

Charlotte's Web

Based on the story by E.B. White

Adapted by Joseph Robinette



ENRICHMENT GUIDE

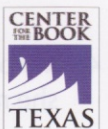


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Science: Parts of a Spider (Fill in the blanks)

Pedipalp: Are the two appendages on the front of a spider's head. Spiders use them to hold insects (like crickets) to eat.

Eyes: A spider has eight of these.

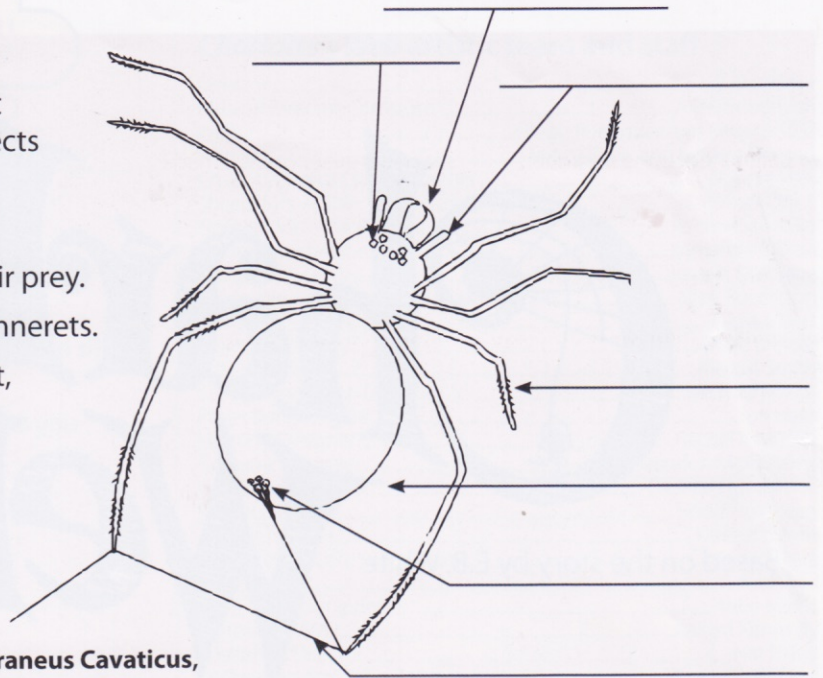
Fangs: Spiders use these to inject venom in their prey.

Silk: The web that comes out of the spider's spinnerets.

Abdomen: The abdomen holds the lungs, heart, and organs for laying eggs.

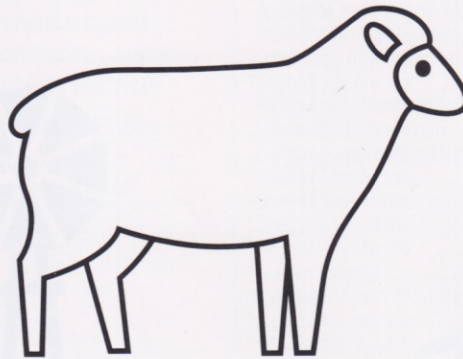
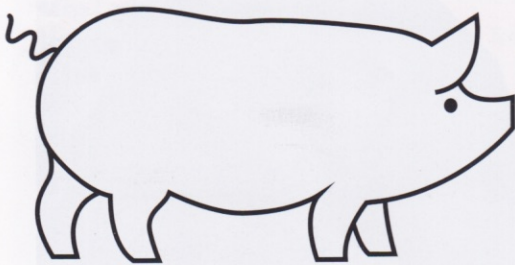
Hairs: These are on a spider's legs and pick up vibrations and smells from the air.

Spinnerets: The back of the spider that spins thread to make a web.



Did you know: Charlotte is based on a real spider: *Araneus Cavaticus*, a common barn spider. This is why she is named Charlotte A. Cavatica.

Color and spell: Color the farm animal and write its name below.



Language Arts: Which character am I? (Fill in the blanks with the names at the bottom of page.)

