



# Activity Pack

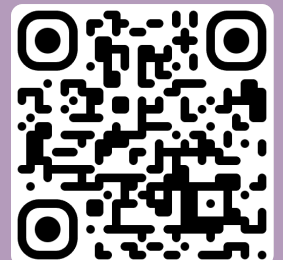
## HOW TO CALM A RAIN BULL

And other stories of the  
changing seasons  
from around  
the world

DENISE GALLAGHER



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*How to Calm a Rain Bull*  
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# Write About Your Favorite Season

Everyone has a favourite season – maybe it's sunny summer, cosy winter, colourful autumn or blooming spring.

Think about which one is your favourite and answer the below questions.

- What are your favourite things to do during that season?

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- What does it feel and smell like?

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- How does it make you feel inside?

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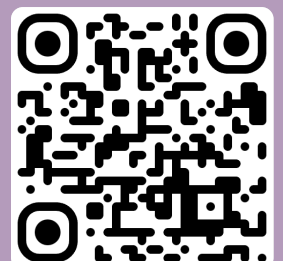
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Write a short story about how people (and animals!) might feel if this season was gone.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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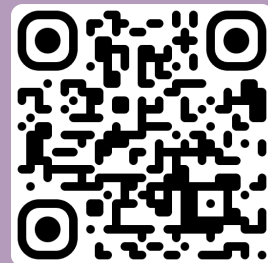
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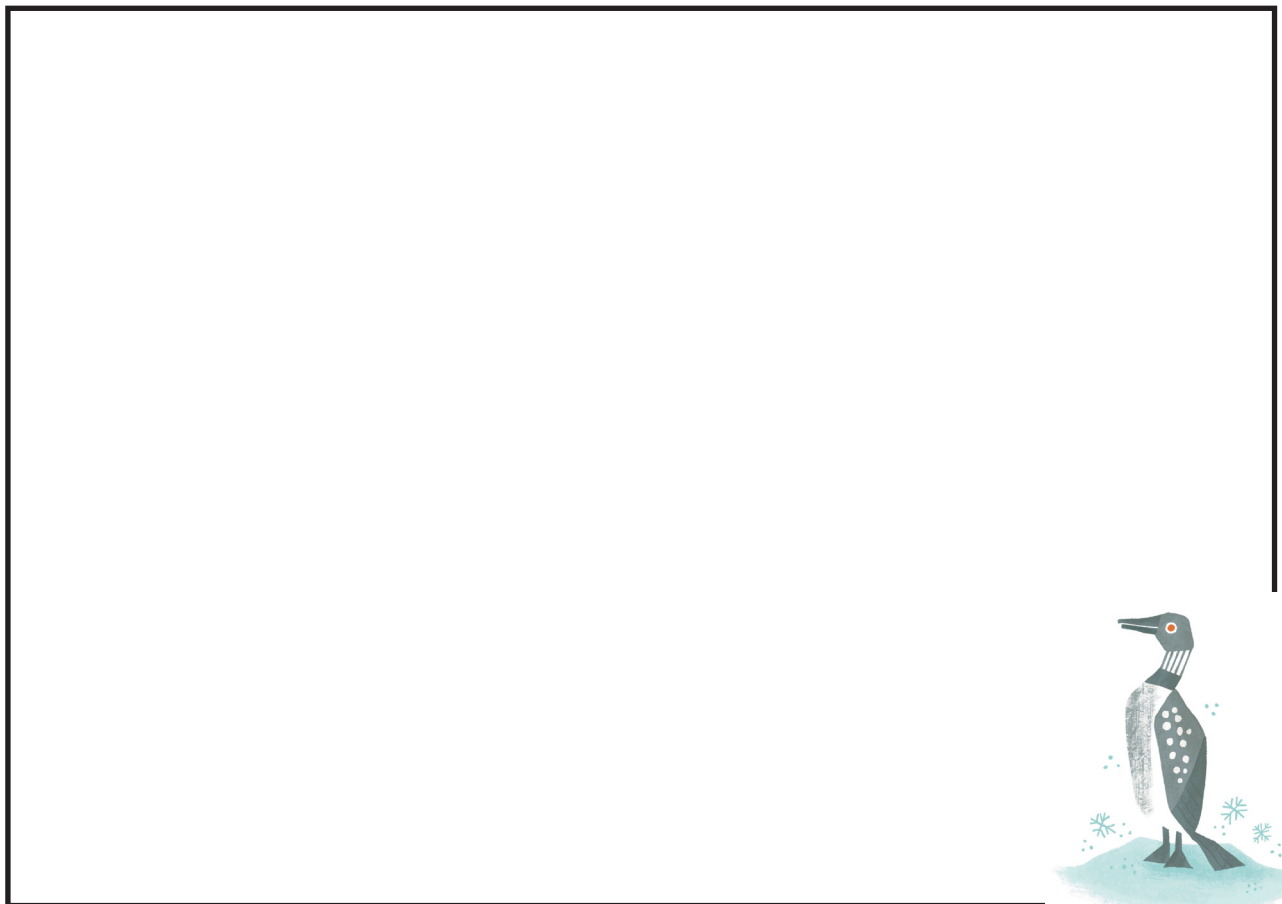


