

Make a Friendly Spring Spider for your Window

What is that little creature hiding in the corner of your living room? Could it be? Yes, it is a spider! But before you panic and run for the rolled up newspaper, take some time to consider that spiders are an important part of the ecosystem in the Grand River watershed. And they are cool, too!

What would our world be like without spiders wandering about on eight hairy legs in our houses and gardens or hiding under logs? Well, there would be many more bugs to bug us. World wide, spiders eat 400-800 million tons of insects and other invertebrates every year. As well, roughly 10,000 different species of creatures depend on spiders for food.

In addition to their pest control skills, spiders can also spin silk. Liquid silk is released from the spinnerets, and hardens immediately into a strong thread that can be used to capture prey, build a shelter or even float through the air.

Visit [this resource about spiders in Ontario](#) to find out more about spiders you might find in your neighbourhood.

Share your new appreciation with friends and neighbours by making a friendly Spring Spider to hang in your window, just like the one here. Once you are finished, go for a spider hunt in your house or yard and say thanks to those hairy bug-eating machines!

