur | the show off brother |
| Charlotte | thought Fern was having mind problems |
| Templeton | the rat |
| Fern | Fern's boy friend |
| Lurvy | they used his truck to haul the pig |
| Mr. Zuckerman | the person who could hear the animals talk |
| Mrs. Arable | owner of Wilbur |
| Avery | the hired man |
| Mr. Arable | talked in threes |
| the geese | the spider |
| Henry | the pig |



Test Your Math Skills with Charlotte's Math Problems



- Charlotte caught 6 flies in her web. If 3 dropped out of the web but 2 more flew into the web before she ate, then how many flies did Charlotte have for supper? My Answer: _____
- Mr. Zuckerman went to the feed store to get food for his animals. He bought 6 bundles of hay for \$12.25 each, 3 bags of feed for Wilbur for \$5.75 each, and 6 bags of feed for his geese and chickens for \$7.25 each. How much did Mr. Zuckerman spend at the feed store? My Answer: _____
- The goslings are loose on the farm. There are 17 goslings total: 2 are with the mother, 3 are with Wilbur, Templeton found 6 and Fern has 2. How many are still missing? My Answer: _____
- At the Zuckerman Farm there are 2 additional pigs plus Wilbur, 3 sheep, and 2 geese. How many legs are there on all of the animals combined. My Answer: _____
- In Wilbur's pen there are 3 spiders. How many legs do the 3 spiders have all together? My Answer: _____



Who Said It

Read *Charlotte's Web* to learn the answers!

- "Charlotte is the best storyteller I ever heard."
A. Wilbur B. Fern C. The old sheep
- "...the quickest way to spoil a friendship is to wake somebody up in the morning before he is ready."
A. Charlotte B. Wilbur C. the oldest sheep
- "Over and gone, over and gone. Summer is dying, dying."
A. Charlotte B. the cricket C. Avery



