

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

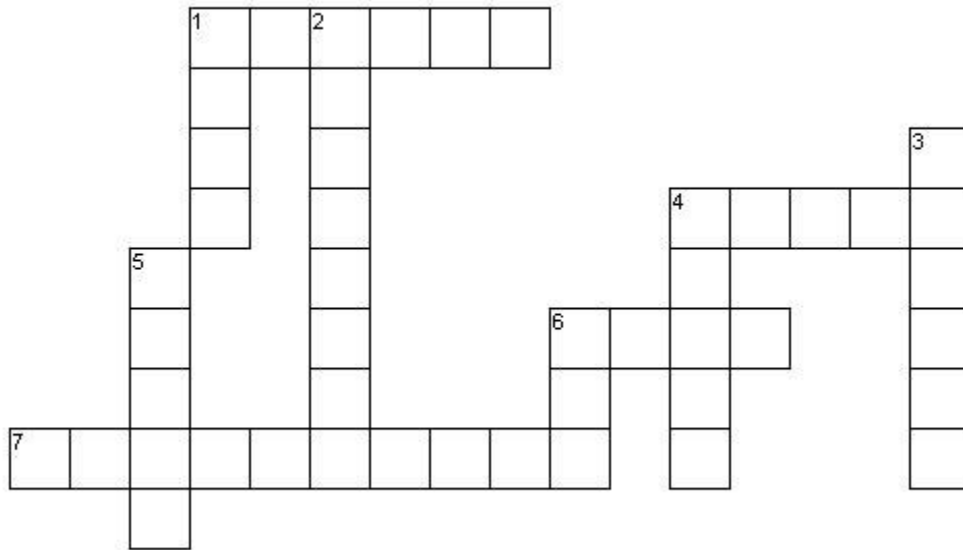
BOOTS	COCOA	INVITATION
LEAVES	NOVEMBER	PLAYGROUND
PORRIDGE	PUDDLE	RAIN
RED	SLIPPERS	SWINGS
WATERPARK	WAVES	WINDOW

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.

