

## April Showers

**It's raining!**

**Some places get wet weather during spring.**

Grab your raincoat and boots! Spring is here. That means warmer, rainy weather in some parts of the United States.

**Why does it rain?**

A few wet drops land on your head. It's raining! Rain falls from clouds. **Clouds** are made of tiny bits of water and ice. The bits grow bigger as they join together. Some get so heavy that they fall to the ground. The ice melts if the air is warmer along the way. The raindrops reach the ground as water.

**What is a thunderstorm?**

Some clouds bring **thunderstorms**. Those are storms with heavy rain, lightning and thunder. As lightning strikes, it heats the air around it. That causes the air to **expand**, or get bigger. When that happens, you hear a loud sound of thunder.

**How do rainbows form?**

When it rains, you may see a rainbow. It appears when sunlight passes through drops of water in the air. The drops break up the sunlight into seven colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. Why? Sunlight is always made up of those colors. They look white when they are together. The drops of water **separate** each color.

Use the selection “April Showers” to answer questions 1- 15

1. What is the topic of this selection?

- A. rain clothing
- B. rainy weather
- C. things to do in the rain
- D. weather in all parts of the United States

2. What is the meaning of **expand** as used in the sentence below?

“That causes the air to **expand**, or get bigger.”

- A. get smaller
- B. get bigger
- C. thunderstorm
- D. rainbow

3. Why might the author have written this selection?

- A. to explain how to jump in puddles
- B. to provide information about ice
- C. to describe how a raincoat looks
- D. to answer questions about rain and storms

4. Look at the picture.

Which sentence from the passage *best* describes the picture?



- A. “Those are storms with heavy rain, lightning, and thunder.”
- B. “A few wet drops land on your head.”
- C. “Sunlight is always made up of those colors.”
- D. “Grab your raincoat and boots!”

5. Which color is **not** one of the colors found in a rainbow?

- A. green
- B. indigo
- C. brown
- D. violet

6. What are clouds made of?

A. water and thunder

C. water and ice

B. lightning and thunder

D. colors

7. According to the passage, what sentence is true?

A. It never rains in the Spring.

B. Thunderstorms are storms with light rain.

C. Clouds are made up of thunderstorms.

D. As lightning strikes, it heats the air around it.

8. How are you able to see the different colors of a rainbow?

A. Sunlight passes through drops of water and separates each color.

B. The water and ice get too heavy and fall to the ground.

C. Lightning heats the air around it.

D. Sunlight is always made up of those colors.

9. What causes you to hear the sound of thunder?

A. heavy clouds

C. expanding air

B. melting ice

D. drops of water

10. What happens when clouds get heavy?

A. It starts to snow.

C. It starts to rain.

B. A rainbow is formed.

D. It starts to thunder.

11. What does the word **separate** mean as used in the last paragraph of this passage?  
“The drops of water **separate** each color.”

- A. break apart      B. join together      C. sunlight      D. rain

12. What could be another title for this story?

- A. All About Rainbows      C. Playing in the Rain  
B. Rain and Storms      D. All About Thunder

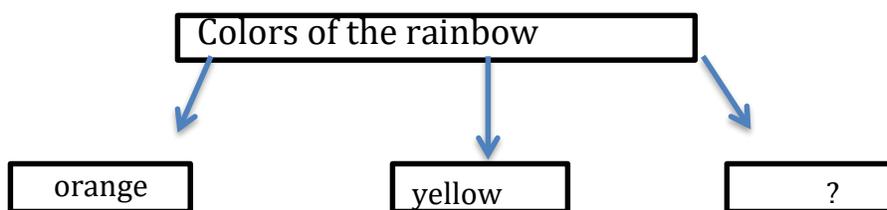
13. Which sentence from the paragraph “**What is a Thunderstorm?**” tells the reader what a **thunderstorm** is?

- A. “Some clouds bring thunderstorms.”  
B. “Those are storms with heavy rain, lightning and thunder.”  
C. “That causes the air to expand or get bigger.”  
D. “When that happens, you hear a loud sound called thunder.”

14. The word **thunderstorm** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. an adjective      B. a compound word      C. an adverb      D. a verb

15. Look at the graphic organizer



What word best fits in the empty box in the graphic organizer?

- A. black      C. pink  
B. teal      D. violet

## Pumpkins, Pumpkins

Pumpkins, pumpkins  
all around,  
big and small  
4 oval and round.

Picking a pumpkin  
is so much fun,  
but how can I  
8 choose just one.

I search the patch  
from left to right,  
under stems and leaves  
12 tucked in tight.

What is this  
that I spy,  
from the corner  
16 of my eye.

Just the right size  
nice and round,  
the perfect pumpkin  
20 I have found.

Answer the questions using the poem, “**Pumpkins, Pumpkins**”

1. What word in the poem rhymes with **right**?

- A. pumpkin      B. left      C. tight      D. tucked

2. Where does the speaker look for a pumpkin?

- A. in his eye      C. under stems and trees  
B. at the store      D. in the river

3. What is true about the pumpkin the speaker found?

- A. it is nice and round      C. it is big and oval  
B. it is small and oval      D. it is nice and big

4. What is the poem mostly about?

- A. carving a pumpkin  
B. finding the right pumpkin  
C. spying on people  
D. planting a pumpkin

5. In stanza 3 (line 12), what does the word **tucked** mean in the poem?

**“tucked in tight.”**

- A. pushed in      B. running      C. seeing      D. listening

6. Which word is a synonym for the word **spy**?

- A. see      B. pumpkin      C. corner      D. fly

7. What is the setting of the story?

- A. in a garden      B. at the zoo      C. in a pumpkin patch      D. in a flower shop

8. What happened **AFTER** the speaker spied from the corner of his eye?

- A. The speaker arrived at the pumpkin patch.      C. The speaker searched from left to right.  
B. The speaker found the perfect pumpkin.      D. The speaker looked under stems.

9. How do you think the speaker felt at the end of the poem?

- A. sad      B. mad      C. scared      D. happy

Answers:

**April Showers**

1. B	2. B	3. D	4. A	5. C
6. C	7. D	8. A	9. C	10. C
11. A	12. B	13. B	14. B	15. D

**Pumpkins, Pumpkins**

1. C	2. C	3. A	4. B	5. A	6. A	7. C	8. B	9. D
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