

**No
Backbone!**

The world of Invertebrates

Tricky

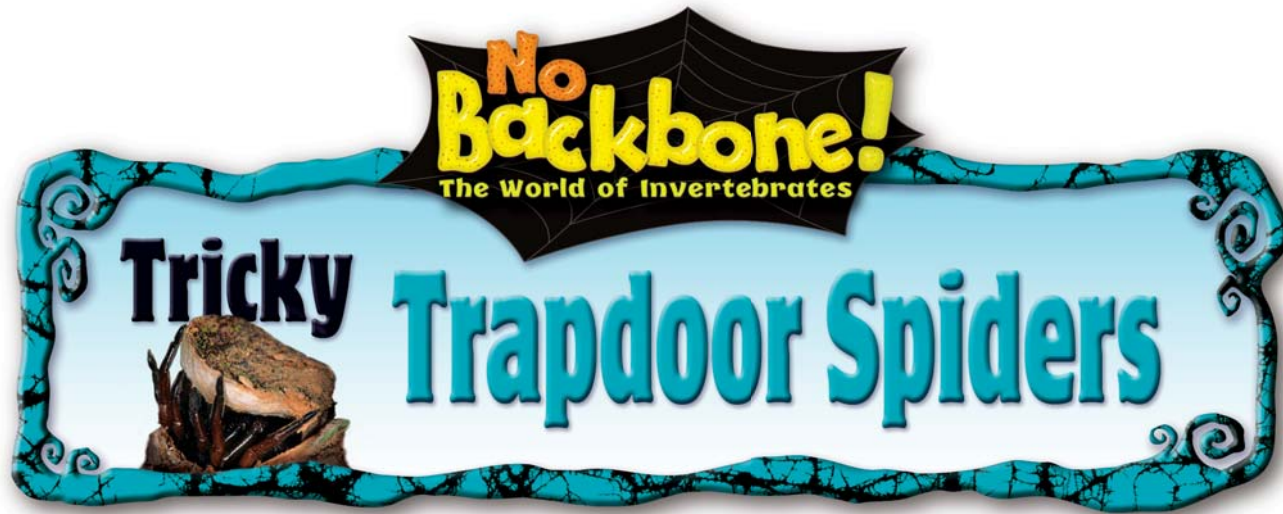


Trapdoor Spiders



by Meish Goldish

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Tricky Spiders

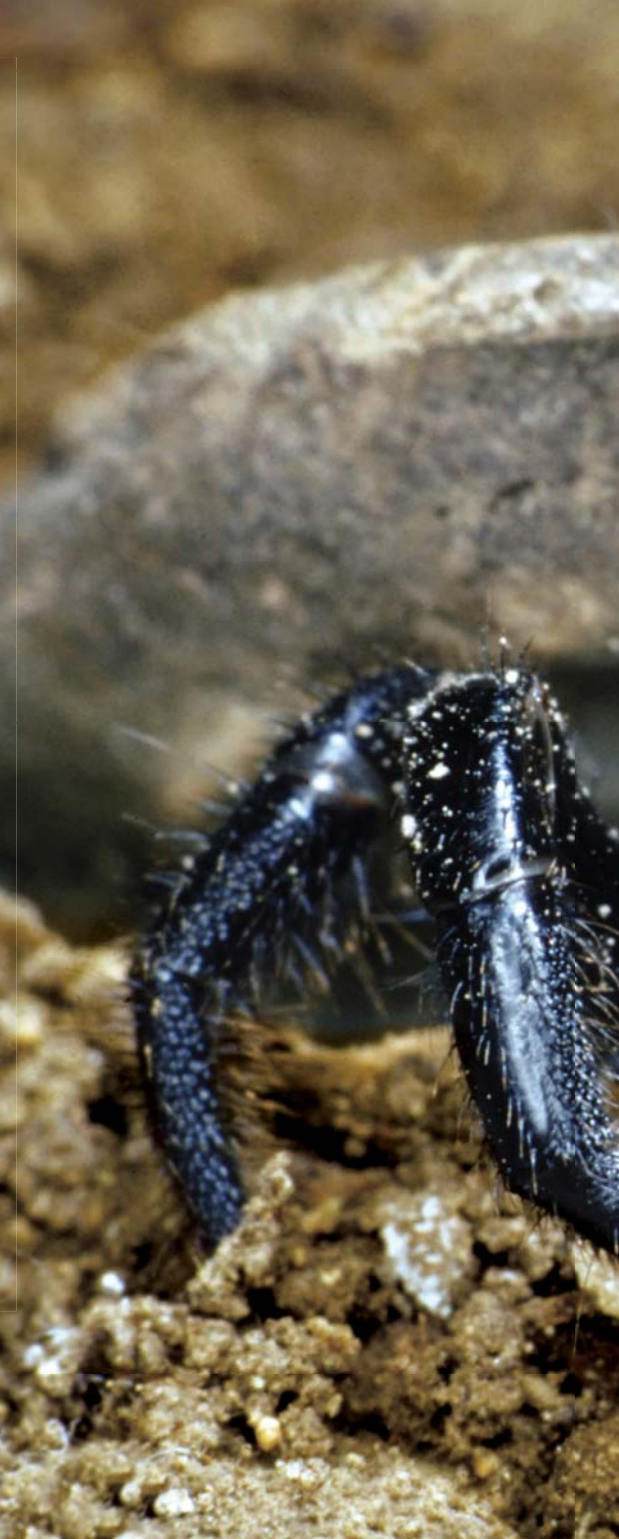
Trapdoor **spiders** are very tricky.


