

Raindrops to Rainbow

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Colors, Courage, Emotions, Weather

Book Brief: In this rhyming story, a little girl feels sad and anxious during a dark, gray rainstorm, but still finds colors to enjoy. She is excited to go outside when the sky clears and name the colors of the rainbow she sees, and realizes that without rainstorms, there can be no rainbows.

Author:
John Micklos Jr.

Illustrator:
Charlene Chua



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ LET'S LOOK AT...



The Cover: Read the title of the book and look at the cover. Ask, “What colors do you see? What else do you notice in this picture? Why do you think the illustrator drew rain and sunny weather on the cover?”

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and have students share what they think will happen in the story. Have students look at the girl in the story and discuss how she

might be feeling.

Vocabulary: Review these weather words using the Picture Vocabulary Cards: rain, storm, cloud, thunder, lightning, precipitation, sunshine, rainbow

Purpose for Reading: “In this story, a little girl feels sad and scared during a rainstorm, but still finds lots of colors both during and after the rain. Let’s see what she finds.”

WHILE WE READ

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (LEVELS 1-4)

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** When a color is mentioned in the text, ask students to share where they see in the picture by saying it or pointing to it.
- **Level 2:** “How does the little girl feel during the storm? What does she do to show it? How does she feel after? How do you know?”
- **Level 3:** “Do you ever feel the way this girl feels during a storm? What kinds of things helped her feel better in the story? What helps you feel better?”
- **Level 4:** “How does the girl feel about storms at the beginning of the story? How does she feel at the end? Why does she change her mind? How do you think she will feel during the next rainstorm?”

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, “Rainstorms can sometimes feel scary, but rain does lots of good things, including making rainbows. Without rain there can be no rainbows!”

Extended Thinking: Ask, “Did you know that the colors in rainbows always come in the exact same order? How do the colors go in the pictures in the story?” Rainbows are made when sunlight shines through water and bends the light. To make rainbows you need both rain and sunshine.

BOOK ACTIVITY: Making a Rainbow

Materials: Cell phone/flashlight, mirror, bowl, water
To set up the experiment, fill a bowl halfway with water. Take the bowl and put the mirror inside at a slight angle with the mirror facing upwards until it is about halfway covered with water. Turn off the

lights in the classroom and turn on the flashlight. Aim the light towards the mirror and watch a rainbow come to life!

