

Types of spiders

There are at least 40,000 species, or types, of spiders. They vary a lot in size and appearance.

Among the smallest species are money spiders, which are less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. The giant spiders are the tarantulas.

These spiders have bodies up to 5 inches long! Although they look very scary, not all of them are poisonous.



The body and legs of a tarantula are covered in hairs.

spider

The largest spider in the world is the Goliath bird eater spider. It can be as much as 12 inches across when its legs are stretched out!

fact

Jumping spiders

One of the largest groups of spiders is the jumping spiders. These jump to catch their **prey** and to escape **predators**.

There are also groups called wolf and huntsman spiders that do not make webs.

Other groups include orb web spiders, such as the house spider, that weave a circular web of silk. Some orb web spiders have brightly colored, spiky **abdomens** to deter predators.

Jumping spiders lie in wait and then leap onto their prey.



Huntsman spiders run after their prey on their long legs.

