

National Geographic Kids Reader: Spiders

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book, talk about spiders, recalling any experiences with them. Ask your child to suggest what the world's largest or deadliest spider might be called. Look at the front cover and talk about what you can see in the picture, challenging them to identify some of the spider's body parts.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
 - Read the book together, finding out about different spiders and how they live and reproduce.
 - Help children with any unfamiliar words. Encourage them to use phonics, existing word knowledge and the pictures to try to work the word out. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
 - Read the different spider names together on pages 20–23 and see if your child's predictions about the largest or most deadly spider were right: *Bolas spider*, *Goliath birdeater tarantula*, *Black Widow*, *Brazilian wandering spider*, *Jumping spider*, *Darwin's bark spider*, *Wolf spider*.
 - Encourage your child to look carefully at the pictures and labels and to talk about what they can see.
 - Have fun reading the jokes together.
 - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle tricky words.
- Discuss how spiders use their fangs and how they eat their food.

Pronunciation guide: Bolas (*Boh-las*)