Answers: 1.B 2.C 3.B

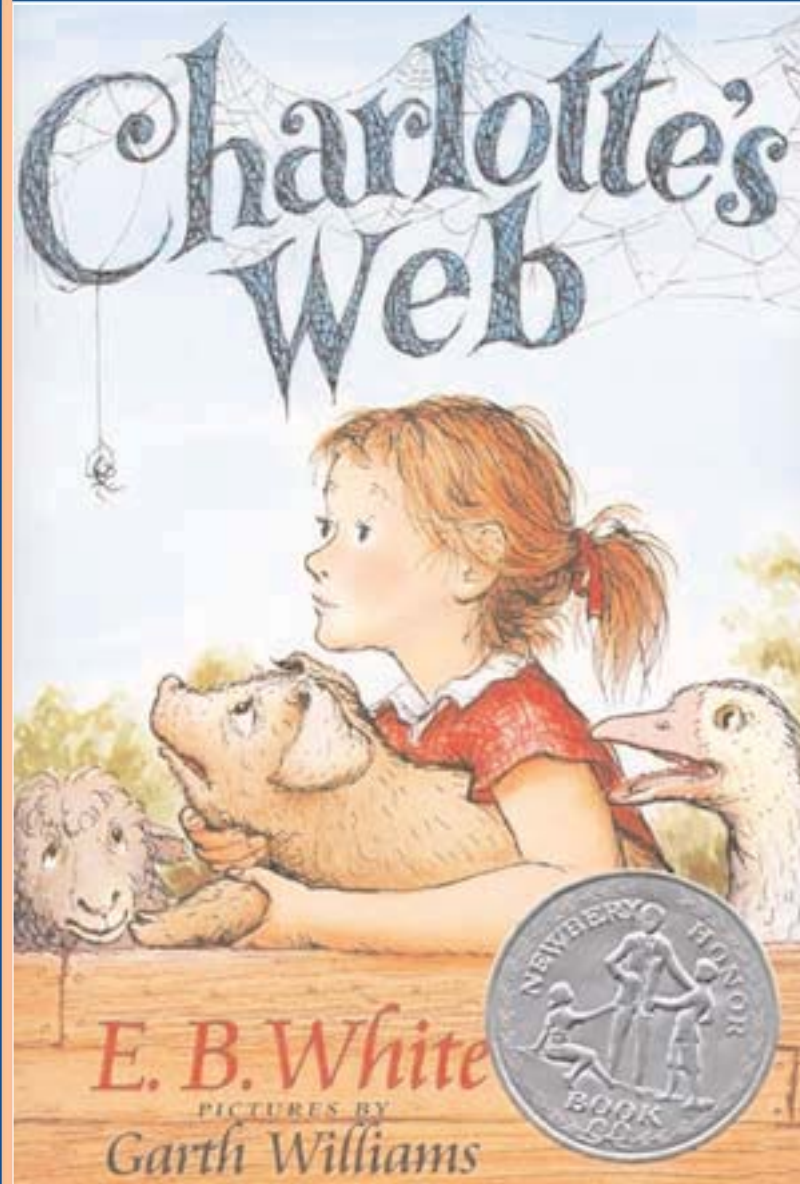


Ginger Head
Executive Director

Imagination Celebration Fort Worth is a non-profit arts education organization providing arts & cultural experiences for young people.

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Imagination Celebration Fort Worth

is pleased to present the Theatreworks' production of *Charlotte's Web* based on E.B. White's loving story of the friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a little gray spider named Charlotte. Wilbur has a problem: how to avoid winding up as pork chops! Charlotte, a fine writer and true friend, hits on a plan to fool Farmer Zuckerman -- she will create a "miracle." Spinning the words "Some Pig" in her web, Charlotte weaves a solution which not only makes Wilbur a prize pig, but

ensures his place on the farm forever. This treasured tale, featuring mad-cap and endearing farm animals, explores bravery, selfless love, and the true meaning of friendship.

What is the Greek word for spider and where does it come from?

Arachnid is the Greek word for spider. It comes from an old Greek legend. The Greek goddess Athena turned Arachnae's body into a spider after she lost a weaving competition.

Imagine Notes

contains:

What is the Greek word for spider and where does it come from?

E.B. White Biography

Where does an author get the idea for a story?

Is the story of *Charlotte's Web* true?

Seek and Find Puzzle

Be A Good Audience Member

Spider Basics

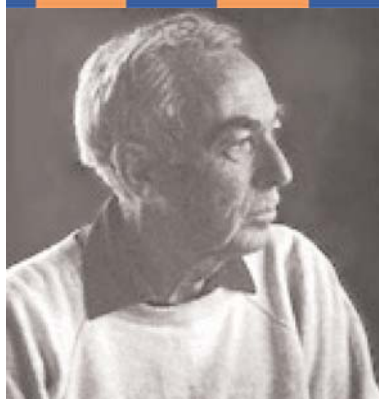
Test your Knowledge About Spiders

Character Map

Make Marshmallow Spiders

Test Your Math Skills with *Charlotte's Math Problems*

Who Said It



E.B. White was born in 1895 in New York and went to public schools there. When E. B. White was young, every child in his school had to give a speech or recite a poem. White worried about this assignment all year long. He was so embarrassed to speak in public that whenever he was asked to speak, he would write a speech and have someone else read it aloud. In 1938, he moved to the country. On his farm in Maine he kept animals, and some of these creatures got into his stories and books. Mr. White's nieces and nephews always asked him to tell them stories, so he began writing his own tales to read to them. In 1945 he started publishing these stories as books. All three are now considered classics of children's literature. He died in 1985.

Where does an author get the idea for a story?

E.B. White wrote: "For Charlotte's Web, I like animals and my barn is a very pleasant place to be, at all hours. One day when I was on my way to feed the pig, I began feeling sorry for the pig because, like most pigs, he was doomed to die. This made me sad. So I started thinking of ways to save a pig's life. I had been watching a big grey spider at her work and was impressed by how clever she was at weaving. Gradually I worked the spider into the story that you know, a story of friendship and salvation on a farm. Three years after I started writing it, it was published."

