

# SPLASH!

Raphael's Mud  
Puddle Experience

January 15th, 2019

Dear Rapha,

Today it rained! Rain isn't something we see here often in Southern California so we decided to open up our doors and let you guys explore. And, explore you did! You crawled out before I could even get a jacket on you. At first you made your way out onto the rug and noticed the light rain drops falling all around you. Soon you also noticed that the outdoor surfaces were all wet! It didn't seem to bother you one bit and you continued on!



Next, you crawled right over to a big muddy puddle. I moved closer to see what you might do. You lifted your hand above your head and your hand came down with a SPLASH! Muddy water splashed onto your face and your shirt as you pulled your head back and squinted your eyes. You sat back and looked at me with a big grin on your face. Your exploration continued. Upon discovering that your socks and shoes were already totally soaked, I removed them.



You squished and squeezed the mud between your fingers and moved your feet around in the mud puddle too. There were lots more splashes and many smiles as you investigated the depth, composition and potential of this awesome mud puddle!

Splash on Rapha,

Karina

## What learning is happening here?

Rapha, you are taking learning into your own hands! Today you found something of great interest outside. You discovered something that you have not seen in our space before, you used your senses to find out more about that puddle. Like a scientist, you sought out answers by repeating your experiment and engaging your senses.

## Opportunities and possibilities:

I think you might enjoy more activities that involve water! We will be sure to make water activities available in the water table and also have water available to use in the sandbox. Can't wait to see what you might get into the next time it rains but, it sure will be a treat.



Family Response:

Dearest Rapha—

It's true...you love anything that gets you good and dirty. You're an adventurous little soul (almost too much so sometimes). You fearlessly climb tables, stairs, slides and you never look behind you—so you don't know that you may fall and hurt yourself one day. As long as no one MAKES you do anything, you'll do it. Like bath time should be fun, right? But just because your mama wants you clean, you will scream your head off as if you were being dipped in a cauldron of hot oil. For sure, you're a character. Sometimes in life, you have to do what you don't want to. But as long as you're safe, all's good. I want you to be happy and I appreciate your fearlessness. I love you so much, Raphadoodle!

Caregiver response:

Dear Rapha,

I saw you play in some puddles this day. It was so fun to watch your face light up with excitement as you explored the mud. Your joy was infectious. What a discovery you found in mud, and quite the sensory experience! When the rain came I wondered if you'd even want to be outside due to it being so wet everywhere. But you explored everything wet, cold, and slippery about the rain and mud, and seemingly enjoyed every second of it. I take such joy in getting to watch you explore the world around you.

Love,

Heather