

## FEATURED CRAFT: Anansi the Spider



### Our Theme:

The Ashanti people of Ghana told the first stories about the spider trickster, **Anansi**. The West African folk tales about this clever little spider were told and re-told so much that they eventually spread all over the West African coast and even across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas.

The same Ashanti people also created the first Kente Cloth with its bright colors and patterns. Some Ashanti would say that Anansi the Spider was the first weaver of the beautiful cloth!

So, you see, Anansi has quite the reputation! And the people of Ghana are proud to claim him as their own.

## HOW TO MAKE THIS CRAFT:

### What You Need:

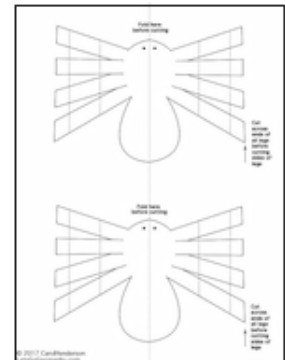


- White Paper (cardstock is preferred)
- Brown Paper
- Crayons
- Paint (watercolors)
- Scissors
- Glue Stick

### Create your Anansi Spiders:

1) **Print** the *spiders* (in the Printables section in the back of this book) on **Brown** paper. Set aside.

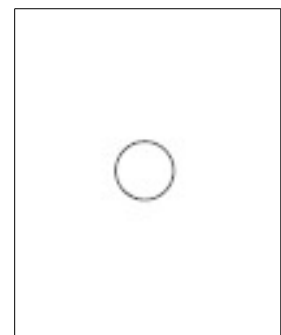
***Each child needs only 1 spider.***



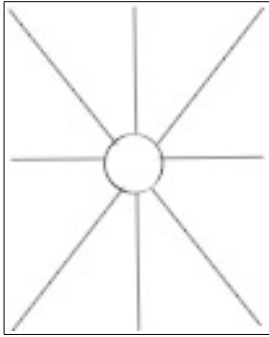
2) On white paper (cardstock or other heavier paper is best), **draw a spider web** with a **white** or other **light-colored** crayon. A light beige color is easier to see than white and works well!

*See next page for drawing help!*

### To draw a SPIDER WEB:



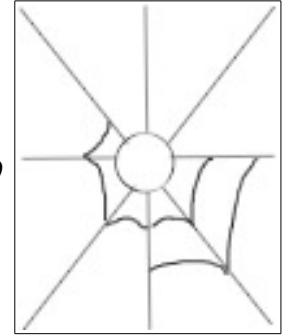
**First**, draw a small **circle** in the middle of your paper.



**Next**, draw **lines** from the center circle to the outside of the paper.

Draw as many of these lines as you want!

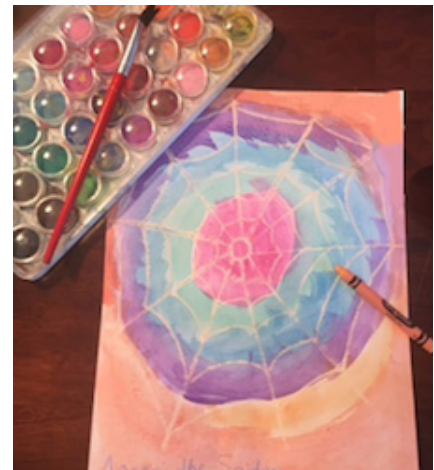
**Finally**, connect each straight line with **curves** that dip slightly towards the circle. *Note: Neither row of dips in the illustration is finished – the dips should go completely around the circle and connect.*



Draw as many rows of dipping lines as you want to fill in your web.

3) **Paint** over your crayon web with watercolors. Fill in the whole page with color! The paint will not stick to the web!

Set aside to dry.



4) **Fold** 1 of the spiders you printed earlier on the center fold line and **cut out 1 spider**. **Draw eyes** and any other decoration you want on your spider.

- 5) **Fold** legs DOWN on the fold lines closest to the body and then UP on fold lines furthest away from the body. This last fold gives you feet at the bottom of the legs.
- 6) Put **Glue** on the bottom of Anansi's feet and attach him to the web.
- 7) **Write Ghana** and **Anansi the Spider** on your finished project!