Is the story of Charlotte's Web true?

According to E. B. White: "No, the stories are imaginary tales, containing fantastic characters and events. In real life, a spider doesn't spin words in her web. But real life is only one kind of life-there is also the life of the imagination. And although my stories are imaginary, I like to think that there is some truth in them, too-truth about the way people and animals feel and think and act."

Be A Good Audience Member

In a theater, you are the audience. Being an audience member in a theater is different from watching movies and television. In a theater, the performers are in the same room with you. To do their best, performers need you to watch and listen closely. In a play such as Charlotte's Web, watch for scenery, props, costumes, and music. If you enjoy the play, clap at the end.

Seek and Find Puzzle

There are 10 words from the play hidden in this puzzle. Circle the words you find -- don't forget to look in all directions (including backwards!)

A	N	S	L	O	P	S	B
S	R	G	T	R	I	H	O
P	A	G	X	O	G	E	T
I	B	F	A	I	R	E	W
D	C	E	Z	N	W	P	W
E	R	J	M	U	D	T	T
R	U	N	T	Q	E	E	A
E	L	B	M	U	H	A	R



HINT: Words to look for are: spider, rat, pig, gander, runt, fair, humble, slops, sheep, barn.

Spider Basics

A spider is an araneae, an order of arachnid. There are many thousand different kinds of spiders. All spiders have eight legs. Most spiders have eight eyes but some have fewer than eight. They don't have ears, they feel the sound vibrations with tiny hairs on their legs. Their bodies have two parts, the head and the abdomen. The abdomen is plump. Spider blood is light blue. Blood fills up all the empty space in the spider's body, it helps to keep the legs stiff so the spider can walk. Spiders breathe, too. As spiders grow, they molt. That means they shed their old skin and grow a new one. They molt many times before they become adults. Many spiders live for only one year but some, like tarantulas can live much longer. Spiders come in different sizes. Some are fuzzy and others are smooth, and they come in many different colors. Spiders live in many different kinds of places, water, gardens, houses, and the ground. They live where it is hot and where it is cold. They live where it is wet and where it is dry. Some are poisonous and others are not. They all eat insects and some other animals.



Test your Knowledge About Spiders

Do all spiders spin webs?

No, some spiders live under ground or in the water like the fishing spiders or the water spider. The trap-door spider digs a tunnel and lines it with silk. The crab spider likes to hide on a flower.



How does a spider spin a web?

A spider spins a web with its spinnerets. The spinnerets are located at the end of the spider's abdomen.

What are the two basic kinds of spiders?

The wandering spiders walk along the ground to eat crawling insects. Web building spiders trap and eat flying insects.

Which spider is bigger, the male or the female?

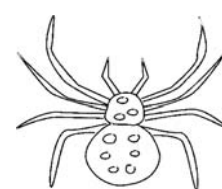
The female is bigger than the male. Sometimes the male is so much smaller, the female eats it!

What is the biggest spider in the world?

The biggest spider is the tarantula. It can be up to 10 inches wide when its legs are stretched out.

Do baby spiders need to be taught how spin a web?

No, baby spiders know how to spin a web from their instincts. That means they are born knowing how to spin a web.



Make Marshmallow Spiders

- You will need:
- 30 large marshmallows
 - large package of chocolate chips
 - 60 M & Ms
 - 5-oz bag red string licorice



Be sure to get adult help for this recipe!

- Cut the string licorice into eight 2 -inch pieces for each spider.
- Poke eight (4 on each side) pieces of licorice into the large marshmallow for legs.
- Melt the chocolate chips.
- Dribble a large spoonful of melted chocolate over the marshmallow.
- Add two M & Ms for eyes while the chocolate is still sticky.
- Set aside to cool.

(makes 30 spiders)