

Dear Teacher,

Thank you for your interest in our SIXTEEN LEGS Projects and educational resources.

Purpose: While this project focusses on a specific spider in caves in Tasmania, it is designed to be a start point for students to explore the unknown world around them. Information in our Education Packs is designed to value add to your existing curriculum and lesson plans by providing additional information and resources.

What can we Supply: (Please note that items marked with and * are part of the schools pack that can be purchased. However, we have several packs that have been sponsored which will be available on a first come first serve basis in return for student artworks to travel with the exhibition.)

- Suggested topics and activities that relate to SIXTEEN LEGS.
- Worksheets for use when visiting the exhibition
- Education Packs* including:
 - Posters - 3 designs up to 10 copies of each per pack.*
 - Books - two sets per pack *
 - BluRay/DVD of SIXTEEN LEGS*
- Short films, trailers and other information on our Bookend Trust YouTube Channel
- Units of work

Background Information:

SIXTEEN LEGS: Enter The Cave Exhibition is a travelling exhibition of photography, dark-fantasy digital artworks, large scale resin/ fibre-glass sculptures and supporting local artist contributions based around the magical environmental and cultural significance of Australia's deepest caves and the still-living 200 million-year-old Tasmanian hidden within them. This is a delightful Arts-Science mix consisting of giant backlit panels representing a photographic journey into Australia's beautiful underworld interwoven with a dark visual fairy tale by Queensland artist Jodee Taylah and international best-selling author Neil Gaiman, all overseen by 2 giant prehistoric mating spider replicas with 18 foot leg-spans in the roof, and a giant egg-sac pulsating with spider young...

SIXTEEN LEGS Documentary is an exploration of a hidden underground world. This is a home of twisted beauty, haven to a variety of weird inhabitants but hostile to others. Enter a place full of unusual animals and misshapen rocks, overseen by still-living, giant prehistoric spiders the size of dinner plates.

With spectacular imagery and a dark-fantasy twist, this is a real-world "Charlotte's Web", capitalizing on master story-teller Neil Gaiman's global popularity to bring a story of stability and solitude into our world of rapid change. This fantastic documentary is receiving rave reviews and awards for its artistry, science and cinematography. (See the awards list, imagery and reviews in our Information Kit. Downloadable at: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lo6tcdxjps49nd/AAB0E8egaqUPbdZ3J2XFezn9a?dl=0>)

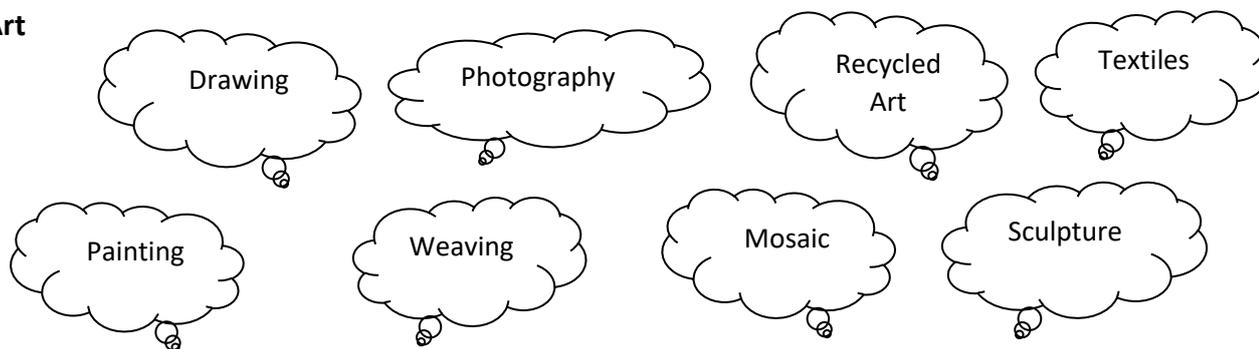
Suggested Themes: (This is not an exhaustive list)

Spiders	Caves	Storytelling	Cave Art	Evolution
Passing of Time (from the age of the dinosaurs)			Isolation	
Indigenous Art	Exploration	Adventure	Excitement	
Darkness	Movement of the Continents	Mapping	Survival	
Extinction	Quiet locations	The Environment	Science/Biology	

Suggested Questions based on the above themes:

1. The Team behind SIXTEEN LEGS has recently rediscovered a species of crayfish in Tasmania that was thought to be extinct. What would you do to save a species from extinction?
2. Caves are known to be a refuge for species allowing them to survive while others became extinct. Where would you go or what would you do to protect yourself from extinction or environmental change?
3. The spiders in SIXTEEN LEGS live in total darkness inside the caves of Tasmania. If you were to try and survive in the dark what adaptations do you think would be required?
4. Caves are one of the few places on the planet that still have unexplored areas. If you were a cave explorer how would you describe your experience of exploring a cave? What would you need to take with you? How would you know your way back out?