1. I have vocabulary that is oh so neat. "Salutations" is how I greet. **Who am I?**

2. I am a fluffy old creature and I am very wise like a teacher. **Who am I?**

3. I'm taking a pig to the fair, with hopes of him becoming famous everywhere. **Who am I?**

4. My brother tried to kill that spider but I saved her and she made things brighter. **Who am I?**

5. I don't do anything without a reward. It's always food, I never ignore. **Who am I?**

6. I can get jealous of my sister Fern, but my mom just says to wait my own turn. **Who am I?**

7. I'm new to this farm and just want a friend. I'll be radiant, terrific, and humble to the end. **Who am I?**

8. I always repeat, repeat, repeat my very last word. That is how I am usually heard. **Who am I?**

Templeton

Sheep

Charlotte

Wilbur

Avery

Goose

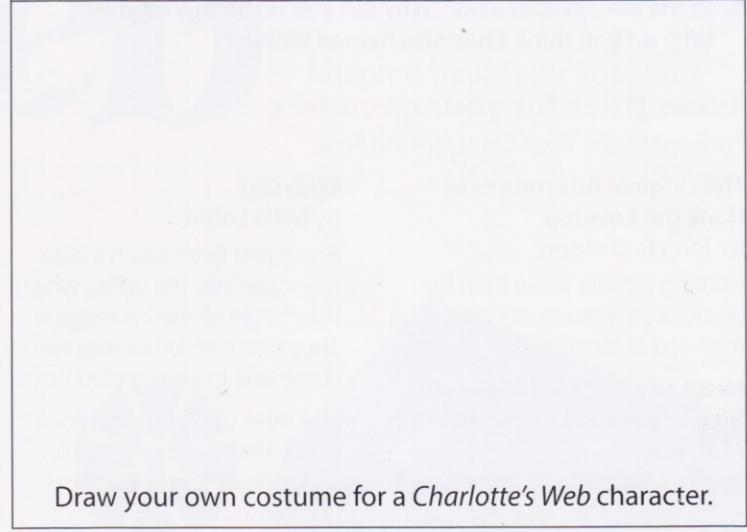
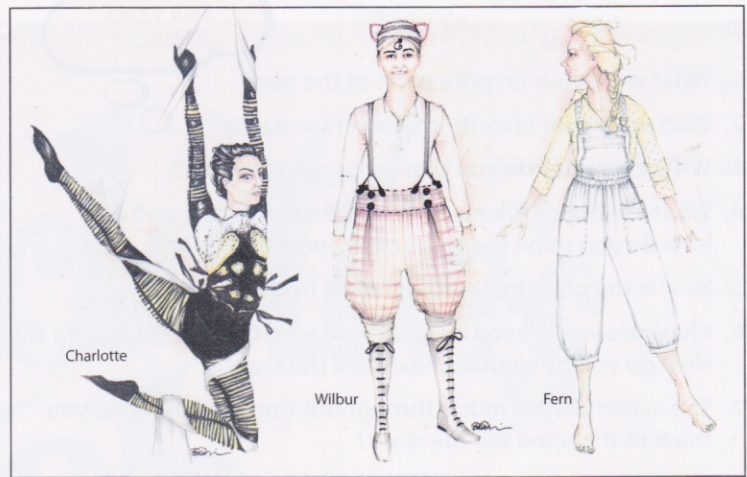
Fern

Homer

Fine Arts: Costume Design

"Creating believable characters is one of the greatest challenges of being a Costume Designer. In *Charlotte's Web*, character drove the development of the design. We spent a lot of time looking at farm animals, how they move, what features were prominent. Then, we used those features to create a theatrical design. For example, for Wilbur,

we looked at the round shape of a pig, and created a barrel shaped trouser (pants) made out of soft pink plaid flannel. This was then laid on top of fabrics and patterns that were very relaxed and neutral to create a warm, inviting, yet modern costume design."
Brandon McWilliams
 Costume Designer



Language Arts: Spin a word web

Injustice: Unfair, not right, not just.

