

## **INTRODUCE THE STORY**

Display a pair of children's rain boots (or a picture of boots).

Ask students to imagine what kind of adventures/experiences could happen to the person who wears the boots, or to the boots themselves.

Who might own them?

Where does that person live – in our town/city, or far away?

Are they brand new or old?

After discussing these ideas and others that students may have, read the story, about a certain pair of boots much like these.

## EXAMINE THE STORY

1. A metaphor is when one thing is compared to something else by saying that it *is* the thing. Here is a metaphor: The stars are diamonds in the sky. What is the metaphor on the first page of this book?
2. What is the boy splashing through at the water park? What do you think this means?
3. “My slippers are old, almost worn out, but they know my feet.” What do you think this means?
4. List two things each that the boy hears, feels and smells.
5. From each line of words below, circle the word that does *not* belong.

|         |        |        |            |
|---------|--------|--------|------------|
| jacket  | mitts  | face   | boots      |
| puddles | flakes | drops  | rain       |
| street  | slide  | swings | playground |
| smoke   | wind   | air    | ocean      |
| sea     | window | waves  | shore      |

6. After the boy goes down the slide, his jeans are stuck to him “like yesterday’s soggy swimsuit.” This is called a simile, where one item is compared to another, using *like* or *as*. Now write your own similes for the following:

The boy’s smile was as bright as \_\_\_\_\_

The penguin waddled like a \_\_\_\_\_

The rain came down as quickly as \_\_\_\_\_

Hugging a hedgehog is like \_\_\_\_\_

7. Look at the cover and back of this book, and then scan the illustrations inside.

What is the main color of the story?

Is this a good color for a story about a cold month and rain?

Which other bright color is on almost every page? Why?

8. Imagine what it is that the rain taps out in its invitation to the boy, at the end of the story. Write your idea of how that invitation might be worded.

## EXTEND THE STORY

1. Imagine you are the boy in the story. You have been watching at the window at the end, and realize that it will probably rain tomorrow. How do you feel? What are your plans for tomorrow? Does it really rain? Tell your story.

2. This story is about an item that is common in the month in the title, November. Fill in the blank after each of these months with an item that would be appropriate for that month, and tell in 1 line what that story would be about.

November Boots about a boy with new boots looking for rain  
December \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_  
August \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_  
April \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_  
September \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_

3. Imagine that the rain had come in the middle of the story, not the end.

How might it have been different? What might have happened at the end?

Write your own story from this new middle to the end.

4. Think of other ways that the boy might have found water to play in to try out his new boots. List at least three.

5. "It's November. The trees shiver. The birds shake." Using the same pattern

(The \_\_\_\_\_ (noun) \_\_\_\_\_ (verb) ),

Create at least four other ways to describe November

Then try it for July.

## **LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS**

### **SCIENCE**

Research rain and the water cycle

### **DESIGN**

Your own ideal water park or playground. Draw a map and explain each feature briefly. Include features for different ages and abilities.

### **ART**

Paint a rain scene in the style used by illustrator Marilyn Mets in this book. Use pale colors, lots of blues and greens, and include some bright red.

## **RELATED BOOKS**

About boots:

*Big Sarah's Little Boots* by Paulette Bourgeois (Kids Can Press, 1987)

*Rubber Boot Day* by Mary Lyn Ray (Harcourt Brace, 2000)

*Tiger's New Cowboy Boots* by Irene Morck (Red Deer College Press, 1996)

About rain:

*It's Raining, It's Pouring* by Andrea Spalding (Orca, 2001)

*Wet World* by Norma Simon (Candlewick Press, 1954)

*Peter Spier's Rain* by Peter Spier (Doubleday, 1982)

About November:

*In November* by Cynthia Rylant (Harcourt, 2000)

## November Boots

P E S S N D H L Y Q W O O D W  
O L P R C I N V I T A T I O N  
M M A S E V A W W R T U L R M  
Y P P Y X P L R Z S E P D V W  
I O W C G Z P X C Q R X Z V A  
L J R O Y R D I F U P D O I R  
R E B M E V O N L Q A E V H Q  
I D S Q U E N U P S R R G G N  
U F B F L X C O N S K S J A K  
W T S D X O R L X D Z E J B Q  
I I D E C R O X C T I V N O A  
H U N O I H J O N E A A U O R  
P O A D S W I N G S U E F T M  
D D G A O R W D O P W L H S Z  
Z E U K H W I J B J C H Z R I

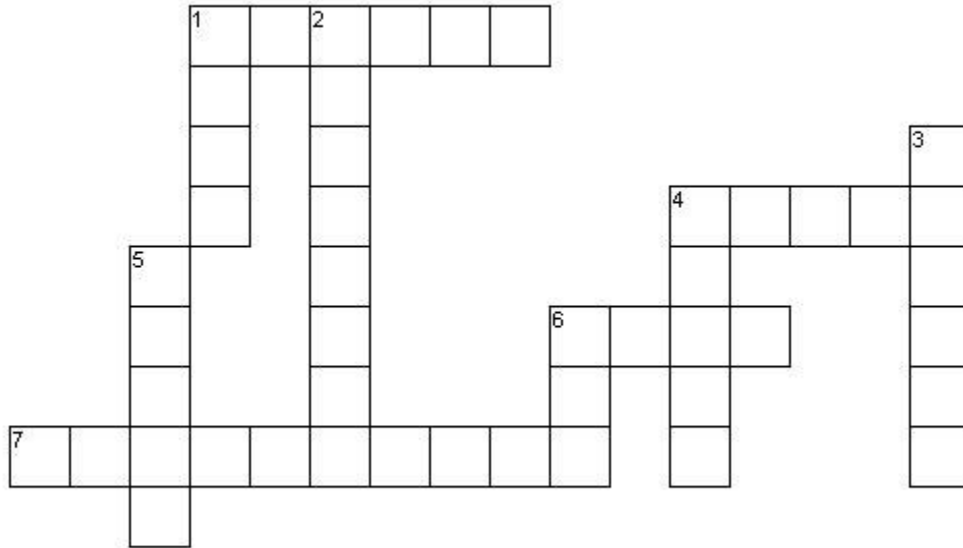
|           |          |            |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| BOOTS     | COCOA    | INVITATION |
| LEAVES    | NOVEMBER | PLAYGROUND |
| PORRIDGE  | PUDDLE   | RAIN       |
| RED       | SLIPPERS | SWINGS     |
| WATERPARK | WAVES    | WINDOW     |

# Word Search Solution

## November Boots

P E S S N D H L Y Q W O O D W  
O L P R C I N V I T A T I O N  
M M A S E V A W W R T U L R M  
Y P P Y X P L R Z S E P D V W  
I O W C G Z P X C Q R X Z V A  
L J R O Y R D I F U P D O I R  
R E B M E V O N L Q A E V H Q  
I D S Q U E N U P S R R G G N  
U F B F L X C O N S K S J A K  
W T S D X O R L X D Z E J B Q  
I I D E C R O X C T I V N O A  
H U N O I H J O N E A A U O R  
P O A D S W I N G S U E F T M  
D D G A Q R W D O P W L H S Z  
Z E U K H W I J B J C H Z R I

## November Boots



### ACROSS

1. At the beginning, he looks up through the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The trees shiver. The birds \_\_\_\_\_.
6. What the boy is waiting for.
7. They search for rain at a \_\_\_\_\_.

### DOWN

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ licks at the boy's face.
2. The month in which the story takes place.
3. The boy smells someone burning \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The boy tries the swings and the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. He finally plays in the water at the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The color of the boy's new boots.

