

# Raining Cats and Dogs

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

"It's raining cats and dogs!" Grandpa shouted.

Little Richie came running to the window. He wanted to see the cats and dogs falling from the sky. He really liked kittens and puppies, but when he looked out the window he was disappointed. All he saw was rain puddles. There were no fluffy kittens or puppies with wagging tails.



"Looks like it's coming down in sheets." Richie's cousin Thomas commented.

"Sheets?" Richie looked again. He didn't see any sheets of paper. He looked out at the clothesline poles. There wasn't any laundry on the lines, so they weren't talking about bed sheets either.

Everyone in the family started to gather around the window now to get a better look. "Man, it's really coming down out there!" Uncle Bob agreed as he looked out the window, too.

Richie scratched his head. What was coming down? First they talked about cats and dogs. Then they talked about invisible sheets. Now someone said 'it.' What was going on with these people?

"Wow!" Aunt Susie shouted as she looked out the window. "It's raining really hard."

Richie looked at his aunt. "It is raining hard," he agreed, "but where are the cats, dogs, and sheets?"

Grandpa laughed. "Richie, all that stuff just means it's raining really hard."

"So why didn't you just say that?" Richie asked. It was irritating when people spoke like they had a secret code.

"We did. You just didn't understand these sayings." Richie's cousin said with a grin.

"Well now I do." Richie insisted.

"I guess the cat's out of the bag, then." Grandma said with a smile.

"What cat?" Richie asked, and everyone laughed. "Oh, not a real cat again."

"Right." Grandma winked. "The secret is out."

Richie smiled too. "I get it."

## Raining Cats and Dogs

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of weather is everyone talking about?
  - A. rain
  - B. snow
  - C. sleet
  - D. hail
  
2. Why is Richie disappointed the first time he looks out the window?
  - A. Because it's raining
  - B. Because it's not raining
  - C. Because there are cats and dogs outside
  - D. Because there are no cats or dogs outside
  
3. Which saying about rain does Richie NOT hear?
  - A. coming down in sheets
  - B. raining cats and dogs
  - C. in the eye of the storm
  - D. really coming down
  
4. What does, "**It's raining cats and dogs,**" mean?
  - A. It's not raining hard.
  - B. It's raining very hard.
  - C. It's sunny outside.
  - D. It's sprinkling.
  
5. What does, "**The cat's out of the bag,**" mean?
  - A. The secret is out.
  - B. The cat escaped.
  - C. The dog chased the cat up the tree again.
  - D. It's time to buy a pet cat.

## Raining Cats and Dogs – Answer Key

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What kind of weather is everyone talking about?  
**A. rain**  
B. snow  
C. sleet  
D. hail
2. Why is Richie disappointed the first time he looks out the window?  
A. Because it's raining  
B. Because it's not raining  
C. Because there are cats and dogs outside  
**D. Because there are no cats or dogs outside**
3. Which saying about rain does Richie NOT hear?  
A. coming down in sheets  
B. raining cats and dogs  
**C. in the eye of the storm**  
D. really coming down
4. What does, "It's raining cats and dogs," mean?  
A. It's not raining hard.  
**B. It's raining very hard.**  
C. It's sunny outside.  
D. It's sprinkling.
5. What does, "The cat's out of the bag," mean?  
**A. The secret is out.**  
B. The cat escaped.  
C. The dog chased the cat up the tree again.  
D. It's time to buy a pet cat.