

## THE SPIDER'S HOUSE

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### PART 1: READ

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَوْلِيَاءَ كَمَثَلِ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ  
اتَّخَذَتْ بَيْتًا وَإِنَّ أَوْهَنَ الْبُيُوتِ لَبَيْتُ الْعَنْكَبُوتِ لَوْ  
كَانُوا يَعْلَمُونَ (العنكبوت)



29:41 (Y. Ali) The parable of those who take protectors other than Allah is that of the spider, who builds (to itself) a house; but truly the flimsiest of houses is the spider's house;- if they but knew.

### PART 2: LEARN

#### 1) Two Main Types of Spiders:

Orb web spiders, Tangle web (cobweb) spiders

#### 2) What functions does the web perform?

- Intercepting the prey (intersection);
- Absorbing its momentum without breaking (stopping);
- Trapping the prey by entangling it or sticking to it (retention).

#### 3) Do they decorate their webs?

Spiders often attach highly visible silk bands called decorations to their webs. The highly decorated bands capture more prey per hour.

#### 4) Female spiders build the web? What about the male spiders?

5) Cooked tarantula spiders are considered a delicacy in Cambodia

6) Scientists know more than 30,000 different types of spiders.

#### References:

- 1) Wikipedia, 2) [www.sedl.org/scimath/pasopartners/spiders/](http://www.sedl.org/scimath/pasopartners/spiders/) ,
- 3) Souza, D. M. Eight Legs. Carol Rhoda Books, Minneapolis, 1991.



### PART 3: THINK & CONNECT

- 1) The words written in green in the verse above (to itself) mean, in Arabic, (to herself). How did the Prophet know about the sex of the spider?
- 2) How does the spider weave her web so well without entering "weaving school"?
- 3) Can you think of a house more fragile than the "spider's house"? It offers no protection.

