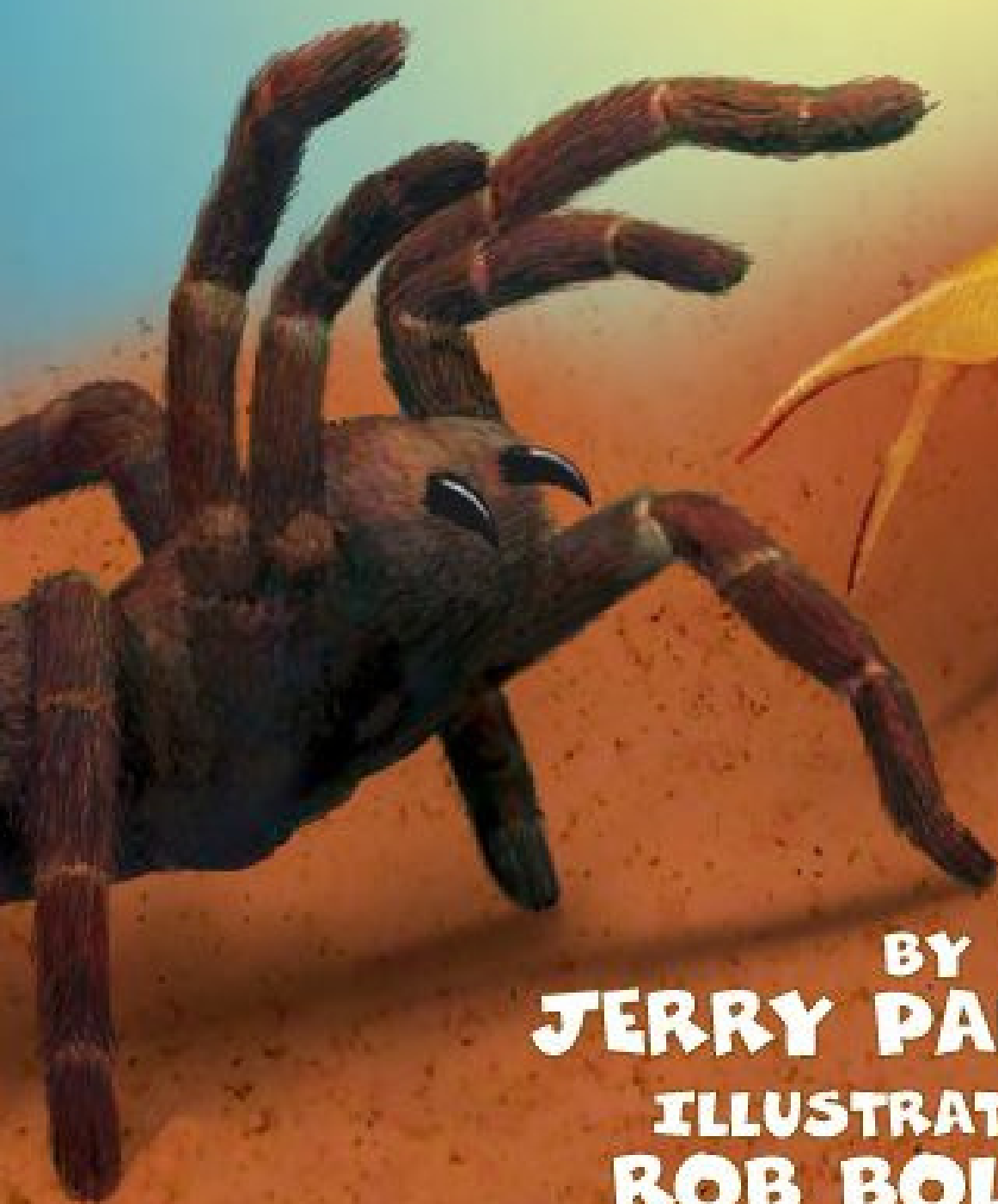


# — WHO — WOULD WIN?®

## TARANTULA VS. SCORPION



BY  
**JERRY PALLOTTA**  
ILLUSTRATED BY  
**ROB BOLSTER**

 **SCHOLASTIC**



# SCIENTIFIC NAME OF TARANTULA: "Theraphosa blondi"

Meet the tarantula. There are almost 900 species of tarantulas. In this book, we will feature the largest, the goliath birdeater tarantula.

