



**Little
Novel·Ties**

Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain

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A Study Guide

Written by Garrett Christopher



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For the Teacher

This reproducible **Little Novel-Ties** study guide consists of activities to use in conjunction with the book *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*. The picture book and its corresponding guide can become an important element in your whole language reading program. The guide contains a synopsis; background information on the author and illustrator; suggested pre-reading activities; exercises that focus on vocabulary; visual literacy, story comprehension, and critical thinking skills; and extension activities that link the story to other curriculum areas.

Suggestions For Using Activities

Pre-Reading Activities – Before You Read

These activities are designed to activate children's prior knowledge and build concepts or background information. They will motivate children to read and help them to understand the story better. Children can discuss answers to the questions with a partner, in a small cooperative learning group, or with the entire class.

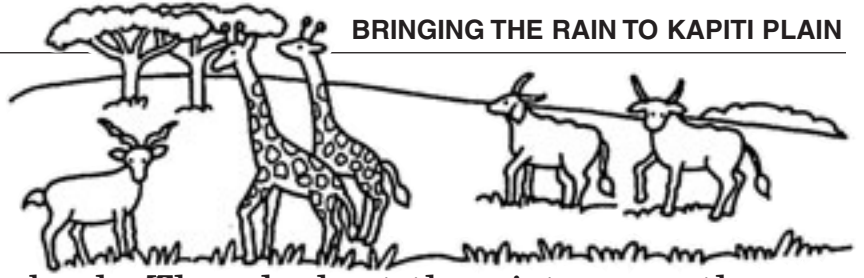
Word Study – Time for Rhyme

Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain is characterized by its repetitive rhyming text. On this page, children read groups of four words and identify the one word that does not rhyme. In its place, they are asked to write another rhyming word. As in the story, variant spellings of rhyming sounds are used to make the task more challenging.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

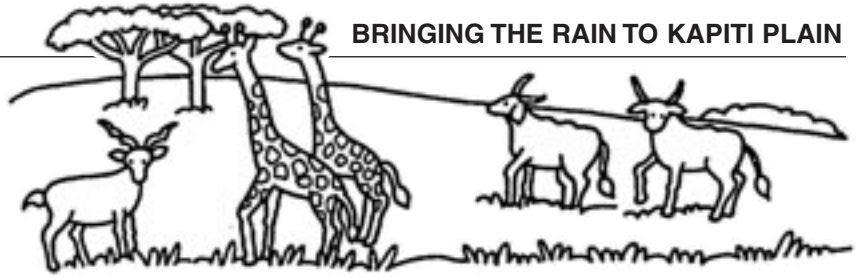
The story questions include a number of literal, inferential, and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. The picture questions help focus children's attention on picture details.

BEFORE YOU READ



1. Read the title of the book. Then look at the picture on the cover. What do you think this story will be about?
2. The Kapiti Plain is found in the African country of Kenya. Find Kenya and the Kapiti Plain on a world map or globe. Look at the illustrations throughout the book. What animals live on the Kapiti Plain?
3. A drought is caused by lack of rainfall. What happens to living things during a long drought? Make a list. Then share it with a partner. Did you list any of the same things?
4. Too little or too much rain can cause problems. Draw a picture showing what happens when there is too little rain. Then draw a picture showing what happens when there is too much rain.

Too Little Rain	Too Much Rain



STORY QUESTIONS

1. Where does this story take place? What do you know about the story setting?
2. Why do many of the wild animals leave the Kapiti Plain? Where do you think they go?
3. Who is Ki-pat? How does he spend his days?
4. How does the Kapiti Plain begin to change? Why does it change?
5. What happens to Ki-pat's herd during the drought? How do you think Ki-pat feels as he watches his cows?
6. What surprising object falls from the sky? What does Ki-pat make from this object?
7. What does Ki-pat do with his bow and arrow? How does this change the weather?
8. How do you think Ki-pat feels when it begins to rain?
9. What changes does the rain bring to the Kapiti Plain?
10. How does Ki-pat's life change at the end of the story?
11. Imagine you could visit Ki-pat's son on the Kapiti Plain. What questions would you ask little Ki-pat? How do you think his life differs from yours?
12. Which parts of this story could happen in real life? Which parts of the story are make-believe? Give reasons telling why you think as you do.