Fern: "But that is unfair. The pig could not help being small. This is the most terrible case of injustice I have ever heard of."

Runt: An animal that is smaller compared to other animals in the litter.

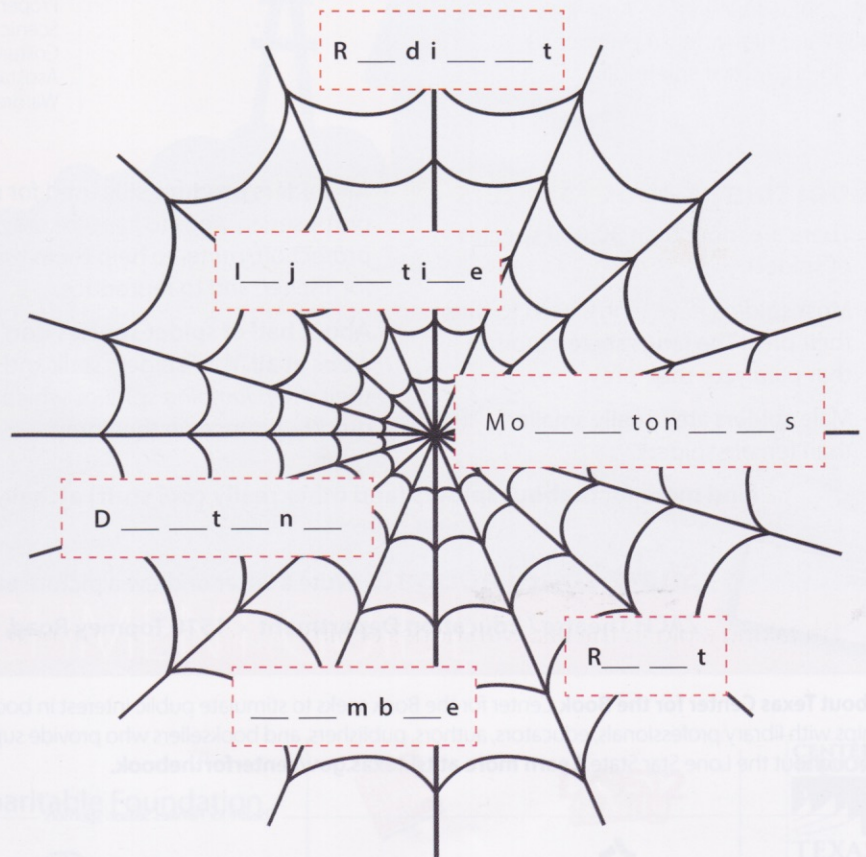
Arable: "If you are going to take care of him, you can start him on a bottle, like a baby. He's nothing but a little runt."

Radiant: Shining with light.
 (The third word Charlotte weaves on the web.)

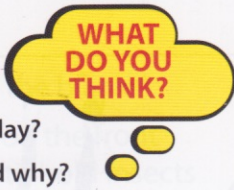
Humble: Not proud or arrogant; modest.
 (The fourth word in Charlotte's web.)

Destiny: Something that is going to happen or has happened to a person or thing; fortune.
 Sheep: "Wilbur's food is your food; therefore Wilbur's destiny is your destiny."

Monotonous: Lacking in variety.
 Narrator: "The crickets sang in the grasses. They sang the song of summer's ending, a sad monotonous song."



► If Charlotte made a web for you, what would you like it to say? _____



Processing questions

1. What were your favorite parts of the play?
2. Who were your favorite characters and why?
3. What character do you think changes the most?
4. What are the problems that happen in the play and how do you think the characters overcame them?
5. How is the play the same/different from the book?
6. Charlotte was played by an actress who does aerial arts on silks. How do you think that helped tell the story?
7. The actors played music throughout the show. How do you think that helped tell the story?
8. In the play, Wilbur asks, "Why did you do all this for me?" Why do you think Charlotte helped Wilbur?