## FACT

Most tarantulas are the size of your hand.

## DEFINITION

An arachnid is a class of arthropods that live on land. Spiders, mites, and ticks are arachnids.



## Wow

A fully grown goliath birdeater tarantula is 12 inches across.

Tarantulas are hairy spiders. Spiders have four pairs of legs. Spiders are in a group of invertebrates called arachnids.

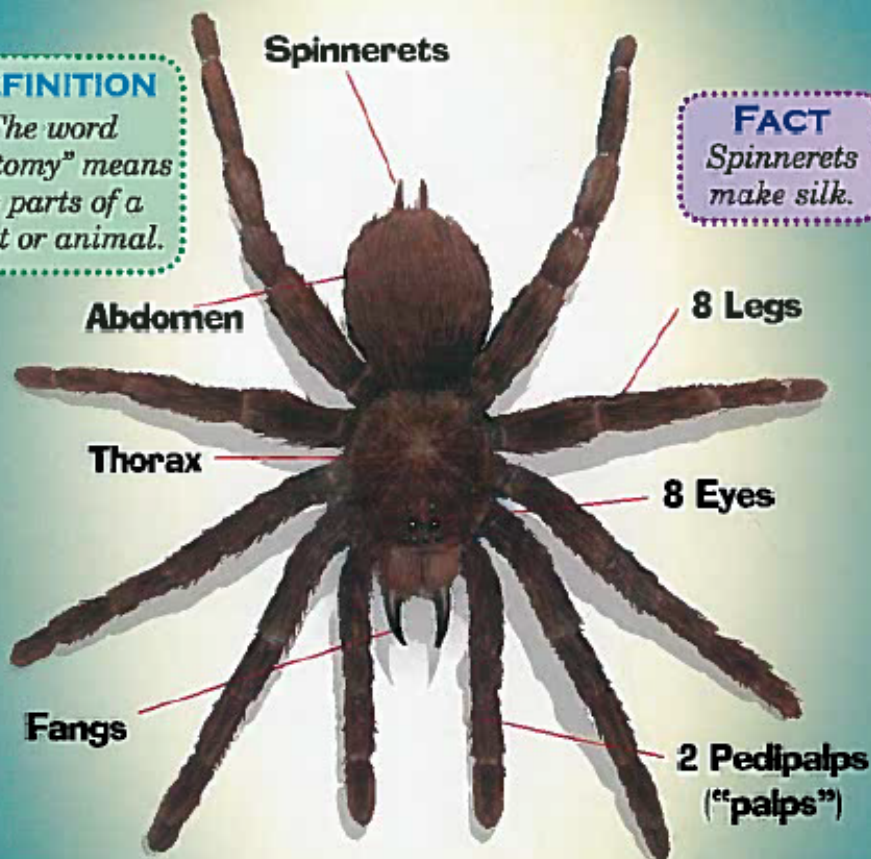
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# TARANTULA ANATOMY

Notice the segmented body, which is divided into two parts. The legs come out of the front part, the thorax. The back part is the abdomen.

## DEFINITION

The word "anatomy" means the parts of a plant or animal.



## FACT

Spinnerets make silk.

## FACT

Spiders do not have wings.

## BONUS FACT

Tarantulas have tiny claws at the end of their legs.

It looks like tarantulas have ten legs, but they don't. The two legs beside their mouths are called palps. They are like arms. They help the tarantula move their food around.

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# SCIENTIFIC NAME OF SCORPION: "Leiurus quinquestriatus"

Meet the scorpion. There are more than 1,500 known species of scorpion. We will use the death stalker scorpion in our battle.

## CAREFUL!



You do NOT want to get stung by a scorpion.



## FACT

The largest scorpion is the emperor scorpion, which is 8 inches long. The death stalker scorpion is 3 inches long.

Scorpions are also arachnids. They have two claws and an extended tail. The scorpion has a stinger on the end of its tail. Next to the stinger is the telson, which is filled with poison.

