

# *Rain Reign*

**AUTHOR:** Ann M. Martin

**PUBLISHER:** Macmillan

**COPYRIGHT DATE:** 2014

**GENRE:** Biographical Fiction

**LEXILE:** AR 4.3

## **SUMMARY:**

Rose is a young girl experiencing life on the autism spectrum. Her school, her uncle and her dog are helpful in redirecting her behavior by encouraging self-talk, thus helping to calm her.

Rose makes endless lists of homonyms. Her dad brings home a dog he has found. Rose names it Rain for the weather at the time. The dog serves as her companion when her father is late getting home from work. Rose must make some difficult choices and bravely takes the challenge with the help of her Uncle Weldon.

## **BOOKTALK:**

How would you cope if your dad came home from work late and angry? Do you have a special pet you share secrets with? What do you do if your routine (your regular way of doing things, your schedule) gets changed? Do you have a special family member you can count on?

Rose lives with her father who isn't quite sure what to do with an unusual daughter. Rose loves homonyms, words like these: Rose/rows, rain/reign, pair/pear. She collects words in pairs like some students might collect baseball cards, dolls, or action figures.

Rose's uncle Weldon, though, knows how to love her and accept her even if she is a bit unusual. Read *Rain, Reign* and be prepared to learn lots of homonyms as well as perhaps shed some tears!

**AUTHOR'S NAME:** Ann M. Martin

**Author's Website:** <http://www.scholastic.com/annmartin/>

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<http://us.macmillan.com/rainreign/annmmartin>

## **Other books written by the author:**

*Babysitters' Club* 131 books

*Babysitters' Club* Graphic Novels 3 books

*The Kids of Ms. Colman's Class* 12 books

*California Diaries* 15 books

*Main Street Series 5 books*  
*Here Today*  
*Belle Teal*  
*A Corner of the Universe*  
*A Dog's Life*  
*Everything for a Dog*  
*On Christmas Eve*  
2 Collaborations with Paula Danzinger

### **CHALLENGING WORDS**

homonym(p. 3) a word which agrees with another in pronunciation but differs from it in signification, origin and usually spelling

autism(p. 6) in psychology a state of mind characterized by daydreaming, hallucinations and disregard of external reality

routines(p. 11) regular more or less unvarying procedure, customary, prescribed or habitual

palindrome(p. 23) a word or verse or sentence that is the same when read backwards or forwards

accidental(p. 3) not on purpose, a mistake

deliberate(p. 3) breaking a rule, doing something for a reason, on purpose

directional(p. 36) on this page, in this case it means "turn signal"

microchip(p. 169) a tiny identifying piece, inserted under the skin, that carries identifying information

skirts around(p. 214) avoiding or evading

troubling(p. 168) causing worry

geographic (p. 115) relating to placement on a map

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Does Rose explain why her Dad and Uncle Weldon became foster children?
2. Why does Uncle Weldon drive Rose to school each day?
3. If Rose was a student in your class how would you react? What are some things Rose's teacher and classmates could do to help?
4. How does Rose prepare for Hurricane Susan? Do you keep special supplies in your home? Give examples.
5. Would you be able to find the real owners of an animal you had become fond of and want to have as a pet?

6. Do you think Rose is a truly brave girl? Explain. Give examples.
7. Rose quickly becomes attached to the found dog. Have you experienced this closeness with a pet before? What would you do to keep that pet in your life?

## **ACTIVITIES WITH STANDARDS:**

### **Language Arts:**

- Tell about a pet you have and how it comforts you, or tell about a pet you would like to have and how it would comfort you. Compare and contrast this pet with Rain from *Rain Reign*.

**4RL2.1** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what a text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

- Use descriptive words to tell how Rain comforted Rose.

**4RL2.3** Describe a character, setting, or event in a story or play, drawing on specific details in the text, and how that impacts the plot.

- Compare and contrast your routines at home with Rose and her family.

**4RL3.2** Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first and third-person narrations.

### **Math:**

- How does Rose use measurements and math information to describe her home and life?

**Math4DA 1** Formulate questions that can be addressed with data. Use observations, surveys, and experiments to collect, represent, and interpret the data using tables (including frequency tables), line plots, and bar graphs.

### **Science:**

- How did the water from the rain and hurricane change the yard at Rose' home and cause difficulty for her family?
- Science activity: Set up a large deep aluminum roaster pan. Layer potting soil, sand and aquarium gravel in it. Raise one end of the pan slightly and trickle water from the high end and observe the erosion patterns. Relate this to the bridge wash-out in Rose' yard and discuss the power of water.

**4S2.2** Describe how wind, water and glacial ice shape and reshape earth's

land surface by eroding rock and soil in some areas and depositing them in other areas in a process that occurs over a long period of time.

**RELATED INTERNET SITES:**

Site for adults to learn more about autism.

[www.webmd.com/brain/autism](http://www.webmd.com/brain/autism)

Kids Health has a website for kids explaining autism. Readers have the option to listen to the article being read.

[http://kidshealth.org/kid/health\\_problems/brain/autism.html#](http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/brain/autism.html#)

Book Activities

<https://kbakerdoyle.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/lit-circlerainreignforweb.pdf>

Interview with Ann M. Martin

<http://www.bustle.com/articles/43116-the-baby-sitters-club-author-ann-m-martin-talks-rain-reign-and-tells-us-where-our-favorite>

**ACTIVITY SHEET CREATED BY:**

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