



JUMPING SPIDER CHALLENGE

For this challenge, you will need to work in pairs. Find a friend, sibling, parent, or teacher to help you complete this challenge.

Jumping spiders are named for their incredible jumping abilities. They jump for three main reasons. Jumping spiders jump to...

1. Move around
2. Avoid predators
3. Hunt

For this challenge, you will pretend to be a jumping spider. Set up the room as a pretend garden. Place 5 pillows, folded blankets, or something similar on the floor to represent leaves and flowers. You will be jumping between them, so don't put them too far apart.

Act out these three scenes. Answer the follow-up questions after each scene.

SCENE #1: MOVING AROUND

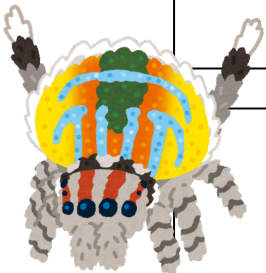
You and your partner will both be jumping spiders. You are moving around the garden. Select a leaf as your destination, then strategically jump to reach it.

SCENE #2: AVOIDING A PREDATOR

Select one person to be the jumping spider. The other person will be the predator. The predator will be perched on a leaf searching for food. You must jump to get past them before they see you and catch you. Then swap places.

SCENE #3: HUNTING

Select one person to be the jumping spider. The other person will be prey. The prey will be perched on a leaf. You must sneak your way over to get close enough to the prey so you can catch it. Then swap places.



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Answer the questions below for each scene.

SCENE #1: MOVING AROUND

What traits help you jump between leaves?

Was there anything that limited your ability to move around?

Why were you moving around? Were you looking for something?

How did you know where to jump?

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Answer the questions below for each scene.

SCENE #2: AVOIDING A PREDATOR

Describe how you moved while avoiding a nearby predator.

Give 3 examples of animals that eat jumping spiders.

How does jumping help jumping spiders avoid predators?

Do jumping spiders have/do anything else to avoid predators?

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Answer the questions below for each scene.

SCENE #3: HUNTING

Describe how you moved while trying to ambush prey.

Give 3 examples of animals that jumping spiders prey on.

How does jumping help jumping spiders catch prey?

Do jumping spiders have/do anything else to catch or kill prey?