

The Rain Cloud



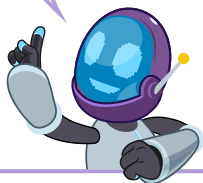
Written by Kristen Kunkel
Illustrated by Antonella Fant

The Rain Cloud



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Read the High-Frequency Words
and the Story Words to yourself.



High-Frequency Words

air

house

boat

love

gone

Story Words

water



Five pals ate lunch outside.

“It’s a nice day,” said Peacock.

“And this lunch is great,” said Skunk.

“Can you hand me the bread? I love its freshness!”

“Yes. I am happy to hand you the bread,” said Crab.



A cold wind started to blow, and a big, gray cloud blocked the sun like a veil.

“The sun and heat are gone,”
said Peacock.

“I think I smell rain in the air,”
said Goat.



Rain came down hard, and
the pals ran into the house.

“Rain is dropping from
the ceiling!” they shouted with
amazement.



“I know what I can do,” said Donkey.

“I can go outside and kick
the rain cloud to make it leave!”

He went outside and kicked
his back legs. He kicked hard with
all his might, but the rain cloud
did not leave.



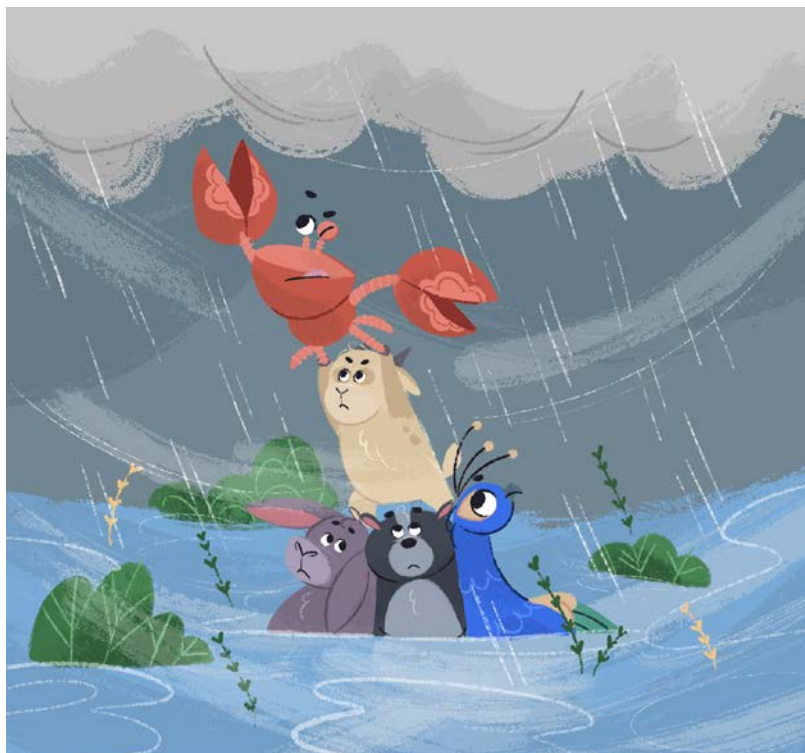
“I will butt the cloud with the horns on my head,” said Goat. “I will hit the cloud so hard it will leave the sky!”

Goat crouched. Then he boldly leaped high in the air, but he did not make the rain cloud leave. Rain kept streaming down, and the water rose.



Peacock said, "I will spread my bright tail briefly. Then I will run far. The rain cloud will go, too, so it can see more of my tail."

Peacock spread his tail proudly and ran, but the rain cloud stayed. Raindrops kept dropping, and the water rose more.



Crab said, “Lift me up high. Then I can seize the cloud and throw it far.”

The team of pals lifted Crab up. She stretched and pinched, but she only got air. She did not reach the rain cloud.

“This seems hopeless!” the pals wailed. “We feel like fish in the sea!”



Then Skunk said, "I have a boat
at my house."

"A BOAT?" the pals shouted. "That is
what we need! Get the boat, Skunk."



Skunk got his rowboat, and
the pals hoisted themselves in.



The pals sailed far from the rain cloud.

“No more rain! I feel joyful!

But what is that bad smell in the air?”
asked Peacock.

“SKUNK!” shouted the pals as
they smiled and held their noses.

INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS CHART

Target Phonics Skills and Related Decodable Words:

Long a digraphs ai, ay, ea, ei; long e digraphs ea, ee, ei, ie; long o digraphs oa, ow; short e digraph ea; diphthongs spelled ou/ow and oi/oy; derivational suffixes -ful, -less, -ly, -ment, -ness; vowel team syllables; phonograms -eam, -eat

amazement, blow, boldly, bread, briefly, ceiling, cloud, crouched, day, down, freshness, goat, gray, great, head, heat, hoisted, hopeless, joyful, know, leaped, leave, need, outside, peacock, proudly, rain, reach, rowboat, sailed, sea, see, seems, seize, shouted, spread, stayed, streaming, tail, team, throw, veil, wailed

Spiral Review Focus and Related Decodable Words:

Regular and irregular plural nouns; regular and irregular past-tense verbs; open syllables; open syllables ending with long e spelled y; inflectional endings -ed, -ing, -s; phonograms -ack, -ick, -ink, -old

asked, back, blocked, cold, dropping, fish, go, happy, he, held, high, horns, jumped, kept, kick, kicked, legs, lifted, me, noses, pals, pinched, ran, rose, she, sky, smiled, so, started, stretched, themselves, think, we, went

New High-Frequency Words:

*regular words (decodable); †irregular words

**air, *boat, †gone, *house, †love*

Story Words:

water



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