Art



Suggested Activities:

Using the themes above get students to create art that can be displayed and/or travel with the exhibition. Artworks can be provided in most media types depending on available space.

A great example from the past was a Reception/Year 1 class who put pipe cleaner spiders on display, visited the exhibition as a class and had multiple visits with their families to see their artwork on display within the big exhibition.

If there isn't sufficient space within the exhibition area, we suggest you:

- Look for other public venues or spaces where student artworks could be displayed? Eg) art gallery, town hall, local council/shop windows, library or library window, school foyer, school hall?
- Talk to shop openers about decorating their shop front for the duration that we are there.

English/Creative Writing/Poetry

There are many areas that can be included but some examples are:

- Get students to write a poem or short story. Think about the themes above and/or ask your students to have spiders as characters and include some information they have learnt about Cave Spiders.
- Get students to research and write a report on Cave Spiders, the environment in which they live or the caves in general.

Suggested Activities for the Posters:



**Sixteen
Legs**



**Queen of
the Dark**



Spider

Activity 1

Divide your class into small groups and give each group a poster, coloured post-it notes and pens/pencils. Alternatively provide your students with coloured pens (gold or silver) and have them write directly onto the posters. Then ask each group to answer one the following questions, write their answers on post-it notes and stick them onto the posters.

What do you think this poster is about?

How does this poster make you feel?

What do you know about caves?

If you were in a cave:

How would it make you feel?

What would you smell?

What would you see?

What would you hear?

What do you know about spiders?

Use adjectives to describe this poster?

What does this poster remind you of?

What can you see?

Make a list of everything you can see in the poster.

Make a list of clues that would help us find this poster if it were hidden among other posters.

If you were to give this poster a title what would it be?

If the spider in this poster could talk what would it say?

Thinking about the spider in this poster use words to describe the following:

Where does it live?

How does it survive?

How does it get air and light?

How does it travel around?

What does it eat?

How does it catch its prey?

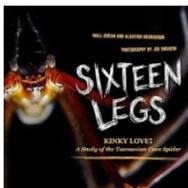
What does it see?

Activity 2

Using the spider poster label the spiders anatomical features.

Once your students have finished poster activities display the posters with the questions and answers on them. Please be sure to take a photo of your display and send it to us so that we can share it with other educators.

Activities for the Books:



Book 1 "Sixteen Legs - Kinky Love: The Mating of the Tasmanian Cave Spider"

Contained within this book is a photographic study of the curious reproductive cycle of this extraordinary spider. It also outlines the scientific research and filming that went into telling this story, and the making of the SIXTEEN LEGS: Enter the Cave Exhibition.



Book 2 "Sixteen Legs - Production Art: A Visit To The Queen of The Dark"

This is a rare glimpse of the creative process, with draft production art weaving and the real-life science into a dark fairytale that builds on and reinforces our perception of this world.....

Use the books to provide a snippet of information each day to create excitement and enthusiasm.

Read Sixteen Legs - Production Art: A Visit To The Queen of The Dark to your class and have them describe how it made them feel.

Other Activities:

- Our team can do Zoom/Skype/Teams with individual classes to provide an activity/activities based on curriculum links and your lesson plans. Once at your location we can also do in class sessions.
- Show one or more of our short films to your class. We have a selection of short films and videos related to our various projects. Below is our current Youtube Channel but we are in the process of creating an online archive that will be accessible by teachers on our website.

[\(60\) BookendTrust - YouTube](#)

- Make a short film of no longer than 5 minutes with an environmental focus.
- Use our photos as starting/talking points. We have a huge selection of photos ask us for access.

- Have a worksheet that your students need to complete when visiting the exhibition. We can help you develop worksheets tailored to your student's age. Talk to us about e-worksheets and the format you require them in.
- Create a list of questions that your students will ask during the Q&A session of the documentary screening. We can help you with age-appropriate questions.
- Research scientific names and how the Tasmanian Cave Spider got its name.
- Research threatened/extinct species or feral animals in your local area and have your students do a report on them. Get your students to include suggestions for how a threatened species could be saved.

Talk to us about how we can supply Curriculum Resources tailored to your needs.

Ask us about our teacher directed Annual Competition.

Thank you from,

The Bookend Trust Team.

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