

Speaker: Lingokids.

Speaker: Keep hiking, we're getting close.

Speaker: Yay.

Speaker: I'm so excited to show everyone the best nature spot. We're going to get wet. Do you all have your floaties?

Speaker: Yes. Here's my raft.

Speaker: I have water wings.

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: Billy brought a pool noodle.

Speaker: I can't wait.

Speaker: I am going to jump right in.

Speaker: Are we close?

Speaker: It's just around this turn. It's right here.

Speaker: Oh no.

Speaker: Welcome to *Storytime by Lingokids*, where we discover fascinating facts about the world around us and the fun of Playlearning. Let's talk about water in nature. Why don't creeks always have the same amount of water? Where does the water come from and where does it go? Let's find out.

Speaker: This is terrible. Where's the creek? It's right here. Well, it used to be right here. I don't know what happened. It's just rocks now.

Speaker: Well, we can't use our floaties.

Speaker: Goodbye, rafts.

Speaker: Slow down, everybody. It's not just rocks. Look, I see plenty of puddles and actually a little water flowing too.

Speaker: We can't even go swimming.

Speaker: We could if we were a bug.

Speaker: [laughs] That's true.

Speaker: Sorry, I took everyone here.

Speaker: It's okay, Elliot, but I don't get it. Where did the water go?

Speaker: I don't know. It used to be right here.

Speaker: Who took all the water?

Speaker: Nobody took the water, Lisa, but you're all asking great questions. Where did the water go? Kids at home, any guesses?

[music]

Speaker: Maybe animals drank it all.

Speaker: Maybe it sunk into the dirt.

Speaker: Maybe someone stole it for their sprinkler.

Speaker: Good guesses, but those aren't quite right.

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: Yes, Billy, the creek is low because there hasn't been a lot of rain lately.

Speaker: Wait a minute. What does rain have to do with the creek?

Speaker: Billy, Rain is not the kind of water we're talking about.

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: Actually, Billy says rain is the kind of water you're talking about.

Speaker: Huh?

Speaker: When it rains, the water flows down to creeks and fills them up. When there's a lot of rain, the creek gets higher, but when there is no rain or only a little rain, the creek gets lower.

Speaker: That's why the water is low because there hasn't been a lot of raining?

Speaker: Yes.

Speaker: Maybe we should come back when it's raining.

Speaker: Well, it doesn't have to be raining exactly.

Speaker: It doesn't?

Speaker: It's more about which time of year there is plenty of water flowing down to the creek from the hills. Creeks fill up after rainy weeks, not just a day. They can also fill up from melted snow.

Speaker: Wow.

Speaker: Any guesses about which time of year creeks are fullest? Kids at home, what do you think?

[music]

Speaker: Well, it usually rains a lot in the spring.

Speaker: Snow melts in the spring too since it's not cold anymore.

Speaker: That's right.

Speaker: Maybe the creek is full of during spring?

Speaker: That's right. Creeks and rivers are usually highest during springtime.

Speaker: Wait a minute. The creek water comes from rain and snow in the springtime, but then what happens?

Speaker: What do you mean, Callie?

Speaker: Where does the water go? After it's done flowing around here, where does it go after that?

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: Yes, Billy. The water from little creeks keeps on flowing downhill until it joins up with a bigger river.

Speaker: Wow. Then, where does the river go?

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: That's right, Billy. The water keeps on flowing downhill until it reaches the sea.

Speaker: No way.

Speaker: Well, I wanted to swim, but our water already left. It's probably in the river or the sea now. Sorry, I brought everyone here at the wrong time. I thought it was going to be special, but it's the wrong time of year.

Speaker: Do you think it might still be special?

Speaker: No.

Speaker: No.

Speaker: Not really.

Speaker: Now, slow down, everyone. Let's close our eyes and listen. Kids at home, you can close your eyes too.

[water flowing]

[waterdrops dropping]

Speaker: I like these sounds.

Speaker: There are also exciting creatures in these low waters.

Speaker: Really?

Speaker: Yes.

Speaker: I see an insect running on top of the water.

Speaker: That's a water skipper. They can stay afloat even when holding 15 times their weight. That would be like an adult person floating while holding a giraffe.

Speaker: No way.

Speaker: Well, my puddle is empty. It just has some rocks.

Speaker: Take a closer look.

Speaker: Wait. They are not rocks. Snails.

Speaker: Yes. Snails don't have hands to eat, so they use their long rough tongues to scrape food into their mouths.

Speaker: There's nothing in my puddle.

Speaker: Are you sure?

Speaker: A crawdad.

Speaker: That's right.

Speaker: Wow. It looks like a lobster.

Speaker: Cool crawdad.

Speaker: Crawdads come in red, yellow, green, and brown.

Speaker: Cool.

Speaker: Elliot, what do you think about the low creek now?

Speaker: I'm glad we came. The water is low, but it's still special.

Speaker: Look, Cowie is taking off her shoes. Why are you doing that, Cowie?

Speaker: I'm going to dip my toes in the mud. This is funny.

Speaker: Let's take off our shoes too.

Speaker: Ew, squishy.

[laughter]

[Billy chirping]

Speaker: Billy says, we can rest our heads on his pool noodle.

Speaker: Ah, this is kind of like the beach, a mud beach.

Speaker: I'm doing a mud mask on my legs.

Speaker: Me too.

Speaker: Me three.

Speaker: Lingokids listeners, thanks for exploring the creek with us. We learned that water from one place can be connected to water somewhere else. That's why creeks are higher during the rainy season. We also learned that water flows downhill with creeks eventually joining rivers and rivers flowing into seas. Even though swimming is fun, we discovered that creek environments are full of life and interesting things, even when the water is low.

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[00:08:39] [END OF AUDIO]