# Draw Your Favourite Season

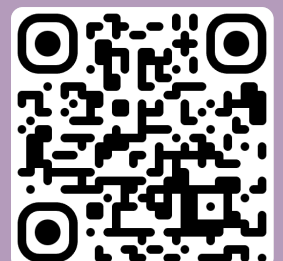
Now that you've written about your favourite season, it's time to draw it! You can think about:

- What colours do you see?
- What plants or animals are there?
- What's the weather like?

Use your favourite colours or art materials and bring your season to life on the page!



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# Decorate Leaves

Head outside and collect some dry leaves in all shapes and sizes – big, small, curly or smooth!

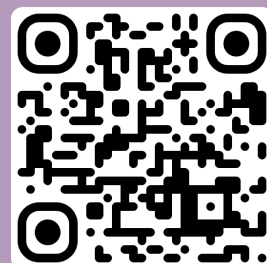
Use paint or pens to decorate your leaves with different patterns, shapes and colours.

You can glue your leaves onto a big piece of paper to make a leaf collage or tie them to string and hang them from a stick to make a hanging Leaf Mobile!

You can be as creative as you want!  
What colour will your leaves be?!



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# Create Your Own Magical Story



*How to Calm a Rain Bull* shows lots of different stories that explain the weather, the seasons, and more.

Now it's your turn to make up your own magical story about nature!

Pick something from the world around you – this could be the wind, drought, rainstorms, sunrise, snowflakes, thunderstorms, or anything else that interests you!

Use your imagination and create your very own folktale about how it came to be!

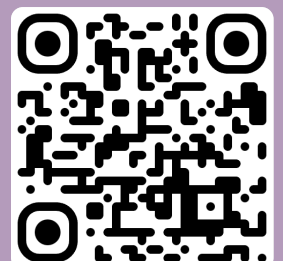
In your story think about:

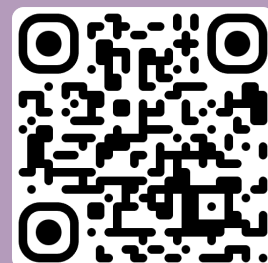
- Who are the characters? (A brave hero, a talking animal or an evil trickster?)
- What lesson or feeling does your story share?

You can use the next page to get started.



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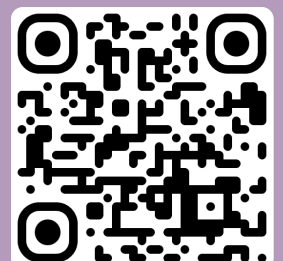


# Track the Locations

All the stories tell you where they're from under the titles.  
Let's go through them and add a pin on the map to show  
where in the world this story started.



