

The Tarantula

Review Key Words

- attack** to move suddenly in order to cause harm
- pet** an animal that people take care of in their home
- dance** to move the one's body, usually in time with music
- reputation** how someone is viewed by others

Write a Prediction



Read the Story

11	If you can't have a dog or a cat as a	103	reputation, but it is not really as bad as
12	pet, how would you like to have a pet	112	it looks. The bite of a tarantula is very
13	spider? Children in South America	121	painful, but it would probably not kill
14	often keep a tarantula as a pet. They tie	128	you.
15	a string around one leg so they can take	129	In Italy, a long time ago, people
16	it for a walk.	136	believed that a tarantula bite would kill
17	The South American tarantula is the	143	them unless they danced the poison out
18	world's largest spider. Some of them	150	of their bodies. So when someone was
19	grow as large as ten inches across.	157	bitten, he began to dance frantically.
20	They are large enough to eat birds. The	163	Later they named a very lively dance
21	largest ones even attack chickens and	170	the tarantella, after the way that people
22	snakes. The tarantula is an ugly spider	177	had danced out the poison.
23	with long, hairy legs. Because it is such	182	
24	an ugly creature, the tarantula has a bad		

Cold Timing Score: _____ Final Timing Score: _____

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Some children have pet tarantulas.
 - b. Tarantulas live in South America and Italy.
 - c. Tarantulas are large but do not kill humans.

2. What do a tarantula's legs look like?
 - a. They are short and fat.
 - b. They are long and hairy.
 - c. They are ten inches long.

3. What does **tie** mean in this story?
 - a. equal parts
 - b. hook together
 - c. a neck tie

4. Why did people dance after being bitten by a tarantula?
 - a. The bite hurt very much.
 - b. They did not want to die.
 - c. They liked to dance.

5. Why do some children like tarantulas for pets?

Number Correct: _____

Write a Retell of "The Tarantula"

Number of Words Written: _____