

Spider True or False - student worksheet

TRUE/FALSE about spider webs (tick the answer you think is correct)

1. There are almost four thousand species of spiders recorded in the world.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. The spider web is such a strong structure that it will last in a functional condition for at least a whole week.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. In order to produce webs, the spider must produce the protein fibroin in its body which takes a lot of energy. Therefore, spiders only rarely build a completely new web - when making a new web, they first eat the remnants of the old web, thus actually recycling the raw material for web production - the fibroin protein.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. If we were to wrap the Earth at the equator with a strand of spider web (about 40,000 kilometres), the strand would weigh only about 1 kg.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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5. A spider can make a very strong glue that it uses to stick the web to a branch or other surface. The web sticks to the surface so well that although the web is very strong, it is more likely to snap than to detach from the surface.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. The spider fibre is ten times stronger than the synthetic Kevlar fibre used to make bulletproof vests.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7. Spiders are also able to weave webs underwater.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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8. The fibres of spiders are used to make various clothing accessories - for example, gloves.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9. Spider webs are useful in medicine - as tissue substitutes in transplants or as a stitching thread in surgery.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10. Some spiders (the cross orb weaver, for example) can build their web in such a way that it resembles a flower to the insect.

True:	<input type="checkbox"/>	False:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Teacher worksheet

Correct answers for the teacher + additional info

- 1) False - more than forty thousand species of spiders have been described in the world, almost a thousand species in Slovakia.
- 2) False - spiders re-create webs every day on average, depending on how badly the web is damaged (whether by weather conditions or various other mechanical means of damage).
- 3) True
- 4) False - it would only weigh 0,5 kg
- 5) True
- 6) True
- 7) True – although this only applies to the only known aquatic spider, the diving bell spider (*Argyroneta Aquatica*)
- 8) True
- 9) True
- 10) True - The cross orb weaver (but also other species of spiders) can produce fibres that reflect ultraviolet radiation, which is invisible to humans but visible to insects. The web can resemble flowers to insects, thus attracting them. Ultraviolet radiation is also visible to birds, which in turn are able to avoid the spider's web and therefore avoid destroying it.