

Tiny Tot Preschool and Kindergarten- Skokie

Junior Kindergarten Room

Teacher: Eva T-Popov

Project: Spiders Everywhere

Start Time: September 3, 2012

Culmination Time: October 19, 2012

The topic of our in-depth investigation of spiders came spontaneously while playing outside. The children dove into the project right away, by investigating every single spider web they encountered in the park nearby, or in our playground; by taking pictures of all spiders and spider webs they spotted. We made our learning process even more interesting and relevant to us, by borrowing the Insect and Spider Trunk- a large supply container provided by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. We studied spider legs under the microscope, created spider drawings and sculptures, and read many books about spiders. We went on a field trip to the Spider Island” in Chicago Botanic Garden and had the opportunity to learn observational drawing techniques. During the third phase of the project work, the children pretended to be researchers who would work in a “Spider Museum and Factory”, and organized field trips to their laboratory, so other children could learn more about the spiders. The project managed to involve our parents too, to the point that they would come to school carrying spiders for us to compare and research in our “Laboratory”.