

SPACE SPIDER RESEARCHER -- Judith Miles (right) prepares to study some of the web material spun by the spiders Arabella and Anita in Earth orbit and brought back by the Skylab-2 crew. The 17-year-old high school student from Lexington, Massachusetts proposed the experiment to test the effects of zero gravity on web production. Both arachnids performed well. An example, photographed aboard the space station, is at left. Comparing the results with webs built before the flight are expected to provide information on the adaptability of the spiders, and possibly of man, to prolonged weightlessness.

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