

I'm Trying to Love Spiders

By Bethany Barton

Spiders are fascinating creatures we should all learn more about.
Ahh! It's a spider! Quick. Get it. Squish it. SMASH IT!

Audience:

- PK-3

Synopsis:

This amazing nonfiction picture book gives young readers some great first facts about spiders while entertaining them with a silly mantra. The narrator hates spiders but is trying to overcome her arachnophobia by learning more about them. The only problem is that every time she encounters a spider she can't help but smash it. Hence the repetitive sentence "Ahhh! It's a spider. Quick. Squish it. Smash it!" Students will laugh as they read this hilarious story filled with spider facts.

Author Website:

- <http://www.bethanybarton.com/>

Curricular Connections:

- Reading & Comprehending Informational Text
 - Recognizing & defining content vocabulary
- Text Features
 - Diagrams
 - Labels
- Writing informational text
- Spiders & Insects

Lesson Ideas:

- Read the text aloud and analyze the text features and the vocabulary.
- Have students tell how the text features contribute to the meaning of the text.
- Have students define the new vocabulary that the author wants you to learn.
- Have students write new words from the text, define them, and illustrate them.
- Have students create their own nonfiction text using the text features from the book.
- Have students write their own sentence about something they hate and draw a picture of it using the hand template on this disc.
- Have students classify spiders and non-spiders using the handout in this disc.

Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA.Literacy.CCRA.R.1
Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Online Resources:

- Watch this fun video of the Australian Peacock Spider:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_yYC5r8xMI

Suggested Companion Titles:

- *I Don't Like Snakes* by Nicola Davies
- *Spiders* by Gail Gibbons
- *The Itsy Bitsy Spider* nursery rhyme
- Mother Goose rhyme *Little Miss Muffet*