



Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County
Superintendent of Schools
Transforming lives through education



Wednesday, June 10
1:30pm

Curiosity Quest, "Spiders"
4th – 8th grades.

CURIOSITY QUEST is an upbeat family program that explores what you are curious about. In each episode, host Joel Greene, takes viewers on an unscripted hands-on exploration to answer letters of curiosity. CURIOSITY QUEST strives to provide entertaining and educational programming for the entire family to enjoy.

Did you know that spiders are found on every continent of the world except for Antarctica? Curiosity Quest host, Joel Greene visits the Natural History Museum to learn all about various types of spiders and even some venomous ones.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- How many spiders are dangerous to humans in the United States? What are their names?
- About how many spiders are there in the world? How many poisonous spiders are there in the world?
- What does the venom of a black widow spider do to a human? Explain in detail.
- Explain the difference between a black and brown widow.
- Explain what a spider does when its prey gets trapped in its web.
- How does a spider know if it is a predator or prey that has landed on its web?
- How do spiders spin a web? What body part allows them to do that?
- Describe the parts of a web.
- How large can some spider webs get?
- Spiders do not see well, what sense do they depend on? What spider is an exception to this rule? Tell how this spider is different from other spiders.
- What is the molt of a spider? Why do spiders molt? Describe the process. How often do spiders molt?
- What kind of spider is Hot Sauce? How does she defend herself?

Question Box 2

- How do you feel about spiders? Why do you feel that way? Why is that an innate feeling that most people have when thinking about or seeing a spider?
- If positive, what comes to mind specifically? Negative?
- What were some of the most interesting parts to this program? Explain.
- What were some of my most powerful learning moments and what made them so?

Continued on the next page...



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- What surprised you in the program, and why?
- What's the most important thing you learned from the TV show? Why do you think so?

Box 3 (Tasks)

- Draw a picture of a spider and label the parts.
- Why are spiders found in the Arctic, but not the Antarctic?

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Spiders are just one type of arachnid, describe other arachnids that live in our area.
- Spider silk is said to be stronger than steel. Reason with evidence a claim for or against the above statement.
- Explore the different kinds of spiders and create your own children's book about spiders for others to learn more. Illustrate your book too!
- Read or reread Charlotte's Web or any other book (fiction or nonfiction) about spiders.

Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)

- Write a letter of curiosity to Joel Greene. Have your parents proofread it.
- Review the Curiosity Quest website at this link: <https://curiosityquest.org/>
- With your parents' permission submit your letter of curiosity via the web page.
- Research and report on one of the most common spiders found around your home.