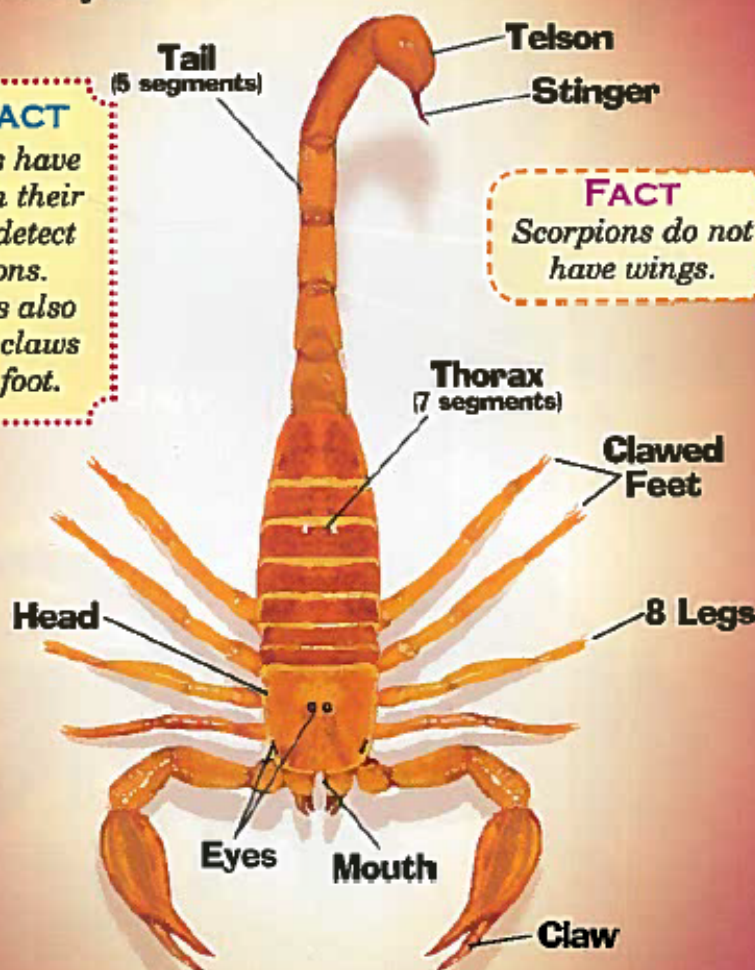
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# SCORPION ANATOMY

Scorpions have two eyes on the top of their thorax and three to five pairs of eyes on the sides. The side eyes are called lateral eyes.

## FUN FACT

Scorpions have sensors on their feet that detect vibrations. Scorpions also have two claws on each foot.



## FACT

Scorpions do not have wings.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Arachnids do not have antennae.

## GLOWING FACT

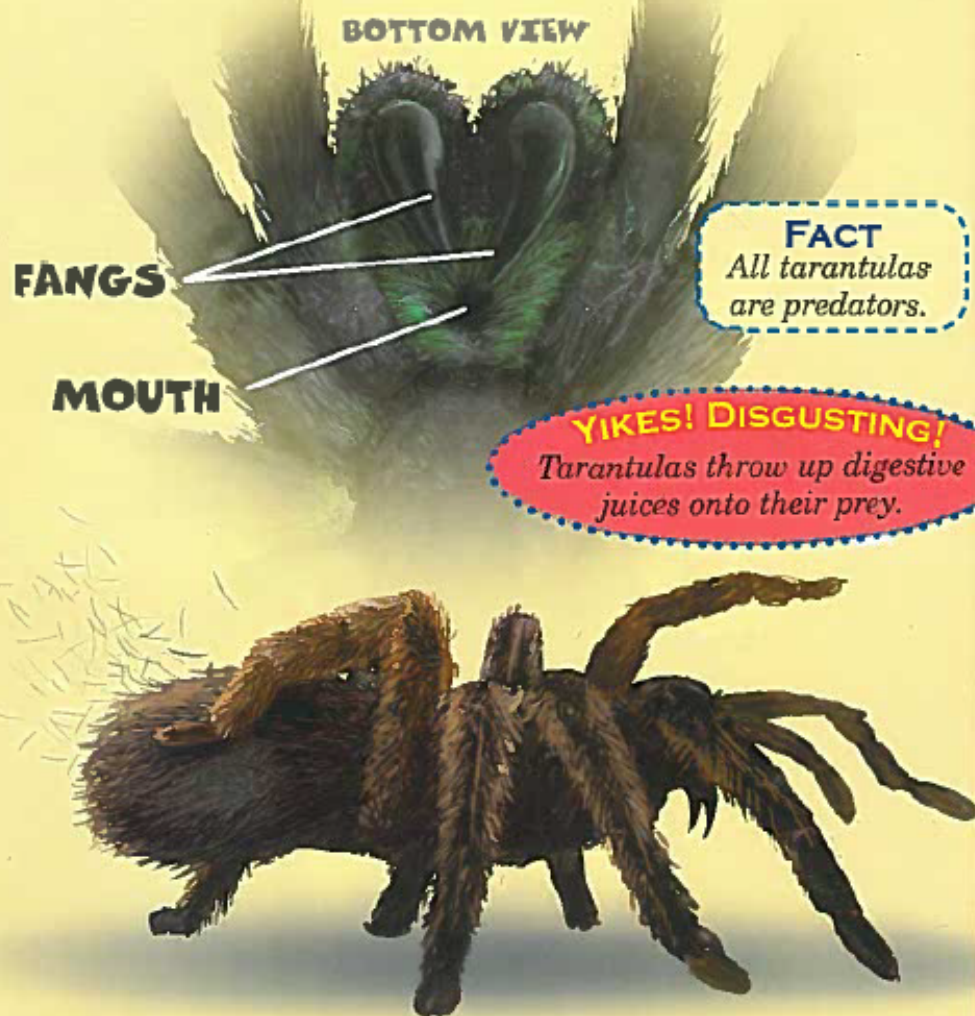
Scorpions glow under black light because they reflect ultraviolet rays.

