



Name: _____

The Eight-Legged Helper

With eight busy legs, and eyes that can see,
A spider is clever as clever can be.
It spins out a thread, so silky and fine,
To build a sticky, tricky design.

Its web is a net, a trap for its prey,
To catch buzzing mosquitoes that get in the way.
It eats gnats and some flies, a helpful great deed,
It rids us of pests, the ones that we need!

So if you see a web, glistening with dew,
Remember the good that a spider can do.
It's not there to scare you, or give you a fright,
It's just a small helper, working all night!



Spider web glistening with dew.

1. Read these lines from the poem: "Its web is a net, a trap for its prey, / To catch buzzing mosquitoes that get in the way." What does the word "prey" mean?

- a) A spider's home
- b) A spider's friend
- c) An animal that is hunted for food
- d) A type of insect

2. How does the poet want you to feel about spiders at the end of the poem? Use one detail from the poem to support your answer.

3. What is the main message of this poem?

- a) Spiders are scary and should be avoided.
- b) Spiders are helpful creatures that eat pests.
- c) Spinners build the most beautiful webs.
- d) Mosquitoes are the most annoying insects.