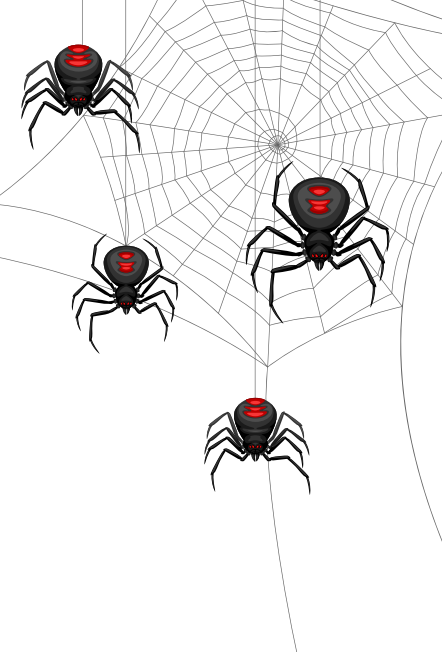




# Arthropods: Arachnids!



## **Anatomy of the Female Western Widow**

*Latrodectus hesperus*



### Legs:

Four pairs of legs each  
tipped with little hairs, each  
leg has 7 segments

Chelicerae:  
jaws with fangs that  
inject venom

Pedipalps:  
Used to taste and  
smell

Abdomen:  
Contains reproductive  
organs, digestive organs,  
heart and silk glands

Cephalothorax:  
Eyes, head, mouthparts,  
and legs

Red hourglass marking:  
Warning to alert predators  
that she is toxic

Spinnerets:  
Used in silk production for  
making a web and  
catching prey

### **Fun Facts:**

- The name "black widow" comes from the female's behavior of eating the male after mating.
- Black widow venom is thought to be 15 times stronger than rattlesnake venom.
- Black Widows only bite if disturbed.
- The male is less than half the size of the female.
- Males live for 1-2 months, where females can live up to 3 years.



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## **Anatomy of the Female Western Widow**

*Latrodectus hesperus*

Fill in the blanks for each missing part of the spider.

