



Laugh in the Bath

Educator Notes



Written by Rory H. Mather
Illustrated by Brent Wilson

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Recommended for: ages 3-6
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Plot Summary

Follow this playful family of giraffes as they splash and laugh through their bedtime routine with jokes, songs and bathtime bubbles.

This hilarious story and rollicking rhyme is bound to have your little one giggling all the way to the tub!

Themes

- Family
- Daily routine
- Home life
- Hygiene
- Imagination

Rich and interesting words: experts, dilly-dallying, splishy-splashy, sparkly

Key Curriculum Learning Areas

Early Years Learning Framework:

Learning Outcome 1.3 - Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Children begin to understand expectations and rules, including expectations around daily routines such as bathtime and bedtime. This story outlines a typical bathtime routine and encourages family engagement, as well as outlining potential fun in daily routine activities.

Learning Outcome 5.2 - Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts

The rhythm and repetition in this story lead children to chant rhymes and anticipate the rhyming aspects.

Australian Curriculum

Learning Area: English

Foundation

<p>Language: Language for interacting with others</p>	<p>Explore different ways of using language to express preferences, likes and dislikes (AC9EFLA02)</p>
<p>Language: Language for expressing and developing ideas</p>	<p>Explore the contribution of image and words to meaning in stories and informative text (AC9EFLE07)</p>
<p>Literacy: Phonic and Word Knowledge</p>	<p>Recognise and generate rhyming words, alliteration patterns, syllables and sounds (phonemes) in spoken words (phonological awareness) (AC9EFLY09)</p>
<p>Literacy: Examining literature</p>	<p>Recognise different types of literary texts and identify features including events, characters, and beginnings and endings (AC9EFLE03)</p>



Conversation Starters

Before Reading

- Do you know what animals are on the cover? What else can you see on the cover?
- Ask children to make predictions about what they think this book is about.
- I wonder if the giraffes are having fun? How can you tell?

While Reading

- Observational skills are a crucial aspect to developing critical thinking in children. Ask children to notice some of the background illustrations. What sort of things are in the children's bedrooms? What do they have on their bookshelves? What could this tell us about their interests or hobbies?
- Compare the children's routine to the giraffe's routine in the book. How many similarities are there? Perhaps there are things they do differently?

After Reading

- Discuss bedtime routines. What are some of the things you do to get ready for bed time?
- What are some other daily routines or activities that your parents/caregivers may help you with?
- Brent Wilson's illustrations display a sense of imagination and frivolity. Use the pirate ship illustrations to discuss other possible scenarios to make up in the bath. This could include imaginative play, using bath toys or making a pirate's telescope.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS

Giraffes are interesting animals:

- Both male and female giraffes have two horns called **ossicones**.
- Giraffes only eat plants and flowers, which is called being a **Herbivore**.
- A giraffe's neck can be 6 feet long!

You may like to explore some more fun facts about giraffes together.

Check out the activities on our website littlebookpress.com.au

About the Author

Acclaimed picture book author and potato enthusiast **Rory Mathers** writes whimsical stories from his family home in Toowoomba. With a career in storytelling inspired by a childhood at sea, library work and a passion for reading, Rory's books include *Vlad's Bad Breath*, *Roary the Lion*, *Monster School Rules* and *Sloths Love Parties*. Rory hopes his stories can encourage children who have trouble reading, as he once did, to pick up a book and give it a go.

About the Illustrator

Brent Wilson is a Brisbane-based author/illustrator whose work appears in the pages of major national publications, children's books and a variety of other commercial projects.

Brent is co-author and illustrator of the graphic novel series *Frog, Log and Dave*. Written with Trent Jamieson and out through Penguin Random House.

Brent's first children's book was the acclaimed *Koalas Like To ...* written by Shae Millward and published by the State Library QLD as part of a series of 12 books created especially for children aged 0–5 for their First 5 Forever initiative. *Koalas Like To ...* was a finalist in the 2021 ABDA Awards for Best Designed Children's Illustrated Book.

You can find a bunch more illustration over on his [Instagram page](#).

