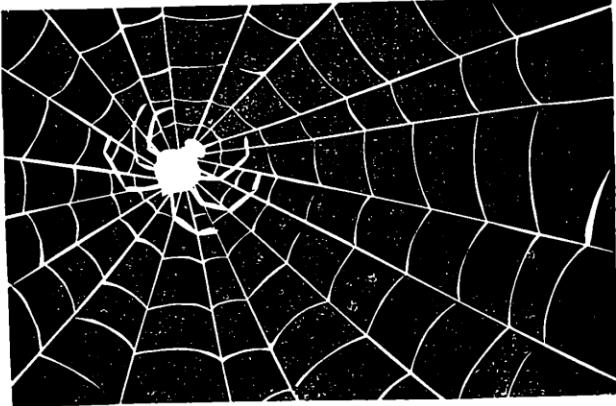


CURIOUS THINGS AROUND US

This page is devoted to the Study of Interesting Insects, Plants, Animals, and Fishes

COMMON SPIDER



With a sweep of the broom, your mother tears down a spider web. After a few hours, another web is in the same place made by the same spider. You can sweep it away as many times as you want to, but the owner will patiently start building another without grudge or fear.

Have you looked closely at a spider web? A spider's house is in reality a trap. A mosquito or a fly that steps into a web cannot get out anymore. The spider has little containers of poison in its mouth. It poisons the fly caught in its web. The poison keeps the fly from struggling. It is then easy for the spider to eat the fly.

Is the spider our friend? Give reasons for your answer.

Have you watched closely how a spider builds its house? It is the most wonderful carpenter you know. Its house is not made of bamboo or wood but of silk. This silk is kept in the spider's body. While still in the body, this silk thread is in the form of a sticky fluid. It is very interesting to watch how a spider weaves its web. Next time you see a spider, wait and see how it builds its house.

LITTLE PICK-UPS

by g. b.



BEAKED CHAETODONT

The beaked chaetodont is a native of the South Seas. People call it a fish with a gun. It has a long nozzle which it uses in shooting land insects with drops of water. When the insect is hit it drops into the water and the chaetodont collects it for dinner.



BARREL CACTUS

The barrel cactus grows in Arizona, U. S. A. They are regarded most of the time as the camel of the plant world. They are shaped like kegs or barrels. They soak enough water from the rain to last for months or years—saving for the rainless days.