

Family Life

Just a few hours after a baby giraffe is born, it can run. But it spends most of its first few weeks hiding under mom's long legs. A baby giraffe (calf) is an easy target for a hungry lion or hyena looking for its next meal. Under its mom's legs, however, a calf is better protected from the dangers of the savanna.

Almost from the moment it's born, a baby giraffe can follow its mom wherever she goes. The mom will protect, feed, and snuggle her baby for several months.



Giraffes grow about four feet during the first year of their life. At birth, a calf is usually about six feet tall and weighs about 150 pounds.





When a mother giraffe sees an advancing lion or hyena, she stands protectively over her baby. If the predator gets too close, Mom fends it off with a powerful kick. Even with mom's help, many calves die during their first year of life, but as they get older, they can better protect themselves from danger. ||

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Table of Contents

Let’s Get Ready to Read!3

Reading Activities for *A Tall Tale*4

Boomer Badger’s Word App6

Gentle Giants.....7

Check It Out!8

Eating Habits.....9

The Perfect Pattern10

My Magic Map.....11

Fun with Fantasy12

Think and Choose13

Find the Evidence14

Becky’s Blog15

Reggie’s Recap16

Scarlett Fox’s Fast Facts.....17

Ranger Rick Journal18

Answer Key19

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Let's Get Ready to Read!

Dear Parents and Educators,

This guide will help your reader explore, examine, and engage with the nonfiction book *A Tall Tale*. The included activities will strengthen their reading comprehension skills and provide them with opportunities to write and talk about the text. Your reader will delve into the text and analyze it in a more structured and detailed way. Help your reader on their reading journey by working alongside them as they read the book. Ask and answer questions, and offer guidance and support, as needed. Be sure to read through pages 4–5 for helpful instructional ideas.

On this page, you will find information about Blue Star Education's partnership with Ranger Rick and the National Wildlife Federation as well as some fun activities to help foster your reader's love of reading!

Just 4 Fun!

- Work with other parents or teachers to arrange a book club meeting so your reader can discuss the book with peers. Provide a comfy, cool setting and some yummy treats!
- Set up a book nook! Find a quiet corner. Add a few blankets and pillows. Maybe grab a beanbag chair or poof! Be sure there is a lamp or overhead light and—*voila!*—you have a nifty nook any reader would love.
- Challenge your reader to conduct further research on the topic mentioned in the book. Ask them to display what they have learned from their research in a creative way, such as an infographic, collage, or theatrical skit.

The Partnership

Blue Star Education's proud partnership with the National Wildlife Federation and Ranger Rick has made possible the creation of products that combine reading, writing, and science in an exciting and unique way meant to help enrich knowledge and appreciation of the natural world.

The National Wildlife Federation & Ranger Rick

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) strives to unite all Americans to ensure that wildlife thrives in a rapidly changing world. It believes that healthy water, clean air, and public lands are a birthright of all Americans. From the tiniest of insects to the largest of mammals, the NWF wants to ensure the legacy of America's wildlife for future generations.

In January 1967, a new conservationist came on the scene. Knowledgeable, small, and furry, this little leader was ready to foster a healthy and life-long appreciation of nature in children. His name: Ranger Rick! More than 50 years later, Ranger Rick continues to entertain and educate children about the natural world through various media, including the highly successful magazine series.



Name: _____

ACTIVITY 2

Eating Habits

Directions: Read the main idea that is running down the giraffe's neck. Then, in the giraffe's spots, write three details that support the main idea.