Many other spiders spin webs to trap insects to eat.

A trapdoor spider catches its food in a different way.

It waits in a hole in the ground, under a hidden door.

When an insect walks by, the tricky spider flips the door open, jumps out of the hole, and grabs it.





A trapdoor spider is about one inch (2.5 cm) long. It has eight legs, like all spiders.

Digging Deep

The deep, narrow hole where a trapdoor spider waits is called a burrow.

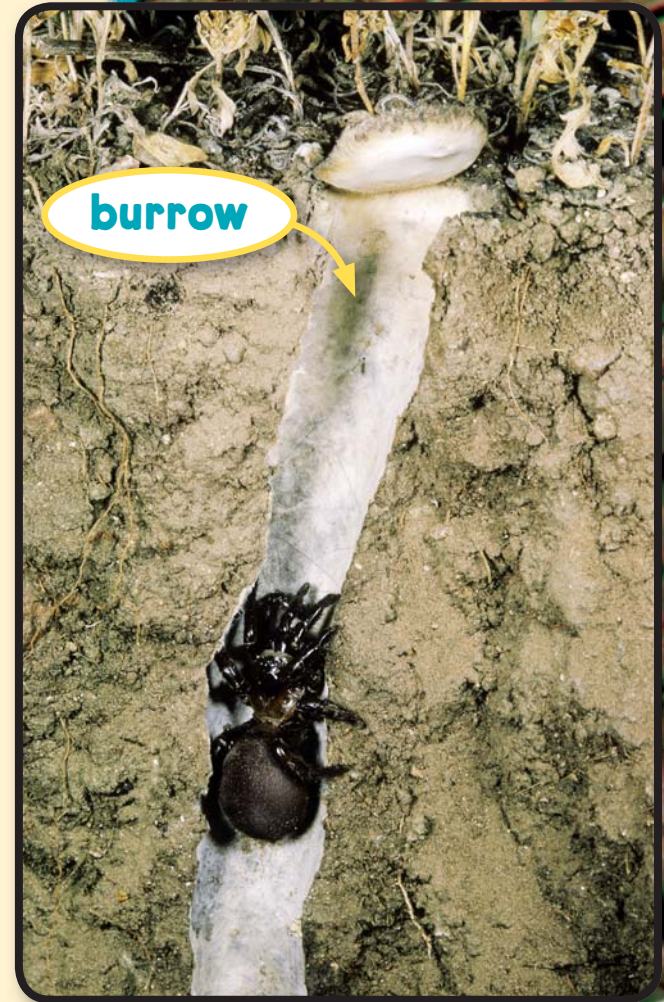
The spider works hard to make this underground hiding place.

First, it digs out dirt using a row of sharp points on its **fangs**.

The hole it makes can be about one foot (30 cm) deep.

Then the spider lines the walls with silk so they don't cave in.

Like all spiders, a trapdoor spider uses tiny tubes in its body to make silk threads. The tubes are called spinnerets.





burrow

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Read More

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Edina, MN: ABDO & Daughters (1996).

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Learn More Online

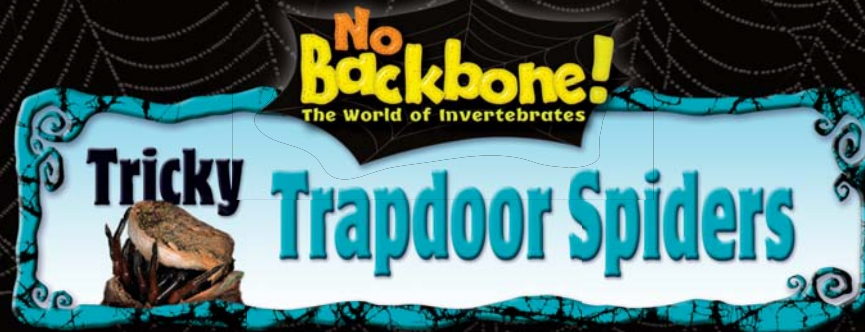
To learn more about trapdoor spiders, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone-Spiders

About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 100 books for children.
He lives in Brooklyn, New York, in a home with no trapdoors.



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What's so tricky about the trapdoor spider? It's the way it catches its food. The trapdoor spider waits in a hole in the ground, under a hidden door. When an insect walks by, the spider flips the door open, jumps out of the hole, and grabs its victim. Look inside to discover more fascinating facts about this tricky creature.

Crafty Garden Spiders
Deadly Black Widows

Hairy Tarantulas
Jumping Spiders

Spooky Wolf Spiders
Tricky Trapdoor Spiders

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