

Make a Splash!

Some animals ignore the rain. Others try to avoid it. And then there are those who love the wet stuff! For these animals, a rainy day brings a chance to mate, a fun mud bath, or a quick trip around the neighborhood.

Crocodiles don't typically seem to mind a good rainstorm. Is it because of their thick, scaly skin, or because they're used to being around so much water? Maybe they just enjoy splashing in the puddles!



These *elephant* calves play happily in a patch of dirt a rainstorm turned into an ooey, gooey mud puddle. Mud helps elephants shed pesky pests.





Have you ever noticed that *earthworms* pop out of the ground when it rains? (You probably try not to squish them when you are walking along the sidewalk.) Earthworms spend most of their lives underground because their bodies dry out in the air. But when rain is falling, they slither up to the surface. Up there, they can travel much faster than underground while still keeping their bodies moist. Of course, being out in the open is risky for juicy worms: robins and other birds may pluck them up for a delicious “tweet.”

UH-OH!
THIS EUROPEAN
ROBIN LOOKS READY
FOR A RAINY-DAY
SNACK!



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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 It's Raining! 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

Seeing the Solution

Directions: Rain is a problem for many animals. Use the *It's Raining!* book to find the solution to this problem. In each puddle, draw one animal's solution to the rain and write a few words explaining the solution.

Problem:

Rain

Solution:

Solution:

Solution: