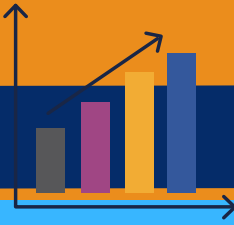


Spiders



Venomous spiders are much more prominent in biodiversity-rich areas like **Australia**.

Many spiders can be researched and studied to develop antivenoms, such as the **widow, recluse, and hobo spiders!**



STATISTICS

On average, the poison control center in **Australia** receives almost **5,000 calls each year** regarding supposed **spider bites**. However, often times, it is not caused by a spider, or the effects are extremely mild. Only a fraction of these calls actually require an anti-venom.



HISTORY

Spiders have held a **continuous reputation of being scary and dangerous**, however there are only a select few species that can seriously injure humans. Some examples are the **whitetail, huntsmen, and redback spiders**, and these are not common everywhere in the world.



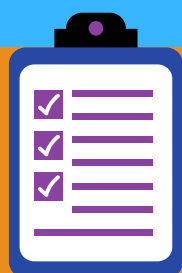
THREATS

Some of the biggest threats to spiders are **humans** and human **development**. Most spiders **do not attack unless provoked or disturbed**, which happens especially in tourist locations like **Australia**. Subsequently, if a spider attacks, it will likely be killed as a result.



RECOVERY PLAN

In order to protect spiders and help alleviate the stigma surrounding them, it is essential to **educate the public** on which spiders are in fact dangerous. Misinformation feeds into arachnophobia and even entomophobia, resulting in **decreased spider populations**. The key is to start young so that we may break the cycle of generations worth of misinformation.



SIGNIFICANCE

Spiders are beneficial to humans in many ways. For example, some spiders can be used to create anti-venom. They also eat pesky insects, like mosquitoes and flies. Spider silk and adaptations from it are used in some cultures. Other cultures eat spiders. Lastly, many people like to keep spiders as **pets!**



Education is key in protecting our spider friends!