Texas titles for young readers

Provided by the Texas Center for the Book

The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog

By John R. Erickson

Nothing is more Texan than the hilarious adventures of Hank, the head of ranch security.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America

By Kathi Appelt

As First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson brought wildflowers to America's cities and highways so every child could enjoy their splendor.

Wish Girl

By Nikki Loftin

Annie and Peter hatch a plan to escape into the valley, which they begin to think is magical. They discover sometimes wishes come true in unexpected ways.

The Texas Center for the Book chose *Wish Girl* for the 2016 "Great Read" for the National Book Festival.

Charlotte's Web artistic team and staff

Director	Nat Miller
Musical Director, Composer	Allen Robertson
Wilbur	Diego Rodriguez and Riley McCue
Fern	Mercy Bovik and Mariela Denson
Charlotte, Aerial Choreographer	Winnie Hsia
Sheep, Mrs. Arable, Fair President	Amber Quick
Homer, Uncle the Pig	Jerome Schoolar
Goose, Spectator	Amanda Clifton
Templeton, Lurvy	Joseph Quintana
Mr. Arable, Gander, Avery, Reporter, Spec	Allen Robertson
Female Understudy	Lydia Myers
Male Understudy	Chase Brewer
Stage Manager	Megan Smith
Set Designer, Prop Designer	Michael Krauss
Projection Designer	Jon Haas
Lighting Designer	Rachel Atkinson
Costume Designer	Brandon McWilliams
Wardrobe Crew	Desiree Humphries
Sound Designer	Rodd Simonsen
Audio Engineer	Kellie Baldwin
Audio Technician, Swing Mixer	Corinne Mears
Audio Intern	A.J. Silva
Fight Choreographer	Toby Minor
Rehearsal ASM	Kaitlyn Kennedy
Education Director	Nat Miller
Performing Arts School Manager	Chad Dike
Pre-Professional Manager	Jen Young Mahlstedt
Education Associate, Acting Coach	Kate Shaw-Nappi
Education Assistant	Shannon Fox
Director of Production	Paul Flint
Assistant Production Manager	Lesley Fairman
Production Coordinator	T. Scott Wooten
Company Manager and Casting Assistant	Austin Collins
Technical Director	Michael Essad
Assistant Technical Director	Austin Manning
Scene Shop Foreman	Tom Lucenti
Lighting and Stage Operations Supervisor	Melissa Baglio
Master Electrician	Nick Swanson
Stage Crew Chief	Taylor Novak
Audio Supervisor	Craig Brock
Properties Master	Steve Baglio
Scenic Charge	J. Aaron Bell
Costume Shop Manager	Blair Hurry
Assistant Costume Shop Manager	Brandy Lee Harris
Wardrobe Supervisor	Christina Montgomery

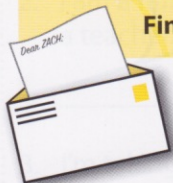
Cool things about spiders

- There are more than 30,000 species of spiders.
- Most spiders have fangs, used to bite their prey. The fangs secrete poison that paralyzes their prey.
- Male spiders are usually smaller than female spiders.

- All spiders produce silk, used for many purposes: in webs to capture prey, to protect offspring, to help them travel, for shelter, and to reproduce.
- About half of spider species don't spin webs at all. *Wolf* spiders stalk and catch their prey. *Jumping* spiders, which move quickly, pounce on their prey!

- When a spider's web gets dirty or torn some spiders roll it up and eat it.
- Daddy Long Legs are cool spiders, right? Wrong! **Daddy Long Legs are NOT spiders**, or even insects at all. They are part of the Arachnid family but in a different class. They have three body sections, not two like spiders.

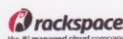
Find more facts about spiders (and other really cool stuff) at: easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-spiders



Share Your Thoughts Write a letter or draw a picture to describe your favorite part of the play and mail to:
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