



# BLAST OFF BOOK CLUB

## RAIN BY LINDA ASHMAN

### READ AND DISCUSS

- Did you notice how different characters have different fonts when they speak? Why do you think the author chose to do that?
- This is a book of opposites. In what ways are the old man and the child different? In what ways are they the same?
- What does it feel like to be in a bad mood? How about a good mood? How do you feel when someone close to you is sad or grumpy?

### EXPLORE

- Choose a book or two from the nonfiction list to learn more about weather, rain, and feelings.
- Complete the Cloud in the Jar STEM activity.
- In the story, the child hops around like a frog. Many yoga poses are named after animals, including Frog Pose. Check out a book or yoga kit from the library, or watch a video online to practice some yoga and move your body.
- Cut out the cards and play the memory game. (Source: Linda Ashman website)

### CREATE

- Draw a series of pictures of yourself feeling different feelings.
- The illustrator, Christopher Robin, uses a cut paper technique. Using the paper scraps in your kit, create an illustration using this technique.
- This story is told entirely through dialogue. Write a story using only dialogue. What was hard about this? What was easy?

# RAIN IN A JAR

Source: <https://funlearningforkids.com/rain-cloud-jar-science-experiment/>

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In a small cup, mix the food coloring with some water.
2. Fill the large jar with water until it is about 3/4 full.
3. Place the jar and the cup of colored water on the table. Place a pipette in the cup of colored water.
4. Right before the kids are ready to do the experiment, spray a bunch of shaving cream in the jar until it is just a small bit above the top of the jar.
5. Ask the kids to pick up some colored water with a pipette and squirt it on top of the shaving cream cloud. Repeat this step one or two more times, but pay close attention to what is happening below the cloud!
6. The colored water will begin to seep down through the shaving cream and into the water below. Just like rain!



## HOW IT WORKS:

The shaving cream represents the clouds and the water represents the air. The colored water represents rain. As the colored water saturates the "cloud", it gets heavy and eventually is so heavy that it can no longer hold the water. It "rains" down into the jar - through the "air." It is just like real rain falls through the air.

# NONFICTION PAIRINGS FOR *RAIN*

- *Who Likes the Rain* by Etta Kaner
  - print copy available at PPL
- *Down Comes the Rain* by Franklyn M. Branley
  - print copy available at PPL, ebook on Hoopla
- *It's Raining* by Gail Gibbons
  - print copy available at PPL
- *From River to Raindrop* by Emma Carlson Berne
  - print copy available at PPL, ebook on Hoopla
- *Rain* by Alice K Flanagan
  - ebook on Hoopla
- *Feelings* by Aliko
  - print copy available at PPL
- *Understanding Myself* by Mary C. Lamia
  - print copy available at PPL
- *Feelings* series by Kristy Holmes
  - ebooks available on Hoopla
- *Whatever the weather : science experiments and art activities that explore the wonders of weather* by Annie Riechmann and Dawn Suzette Smith.
  - print copy available at PPL
- *Look at the Weather* by Britta Teckentrup
  - print copy available at PPL

Looking for more nonfiction titles? Contact us in Youth Services for suggestions or a surprise bundle!