

Rain Sizes

*LISTEN to
your child read
this poem aloud.*



Rain comes in various sizes.
Some rain is as small as a mist.
It tickles your face with surprises,
And tingles as if you'd been kissed.

Some rain is the size of a sprinkle
And doesn't put out all the sun.
You can see the drops sparkle and twinkle,
And a rainbow comes out when it's done.

Some rain is as big as a nickel
And comes with a crash and a hiss.
It comes down too heavy to tickle.
It's more like a splash than a kiss.

When it rains the right size and you're wrapped in
Your rainclothes, it's fun out of doors.
But run home before you get trapped in
The big rain that rattles and roars.

By John Ciardi

Dear Parents,

Each of the phrases listed in the Questions section below is a simile. A simile is a comparison that uses like or as. The first set of similes is taken from the poem in this lesson, "Rain Sizes." Help your child to enjoy the poet's clever comparisons and other unusual word usage. Even the concept of rain having a size is fun and different! Then help your child to complete the matching activity. The similes listed should be familiar to you, and hopefully, to your child, too. Read each phrase out loud as you complete it. More importantly, please use lots of similes when you are talking with your child. It's also important to point them out when you are reading stories. If you start to look for them, you'll find similes in places you never noticed before!

Skill

Understanding Figurative Language: Similes

We completed this
assignment together.

(Child's Signature)

(Parent's Signature)

The Questions

1. Read the poem a second time. Find the three lines listed below and fill in the similes that the poet uses.

And tingles as if _____.

Some rain is as big as a _____.

It's more like a _____ than a kiss.

2. Here are some new similes. Fill in the blank space of each simile with a word from the column on the right. Be sure to spell correctly!

It's as sour as a _____.

lightning

That puppy is as cute as a _____.

ice

He's as fast as _____.

firecracker

This candy is as hard as a _____.

molasses

He runs as slow as _____.

grass

Her shirt is as green as _____.

lemon

The sidewalk is as hot as a _____.

button

The soup is as cold as _____.

rock