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# TARANTULA WEAPONS

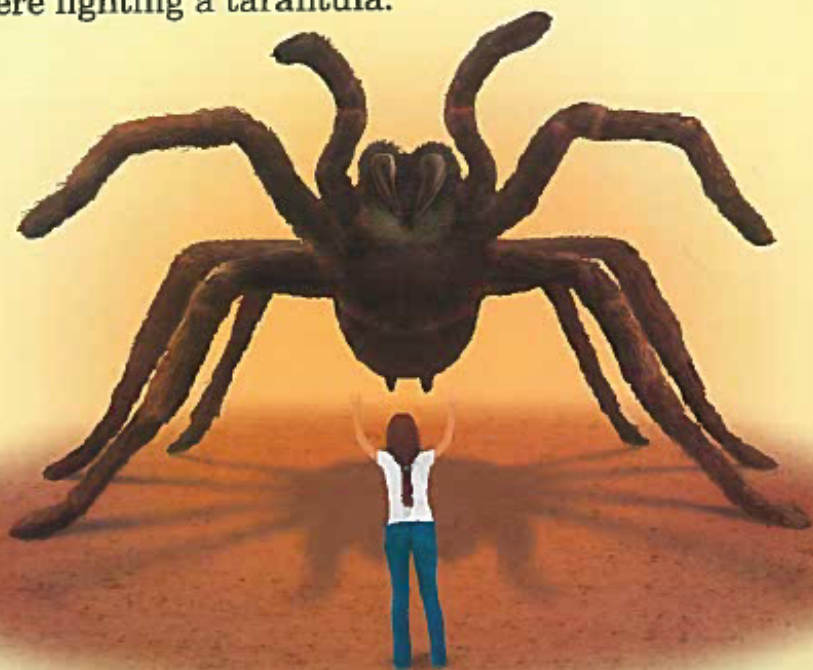
The tarantula's mouth has quite a bite. It carries poison in its fangs.



Tarantulas rub their legs against their hairy bodies and shoot hair at their attackers. This is called urticating. It is a nasty weapon that makes some animals cough and have trouble breathing.

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This is a tarantula in attack mode. If you were ant-sized, this is what it would look like if you were fighting a tarantula.



**FACT**  
Eight legs give creatures great balance.

# SCORPION WEAPONS

Two claws that can bite.



**FACT**  
Scorpions are different colors depending on where they live.



A stinger that can pierce. Its poison can paralyze a scorpion's victims.

**YIKES!**  
Scorpions also throw up on their prey.

The scorpion has two little pinchers in its mouth.



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The scorpion has a three-pronged attack — left claw, right claw, and a piercing tail. Pretend you are fighting a giant scorpion. It would look like this!

**BIG ANCIENT FACT**  
A fossil of an eight-foot-long sea scorpion was recently discovered.





# WHO HAS THE ADVANTAGE?

TARANTULA

SCORPION

☐

**Size**

☐☐

**Claws**

☐☐

**Stinger**

☐☐

**Fangs**

☐☐

**Hunting  
Style**

☐