

## Learning Guide for "Elisa and the Spider King"

*Suitable for ages 5-10*

This story can be used to teach children (and adults!) several lessons:

1. Not all spiders are dangerous, and in fact, most aren't.
2. To overcome fears, it's important to get the facts.
3. You often get what you focus your attention on.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Do you think all spiders are dangerous? Which ones are dangerous? Where do they live? In what way are they dangerous? How dangerous are they (e.g. can you die from them)?
2. How many different kinds of spiders are there in the world? Where could we go to find out? How many of all these spiders are actually dangerous to people?
3. Why do you think Elisa is afraid of spiders? How much does she know about spiders before visiting the spider kingdom?
4. Why do you think Elisa is transported to the Spider King's realm? What would have happened if she had been thinking about something else? Can you give examples of other things she could have been thinking about and what might have happened?
5. At the end of the story, why is Elisa no longer afraid of spiders?