

How to make... a Pompom Spider

Suitable for ages 4 - 6 with adult help
or ages 7 - 11 independent working

You will need:

- Black wool
- Cardboard
- Black paper or pipe cleaners
- Googly eyes or plain paper and a black pen
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue
- String (optional)

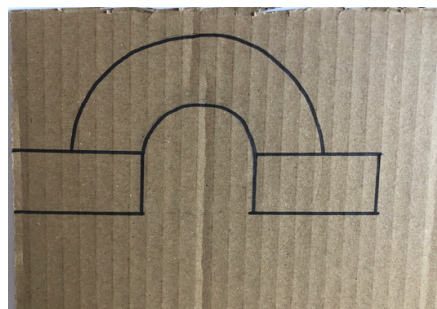


If you enjoyed Amanda Wright's reading of *Anansi and the Sky God*, why not make your own mischievous spider? The activity sheet includes a template.

Instructions

Step 1:

Draw out a rainbow shape onto cardboard. Add two little rectangles at the ends for tabs, or use our template.



Step 2:

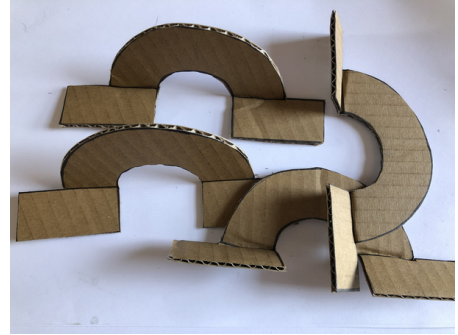
Cut out your shape. Then use this as a template to draw and cut out three more rainbow shapes, so that you have four altogether. Or use our template.



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Step 3:

Fold those rectangular shaped tabs out.



Step 4:

Place two of your shapes back to back with the tabs facing outwards. Then tape the ends of tabs together to form an arch, like in the picture. Do the same for the other pair.



Step 5:

Take one of these cardboard arches and tie on the end of your wool, you can leave the other end attached to the ball.



Step 6:

Wrap your wool around the cardboard arch.



Step 7:

Keep wrapping the wool round, going backwards and forwards round the arch. Once you have a good thick bundle around the cardboard cut off the wool and tie off the end.



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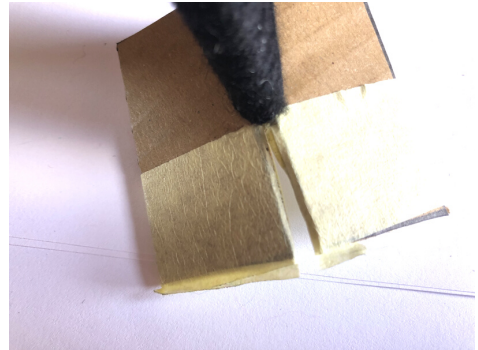
Step 8:

Do the same for the other one.



Step 9:

Cut or remove the tape holding the tabs together (the wool will hold everything together).



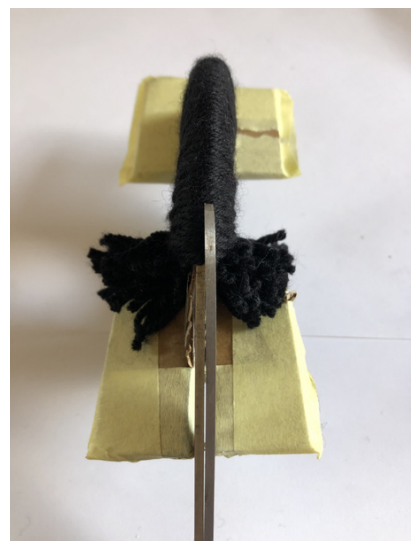
Step 10:

Sandwich the tabs together so that you create a ring of wool and tape down the sides of the tabs. This should connect the tabs top to bottom, rather than from side to side.



Step 11:

Push a pair of scissors in between the two pieces of cardboard and start cutting the wool at the edge of the ring. Cut slowly and carefully keeping all the cut wool in the middle of the ring.



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Step 12:

Take a length of wool and insert it between the two pieces of cardboard and pull tight. Wrap it around a couple of times and tie in a really tight knot.



Step 13:

Cut away the cardboard.



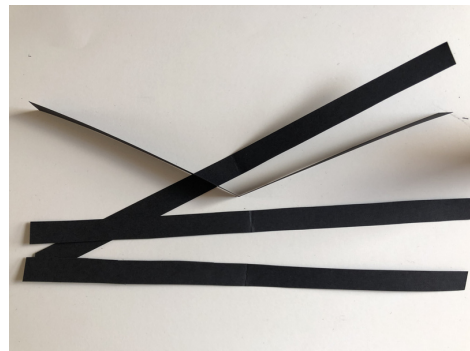
Step 14:

Give your pom-pom a little rub between your palms to encourage it into the right shape. Trim away any uneven little bits of wool.



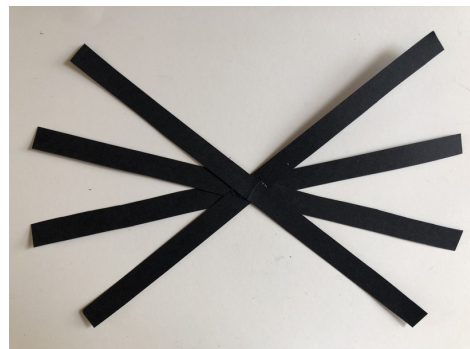
Step 15:

Cut some strips of black paper and either fold or mark the half way point.



Step 16:

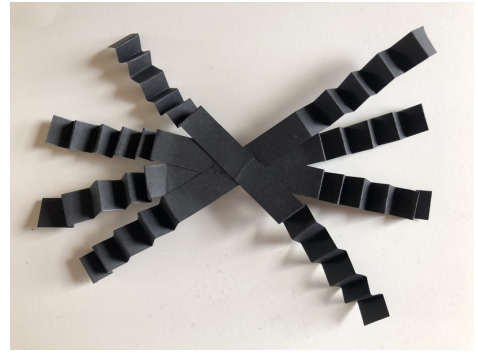
Glue the strips together in the middle so that they fan out to form the 8 legs, like in the picture.



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Step 17:

Leave a gap of about 5cm from the centre and then start folding the legs up, back and forth in an accordion fold.



Step 18:

Glue the pompom into place on the legs.



Step 19:

Use the ends of the piece of wool tying the pompom together to help secure the pompom to the legs.



Step 21:

Give your spider a tight squeeze from the bottom to help the legs into the right place.



Finishing Touches:

You could tie or tape a length of string to the base to control your spider.

Glue on some googly eyes or draw some eyes out onto plain paper, cut out and stick them on.

You could use pipe cleaners instead of black paper for legs. Wrap them around the pompom and give them a twist to hold them in place.



Template:

