

Realistic
Fiction

RAINY DAY FUN

by Donna Loughran
illustrated by Colleen Madden



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PAIRED
READ

Let's Stay Dry!

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Visualize

Skill: Cause and Effect

Phonics

Silent letters *wr, kn, gn*

Vocabulary

been, children, country,
gathers, month, question,
their, year

Content Standards

Science

Earth Science

Word count: 549**

**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



Education

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A



Essential Question

How can weather affect us?

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Dina Meets Grandpa

“Grandpa! Where are you?” Miguel and Sonia called. They brought someone to meet their grandfather.

“I’m out here in the back room,” said Grandpa.

Miguel and Sonia liked the back room. There were windows on three sides. Even on a rainy day like this, the room wasn’t too dark.



“Grandpa, I’d like you to meet our new friend,” Sonia said. “Her name is Dina. Her family just moved in next door to us. She and her family are from another country.”

Grandpa smiled at Dina. Dina was too shy to smile back.

“It’s nice to meet you, Dina,” said Grandpa. “I’m glad you could come.”

Dina just nodded.



Grandpa's Flowers



Miguel noticed some green plants with little yellow flowers. He touched one of the flowers and got some yellow powder on his finger.

“What are these?” he asked.

“That’s a tomato plant,” said Grandpa. “Tomatoes will grow where you see the flowers. Sonia knows all about that. Every year, she gathers tomatoes for me in the summer and fall. Some will be ready to pick later this month.

“Now I have a question for you,” Grandpa went on. “Did you know that tomatoes come from South America?”

“Just like our family!” Sonia said. “I wrote a story about it for school.”



The Storm Hits!

Without warning, lightning cracked the sky, and the lights went out. Thunder roared like a lion. The children jumped and yelled. Rain danced on the roof like tiny feet.

Grandpa said, "I'm sure the lights won't be out for long. I'll call the electric company."

Grandpa gave each child a flashlight, and they pretended they were explorers.





Sonia and Dina went down one dark hall, and Miguel went down another. The house looked strange in the low light.

“What is that?” Dina asked. A plant in the hall looked like a wild animal.

“Roar!” yelled Miguel as he jumped out from behind a plant.

The girls screamed. “Miguel, I knew you would do that!” said Sonia.

Bloom Where Planted



“Miguel! Sonia! Where are you?”

Grandpa called.

Miguel, Sonia, and Dina ran to the back room. Grandpa had set up more flashlights.

“I’ve been wanting to put these tulips in new pots. Will you help me?”

Grandpa asked.



“Oh, they are so beautiful!” said Sonia.
“Are tulips from South America too?”

“No, they come from a place called
Turkey,” Grandpa said.

Dina smiled and said, “That’s near
Greece. My family comes from Greece.”



Dina liked planting the flowers. She liked how nice Grandpa was. She no longer felt shy.

“Is every plant in your garden from another place?” she asked.

Grandpa laughed. "No," he said, "but even the plants from other places are at home here now."

"Like we are!" said Sonia and Dina together.

The lights in the house came back on.

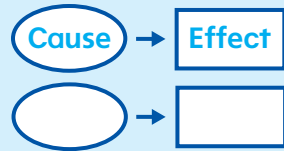
"I think that's a sign that it's time for lunch," said Grandpa.



Respond to Reading

Retell

Use the chart to help you retell *Rainy Day Fun*.



Text Evidence

1. Look at page 6. What caused the lights to go out? **Cause and Effect**
2. Look at page 10. Why did Dina feel less shy? **Cause and Effect**
3. *Rainy Day Fun* is a made-up story that seems like it could be real. What makes it seem real? **Genre**



Compare Texts

Read more about how the weather affects people.

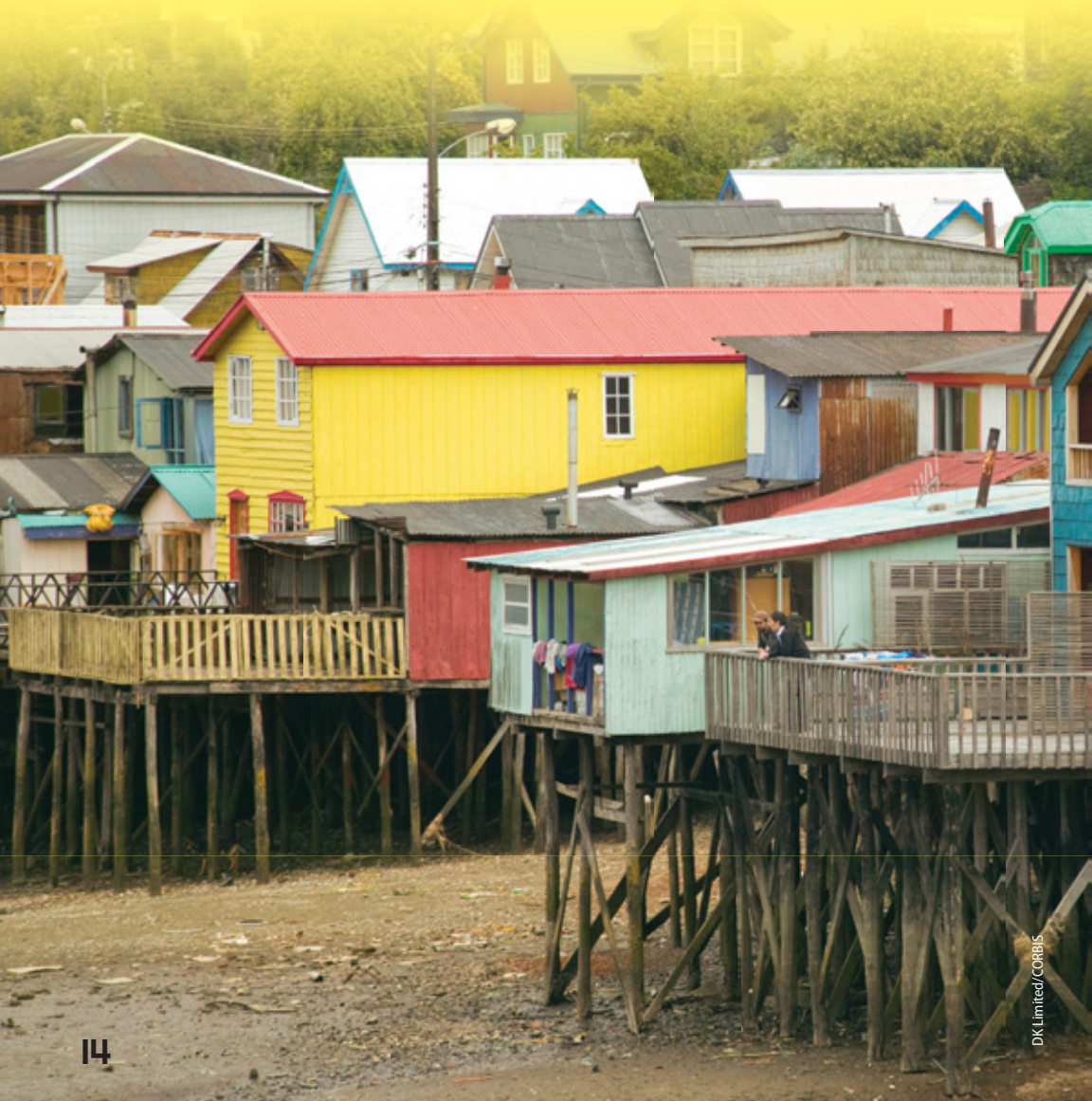
Let's Stay Dry!



How do we stay dry in the rain? We wear special clothes and boots. We use umbrellas.

Special Houses

Some people live where it rains most of the time. They must build their houses up high so that the water will go underneath.





Travel by Boat

In some places, it rains so much that people use boats to get around.

How would you stay dry if you lived in a place like that?



Make Connections

Look at both stories. What do people do when it rains? [Text to Text](#)

Focus on Science

Purpose: To understand what happens in hot weather

What to Do

Step 1 Take two pots of grass. Set them in a sunny window.

.....

Step 2 Water one pot every day for five days. Do not water the other pot.

.....

Step 3 Each day, write down or draw what you see in both pots.

Conclusion: What happens to the grass that is not watered? Why?

Thinkmark

Characters

Who are the main characters in *Rainy Day Fun*?

How does Dina change from the beginning to the end of the story?

Plot

What is Dina's problem in the story? How does she solve it?

Make Connections

What do you do on rainy days?
What makes you feel less shy?