


Summer Reading Activities



	First Grade – Activity #9
Title	Fact Books
Parent Information	<p>Children love to learn interesting facts about a variety of topics. Animals, plants, rocks, dinosaurs, sports, jobs, and places are just a few ideas. When children can choose topics based on personal interest, it can increase motivation for reading and writing. Talk with your child about their interests and select non-fiction texts that will support their curiosity and learning.</p> <p>Helping our children recognize the difference between fact and opinion encourages critical thinking skills. Facts are true pieces of information that can be proven, while an opinion is how a person thinks or feels about a topic. Non-fiction text supports our thinking around both facts and opinions.</p> <p>Fact: Spiders are arachnids with eight legs. Opinion: I think spiders are... (interesting, scary, cool, etc.).</p>
Objective	Learn and write about topics of interest
Time	15 –20 minutes
Materials	Non-fiction texts, paper, pencils, crayons, or colored pencils
Procedures	<p>Identify a topic of interest with your child. Ask some guiding questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think you know about <i>spiders</i>? • What do you want to learn about <i>spiders</i>? <p>Gather a few non-fiction texts on the topic to read with your child. As you read, highlight various text features that are often included in non-fiction such as bold headings, photographs and captions, labels and/or diagrams, etc.</p> <p>Talk with your child about the information in the text and ask some follow up questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What new information did you learn about <i>spiders</i>? • Did your thinking change about what you thought you knew about <i>spiders</i>? • What do you notice or still wonder about <i>spiders</i>? <p>Encourage your child to record some of the interesting facts they learned about the topic. Have your child draw and write what they learned using the text as a reference.</p>

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	<p>Students could also make their own book on the topic. Fold a piece of paper into four sections or create a small book with stapled pages. Encourage them to add text features or digital images to add to their writing. Your child could also include a cover, title, and/or table of contents for their book.</p> <div data-bbox="462 472 764 693"><p>4.75 in. long</p><p>The largest spider is the Goliath tarantula.</p></div>
Additional Resources and Information	<p><u>Visit EPS Student Tools:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Britannica School</u>• <u>Discovery Education</u> <p>Visit your local library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Sno-Isle Libraries</u>• <u>Everett Public Library</u> <p>Visit National Geographic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>National Geographic Kids</u>• <u>Weird but True!</u> <p>Visit Reading Rockets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Nonfiction</u>• <u>How to Read Nonfiction Text</u>