

Linking Verbs

RULES

An **action verb** tells what the subject does or did.

A **linking verb** links the subject of a sentence to a noun or an adjective in the predicate.

A linking verb does not express action.

Spiders are interesting creatures.

Forms of the verb be are often used as linking verbs.



FORMS OF BE	
Present	Past
am	was
is	were
are	



Guided Practice

Tell whether each underlined verb is an action verb or a linking verb.

EXAMPLE: A spider is an animal called an arachnid. **linking**

- The zoo is a home to many spiders. _____
- Only a few spiders are dangerous to people. _____
- Black widow spiders bite people only in defense. _____
- Garden spiders eat harmful insects outdoors. _____
- I am a friend of spiders. _____
- Spiders eat harmful insects. _____
- I was afraid of spiders once. _____
- They were actually harmless. _____
- Spiders catch insects in their silk webs. _____
- Spider silk is stronger than steel. _____

Choose and write the verb. Write linking or action to tell what kind it is.

- A spider is an animal with eight legs. V _____
- Many spiders build webs. V _____
- Some spiders are helpful to people. V _____
- My first pet was a spider. V _____
- Today, my spider constructed a masterpiece. V _____