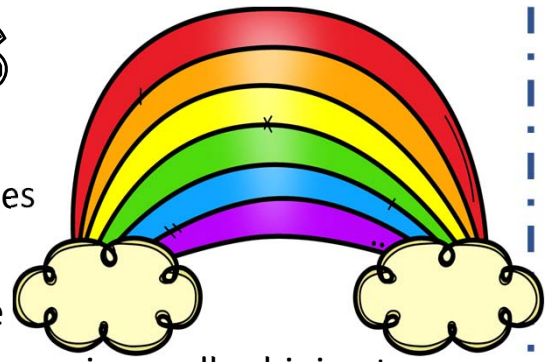


# Rainbows



Rainbows are magical and beautiful things that appear in the sky after it rains. They are like colorful bridges that connect the earth and the sky. Have you ever wondered how rainbows happen? First, rain and sunshine are needed for a rainbow to appear. When it's raining, the sun is usually shining too, even if we can't see it because of the clouds. Rainbows happen when sunlight passes through raindrops in the air.

Sunlight is made up of many different colors, like red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. But we can't see all those colors at once. When light passes through the raindrops, something special happens. The raindrops act like tiny little prisms, which are special glasses that break up light into different colors.

When the sunlight enters the raindrop, it bends or refracts. This means that the light changes direction a little bit. Then, it bounces off the inside of the raindrop and comes out the other side. But here's the really cool part: as the light is bouncing around inside the raindrop, it gets separated into its different colors.

After that, the colored light leaves the raindrop and heads towards our eyes. When all the colors come together again, we see a beautiful rainbow! The red color is always on top, and the violet color is on the bottom. In between, we can see all the other colors.

Rainbows usually form a half-circle shape in the sky. Sometimes, if you're lucky, you might even see a full circle, but those are rarer. And did you know that you can't touch or catch a rainbow? They are just made of light and water, so they are always far away.

The next time you see a rainbow, remember that it's made by sunlight and raindrops. It's like nature's own special light show. Rainbows are a sign that the rain is over and the sun is coming back out. Enjoy their beauty and remember the science behind them.

1. Read the passage and underline any word or sentence you struggled with.
2. Answer the questions on the following page.

Answer according to the reading passage:

1. **Rainbows look like colorful bridges that connect:**
  - a. rain and the clouds
  - b. the earthy and the sky
  - c. the sun and the sky
  
2. **Rainbows happen when:**
  - a. the rain and the sun meet
  - b. clouds block the sun
  - c. sunlight passes through the raindrops
  
3. **When the sunlight enters the raindrop, it bends or refracts.** Refracts means:
  - a. blocks it
  - b. light changes direction a bit
  - c. gathers water
  
4. **This color is always on top of the rainbow:**
  - a. violet
  - b. blue
  - c. red
  
5. **This color is always on the bottom:**
  - a. blue
  - b. red
  - c. violet

# Rainbows

## Open Response Questions

### Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. What is the purpose of this story?
  2. Explain how rainbows happen.
  3. In 2-3 sentences, summarize what this passage is about.
  4. What did the author make you visualize as you read through this reading passage?
- Draw and color a rainbow.
  - Is this reading passage fiction or non fiction, how do you know?
  - List 3 facts from this reading passage.
  - What more do you wonder about after reading about rainbows?
  - Explain why the sun can't be seen on a cloudy day.