

# Opening the Gift

Itsy Bitsy Friends

October 2018

**I Love Bugs!** by Emma Dodd  
**Step Gently Out** by Helen Frost  
**The Very Busy Spider** by Eric Carle  
**The Itsy Bitsy Spider** by Iza Trapani  
**Spin, Spider, Spin!** by Dana Meachen Rau  
**A House Spider's Life** by John Himmelman  
**The Eensy-Weensy Spider** by Mary Ann Hoberman  
**The Eensy Weensy Spider Freaks Out! (Big Time!)** by Troy Cummings



## Nursery Rhyme: Little Miss Muffet Songs & Fingerplays to Share

CD: "My Ups and Downs" from *Do Re Mi* by Jim Gill



### The Spider Spins a Web

(tune: *The Farmer in the Dell*)

The spider spins a web,  
The spider spins a web.  
Round, round, up and down,  
The spider spins a web.

She spins it in and out,  
She spins it in and out.  
Round, round, up and down,  
She spins it in and out.

She spins it back and forth,  
She spins it back and forth.  
Round, round, up and down,  
She spins it back and forth.

She spins it good and strong,  
She spins it good and strong.  
Round, round, up and down,  
She spins it good and strong.



### Five Little Spiders

Five little spiders crawling all around.  
The first one said,  
"See the bug I found?"  
The second one said,  
"My web is really neat."  
The third one said,  
"I have eight feet."  
The fourth one said,  
"We're all so small."  
The fifth one said,  
"Time for autumn leaves to fall."  
Then whoosh went the wind  
and out went the light  
And the five little spiders crawled out of sight!

[www.littlegiraffes.com](http://www.littlegiraffes.com)



### Crawl Like a Spider

(tune: *Ten Little Indians*)

Crawl, crawl, crawl like a spider.  
Crawl, crawl, crawl like a spider.  
Crawl, crawl, crawl like a spider.  
Crawl around your web.

Repeat, replacing the action word with:  
jump...run...creep...sneak...pounce



### The Itsy Bitsy Spider, continued

The itsy bitsy spider  
Went up the water spout.  
Down came the rain  
And washed the spider out.  
Out came the sun  
And dried up all the rain.  
And the itsy bitsy spider  
Went up the spout again.



Continue with:

The BIG GIANT spider (*clap hands, loud voice*)...  
The little baby spider (*rock arms, baby voice*)...  
The very sleepy spider (*yawn, sleepy voice*)...  
The very sad spider (*rub eyes, sad voice*)...  
The very angry spider (*stomp feet, mad voice*)...  
The very happy spider (*touch dimples, giggle*)...

[kinderhive.net](http://kinderhive.net)

**Your next visit will be: November**  
**Next month's theme will be: "Out In the Cornfield"**

# More Books to Share:

**Each Living Thing** by Joanne Ryder

**A Spiderling Grows Up** by Pam Zollman

**Bug Off! Creepy, Crawly Poems** by Jane Yolen

**Frank the Seven-Legged Spider** by Michael Razi

**It's a Good Thing There are Spiders** by Lisa M. Herrington

**Be Nice To Spiders** by Margaret Bloy Graham

**Bugs From Head to Tail** by Stacey Roderick

**Sophie's Masterpiece** by Eileen Spinelli

**Bears Scare** by Jacob Grant



## Activity Ideas:

**Oreo Spiders:** Provide each child with one Oreo cookie (any color filling), four pretzel sticks, plus M&M's, jelly beans, or red hot candies. Have frosting or peanut butter available for "glue". Instruct children to break each pretzel stick in half, to make eight spider "legs", then insert them into the Oreo frosting center, four on each side (they may need a little extra frosting to hold them in place). Then have them use frosting or peanut butter to adhere the candy eyes on top of the cookie... how many eyes does a spider have?

**Marble Paint Spider Webs:** Cut out a black circle the size of the bottom of an aluminum pie pan. Dip marbles in white paint and roll them around inside the pan. When dry, add a spider (a sticker, or a stamp).

**Spider Web Fine Motor Activity:** Supplies: White yarn, spider rings, a basket with holes on the sides, clothespins. String the yarn back and forth through the holes on the basket. Go in all different directions so that it looks like a spider web. Add the spider rings to the bottom of the basket. Demonstrate using the clothespin to pick up a spider and carefully remove it from the web. Encourage the children to try!

for photos of this and other super spider activities, visit: [funlearningforkids.com](http://funlearningforkids.com)



## Book of the Month:

**The Biting Solution** by Lisa Poelle, M.A.

PTC 649.1 P



Biting is perhaps the single worst atrocity of toddlerhood. It brings out primal defense mechanisms in the parents of the victim and horrific shame and sadness in the perp's family. However, it is a relatively common occurrence that receives little more than a nod in most parenting books. Poelle has a wealth of professional early childhood education experience that she brings to this topic, and here she gives parents and educators a step-by-step look at the biting tendency: what is normal child development, why some children bite, case studies of biters, and forms and worksheets for progressing through the problem. From identifying triggers to recognizing the impact of delayed language skills to working with both sets of parents, Poelle provides a wealth of practical, informative advice covering everything from developing empathy to soothing a hurt and frustrated child. *Library Journal Reviews*



## Road to Reading Tip:

Storytelling helps preschoolers learn new words and get ready to become readers and writers. To further this learning at home, invite your child to tell stories to you and other family members. Here are some suggestions:  
**Share what happened while on an errand.** Any daily event can become a story, if a child wants to tell it. A trip to the supermarket can become a quest to find the tortillas. After she tells this story, join in by becoming one of the characters. The tortillas are in aisle 10. Do you want corn or flour tortillas today?

**Plan for and describe important events.** Meeting new neighbors or going to the dentist can be great topics for a story. After explaining what might happen, invite your child to turn it into a story. Later he can revise the story to include what actually happened. "The dentist put a paper bib around my neck." A story can help your child know what to expect and recall how brave he was.

**"Publish" the story.** Write down your child's story and offer crayons so she can illustrate it. Email a scanned copy to friends and family. Provide simple props so you can act out the story together. Have a different family member record a video on a smartphone. Send it to other relatives so they can enjoy it too.

[naeyc.org](http://naeyc.org)



**Harford County  
Public Library**

**Questions or Suggestions?** Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 6351  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8am)  
or call the Opening the Gift cell phone, 443-608-9881  
email: [chase@hcplonline.org](mailto:chase@hcplonline.org)

"like" Opening the Gift on facebook!

