Jelly

The Duck in the Mud

LITTLE READERS



The rain has stopped.
Mia walks in the garden
with a little duck.



The duck is yellow
and soft and fluffy.
He waddles beside Mia.



The duck sees a puddle.
It is big and brown.
He walks toward it.



“What did you find?”
Mia asks the little duck.
She smiles at him.



The duck steps in.
Squish! His feet sink
into the soft mud.



Splash! Mud flies up.
The duck flaps his wings.
He makes a little splash.



He splashes again.

The puddle is so much fun!

Mia watches him play.



Mia laughs with the duck.
"You like the mud!"
she says.



Soon the duck wants
to get out of the puddle.
He lifts one foot.



His foot slips in the mud.

He sits down with a plop.

He looks surprised.



“It is slippery,”
Mia says to the duck.
She comes a little closer.



"Let me help you
get back to the grass,"
Mia says.



Mia finds a broad leaf.
She puts it by the duck.
“Try this,” she says.



The duck puts a foot
on the green leaf.
The leaf moves.



It floats away
across the puddle.
The duck watches it go.



Mia looks around.

"What else can we use?"

she asks.



Mia sees a little plank
beside the garden path.
She picks it up.



Her puppy comes over.

He watches Mia.

His tail wags.



Mia lays the plank
at the edge of the puddle.
It reaches the grass.



The duck looks at it.

Mia steps back.

“You can try,” she says.



The duck puts one foot
on the little plank.
Then he lifts the other.



The plank gives a wiggle.

The duck stops.

He does not move.



He looks at Mia.

Mia looks at the plank.

She has an idea.



“Take your time,”
Mia tells the duck.
She waits beside him.



Mia holds the plank
so it will not wiggle.
“Now try,” she says.



The duck takes one step.

Then he takes another.

He moves slowly.



Waddle, waddle.
He walks across the plank
toward the grass.



The duck reaches dry land!

“You did it!” says Mia.

The puppy gives a wag.



The duck looks down.

Mud is on his feet.

Mud is on his feathers.



He gives a big shake.
Little drops of mud fly.
Mia steps back.



Mia laughs.
"You need a wash,"
she tells the duck.



The puppy looks at him.

The duck gives a quack.

Mia gets some water.



Mia puts clean water
in a shallow basin.
The duck peeks inside.



He steps in carefully.

Splish, splash!

The mud begins to wash off.



Mia finds a soft towel.
She waits for the duck
to finish his bath.



The duck is clean again.
His feathers are yellow
and fluffy.



Mia dries the duck
with the soft towel.
He gives a happy quack.



The sun comes out.
Warm light shines
across the garden.



Mia and the little duck
walk along the path.
The puppy follows them.



They pass the puddle.

The duck looks at Mia.

“Maybe later!” she says.



Where do Mia and
the little duck go?
What do they find?



What does the duck do
in the muddy puddle?
How does Mia feel?



Why does the duck
have trouble getting out?
Look at the picture.



What does Mia try first?

What happens to it?

Tell a friend.



What does Mia find next?

Where does she put it?

How might it help?



Why does the duck stop
on the little plank?
How does Mia help?



How does the duck get clean
after playing in the mud?
What does Mia use?



What happens first, next,

and at the end?

Tell the story in order.



The End

