

Up, Up, and Away

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Life Cycle, Food Chain, Survival

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: It's springtime, and hundreds of baby spiders have hatched and are ready to explore their new world. Will they be able to survive and find a home of their very own?

Author:

Ginger Wadsworth

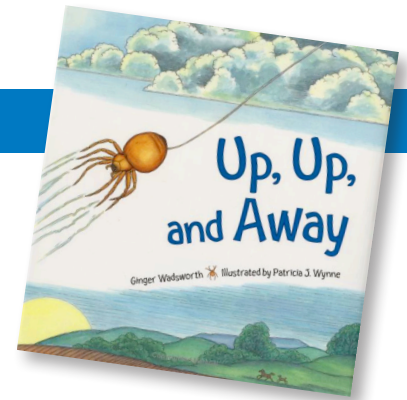
Illustrator:

Patricia J. Wynne

Content

Connections:

Science, Social Studies



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have the students predict what the book is about based on the

cover illustration and title. What kind of creature is on the cover?

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk through the book. What do students notice about the spiders? How many are there? How big are they? Where are they?

Prior Knowledge: Ask your students if they've ever seen a spider before. Where was it? Was it in its web? Make a concept map on the board to determine what students already know about spiders.

Vocabulary: spiderling, dragline, air current, arachnids

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, pay attention to the spider's life cycle. What happens to the spider from the time it's born until the time it dies?"

WHILE WE READ

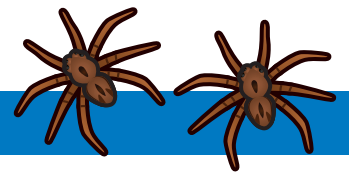


MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ Why does the mother spider wrap her eggs in silk?
- ◆ Why do you think the spiderlings wait until spring to come out of their sac?

- ◆ Why do animals try to eat the spiders?

Read the story once for comprehension, then read through again to revisit difficult vocabulary.



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Ask students to explain the life cycle of a spider using examples from the book. Make a flowchart on the board to display the information as you talk.

Extending Our Thinking: Does every living creature have a life cycle? What about a flower? A person? Ask students to think about different kinds of life cycles. What plants or animals change the most during their lives? Which changes more: a person or a caterpillar? Discuss.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



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