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# Adventure to a New Land

Now you've tracked where all the stories are from, pick your favourite story and take note of the origin – both the country and the type of land (mountains, jungle, castle, etc).

For example, "The Alligator Peach Tree" takes place in Louisiana in a swamp, and "The Little Bird and the Kindhearted Fir Tree" takes place in Romania in a forest.

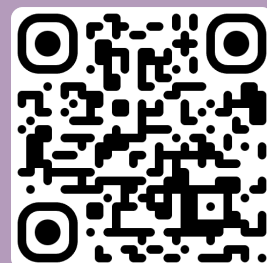
Explore your chosen land and find out about:

- What plants and animals live there?
- What is the land like – is it hot, cold, dry or full of green forests?
- Who lives there and what are their traditions or stories?
- What are some interesting facts you can find out about this place – share them with your friends!

Write down all the cool things you've learned on the next page.

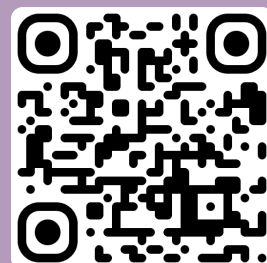


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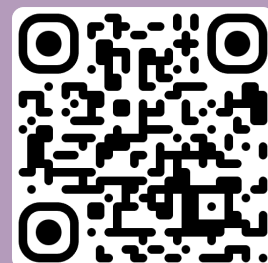
Place: \_\_\_\_\_

A stylized illustration of a brown bird with a bright blue wing, singing into a microphone. A yellow musical note is shown floating above the bird's beak. The bird has a white eye and is standing on a small patch of ground.



Now that you've researched all about where your favourite story takes place, it's time to imagine stepping into that world and living there for a whole day.

Write a diary entry on the lines below about your day as if you lived there. Think about what you'd wear, when you'd get up, who you'd talk to and what you'd do all day.

[illegible]



# Meet the Gods and Goddesses

Choose a god or goddess from your favourite story – it could be one you already know, or someone new to discover! For example, you could choose Telepinu, the god of nature; Chac, the god of rain and harvests; Annani, the beautiful sky goddess. There are so many to choose from in the book!

Now it's time to research all you can learn about your chosen God or Goddess. Explore different tales from around the world that they feature in.

Find out about:

- What powers do they have?
- What do they look like?
- What lessons do their stories teach?



Everything I learned \_\_\_\_\_

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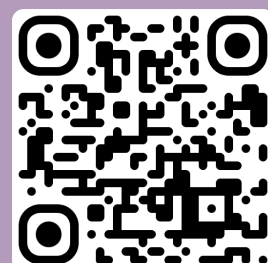
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Now, draw a picture of them and write your own mini myth about them on the next page!



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My myth: \_\_\_\_\_

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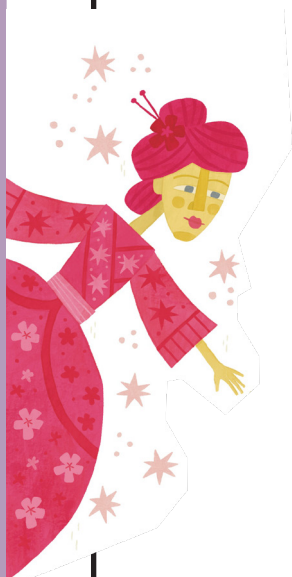
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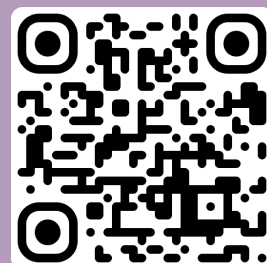
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My drawing:



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# Make a Cloud in a Jar!

Have you ever wondered how clouds are made? Here's your chance to make one yourself – in a jar!

You'll need:

- A glass jar
- Hot water (ask an adult to help!)
- A bit of hairspray (or smoke from a match, with an adult's help)
- Ice cubes

Here's how to do it:

1. Pour some hot water into the jar – this makes warm water vapour.
2. Quickly place the lid on top and put ice cubes on it.
3. Watch as the air inside cools down – the water vapour turns into tiny droplets!
4. Spray a little hairspray into the jar and cover it again – the cloud will appear!

