

Praying Mantis

Thaumatrope

Praying Mantids are predators - this means that they prey on other animals. Australian Praying Mantids feed on other insects.

Praying Mantids are very stealthy. Sneaking up on its prey the Praying Mantis uses its long fore-arms to snatch up its meal within the blink of an eye!

Praying Mantids are given their name because of these long fore-arms that make them look like they are saying a prayer.

**Can you help this Praying Mantis catch the fly?
Remember he needs to be fast to catch his prey!**

What you will need:

Scissors
Glue
Sticky Tape
2 Rubber Bands
Hole Punch
Adult Supervision

Instructions:

1. Colour in the Praying Mantis and the Fly.
2. Cut out the circles along the dotted lines.
3. Glue them together. Remember they must stay this way up!
4. Ask an adult to place sticky tape over the small outlined circles on either side of the paper circles, then using a hole punch, punch holes through these outlined circles.
5. Ask an adult to help you loop the rubber bands through the holes. Loop the end of the rubber band back through the centre of the rubber band so that it creates a firm knot.
6. Hold on to the rubber bands and get someone to flip the circle over, pull the bands out and watch the pictures as they spin! You've created your very own animation!