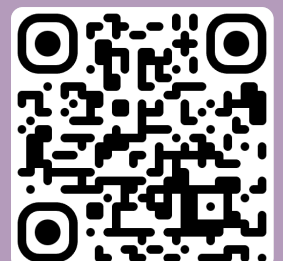


Congratulations! You've just made your own mini weather system!

Safety Note:  
Complete this  
task with adult  
supervision



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# Weather Quiz!

*How to Calm a Rain Bull* features a lot of different weather.  
Let's see how much you've learned in these stories!

1. What is a blizzard?

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2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a violent rotating storm that produces strong winds and heavy rains, often forming over warm ocean waters.

3. The monsoon season is known for:

- A) Freezing temperatures and hail
- B) Several months of heavy rainfall
- C) Short bursts of snow mixed with thunder

4. The summer solstice occurs on the day when the sun is at its \_\_\_\_\_ point in the sky and there is the most daylight.

5. Which of the following animals would you most likely find in a swamp?

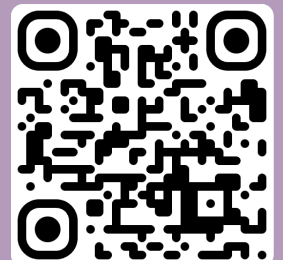
- A) Polar bear
- B) Alligator
- C) Penguin



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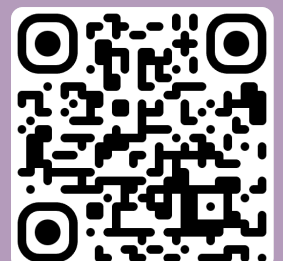
# Weather Quiz!

6. A whirlwind forms when:
- A) Winds begin to spin on the ground, picking up speed and debris
  - B) Two hurricanes collide in the ocean
  - C) Lightning strikes a body of water
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a long period of time that is drier than normal, when rain is scarce and crops and drinking water become difficult to find.
8. What do you call a plant that loses all its leaves for part of the year?
- 
9. Name at least 3 animals that hibernate in winter.
- 
10. What's the difference between a plain and a savannah?
- 

**ANSWERS:** 1. A blizzard is a severe snowstorm with strong winds that blow so much snow that it becomes difficult or impossible to see where you are going. | 2. Hurricane | 3. B | 4. Highest | 5. B | 6. A | 7. Drought | 8. Deciduous | 9. Turtle, bear, hedgehog, bats, frogs, snake (there are also others) | 10. A plain, is a type of grassland, similar to a savanna. Unlike the savanna, a plain is mainly treeless.



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# Word Search

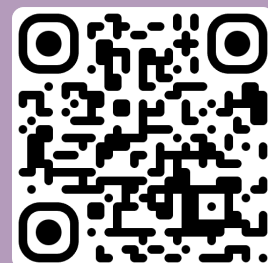
Look carefully to find the hidden words about weather  
Circle each word when you spot it

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

POLLINATION ☐ HIBERNATE ☐ MIGRATION ☐  
HARVEST ☐ PLAIN ☐ DAWN ☐ CANYON ☐  
HURRICANE ☐ SUMMER ☐ WINTER ☐



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For Caregivers  
+ Educators

# Questions To Ask A Child About Global Stories

**Want to start a meaningful conversation with your young ones about exploring different cultures and accepting people for who they are?**

**Here are some engaging conversation starters for you!**

1. What was your favourite story from this book and why?
2. What is something interesting you've learned about a culture that is different from your own?
3. Why do you think it's important to learn about how other people live and celebrate?
4. How can we show respect to someone whose culture is different from ours?
5. Have you ever tried food, music or games from a culture different than yours? How did it feel?
6. If you could visit any country in the world, where would you go and why?
7. Who was your favourite character from this book and why?
8. Do you have a favourite tradition or custom from our own family? How does it make you feel?



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