

CAN WE
SPLASH?



Can We Splash? is a book about children's swimming.

Developed by Active Nottingham, we hope it will encourage children and their families to take those first steps into swimming together.

Used to support an introduction to swimming, this book is designed to ease any worries, support families and teachers with conversations, and help prepare children for positive first experiences.

We want every child in Nottingham to enjoy swimming, reading and spending quality time with their family – having fun, creating happy memories and learning together.

We hope you enjoy this book.

Councillor David Mellen
Leader of Nottingham City Council

active
Nottingham



Written by Matt Clarke
Illustrated by Humeera Mohamed

With special thanks to
Inder Gill and Claudia Russell



It's Saturday morning
for Dad, Yas and Mo.

It's raining. It's boring.
But Dad knows where to go.

"Let's take Mo for a swim."
"Good idea!" says Yas.

Mo thinks.
Then he smiles.
Then he asks...



Mo is excited. He's never been to a pool.
But he's splashed in the bath, of course, as a rule.

"Time to get ready!" says Dad to Yas and Mo.

"Get your swim bags...



“Will there be fish? Or sharks?” asks Mo.
“If there are,” says Yas,
“I don’t want to go!”



“Of course not!” says Dad. “It’s a **pool**, not the sea!”
As they wait for the bus: splashers one, two and three.



With a
friendly



they arrive
for their swim.

“Shall we
go and get
changed?”
asks Dad,
with a grin.

Mo follows the signs
and – what do
you know! –
he’s
changed
and



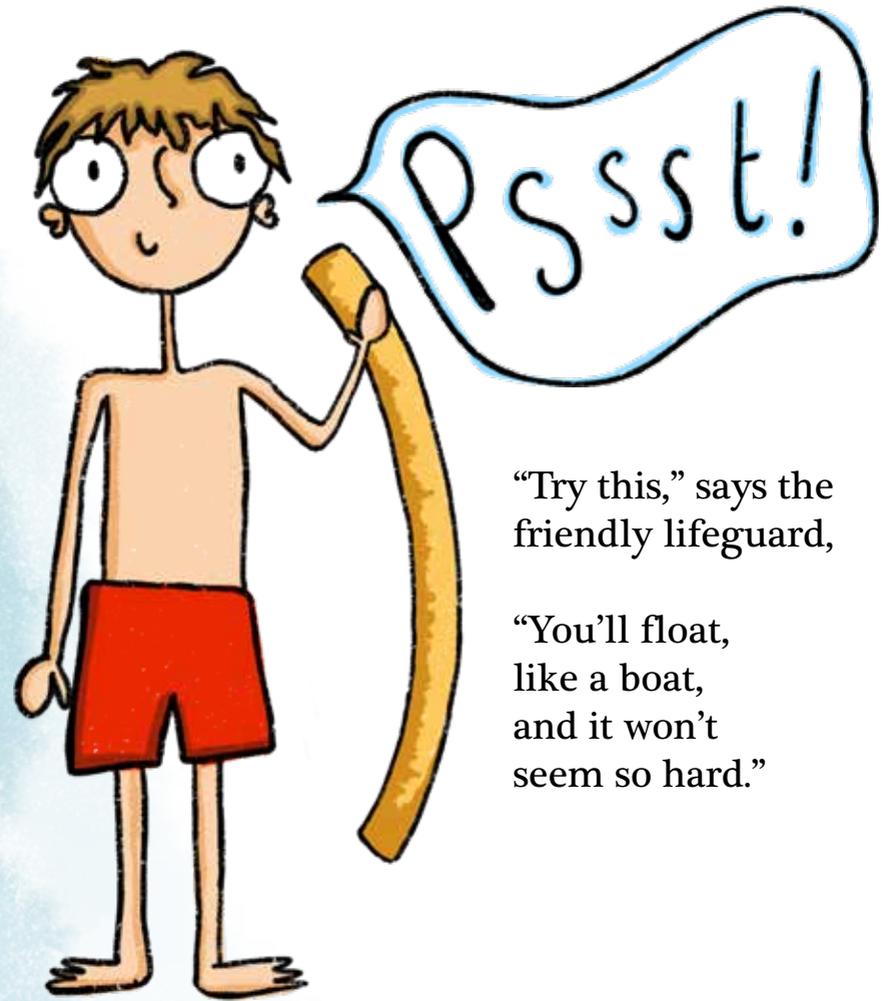
and raring
to go.





But now the pool looks so
huge and Mo's only small.

And Mo isn't sure about
splashing at all...



"Try this," says the
friendly lifeguard,

"You'll float,
like a boat,
and it won't
seem so hard."

With a float in his hand, Mo dips in a toe.
Then a foot...
Then a leg...
Just look at him go!



With a “Wahey!” from Dad,
and a “Woohoo!” from Yas,

Mo kicks out his feet,
and makes a big...

Splash!



So that's what they do:
they splosh
and they splish.

Dad glides
and Yas floats
and Mo looks out for fish.

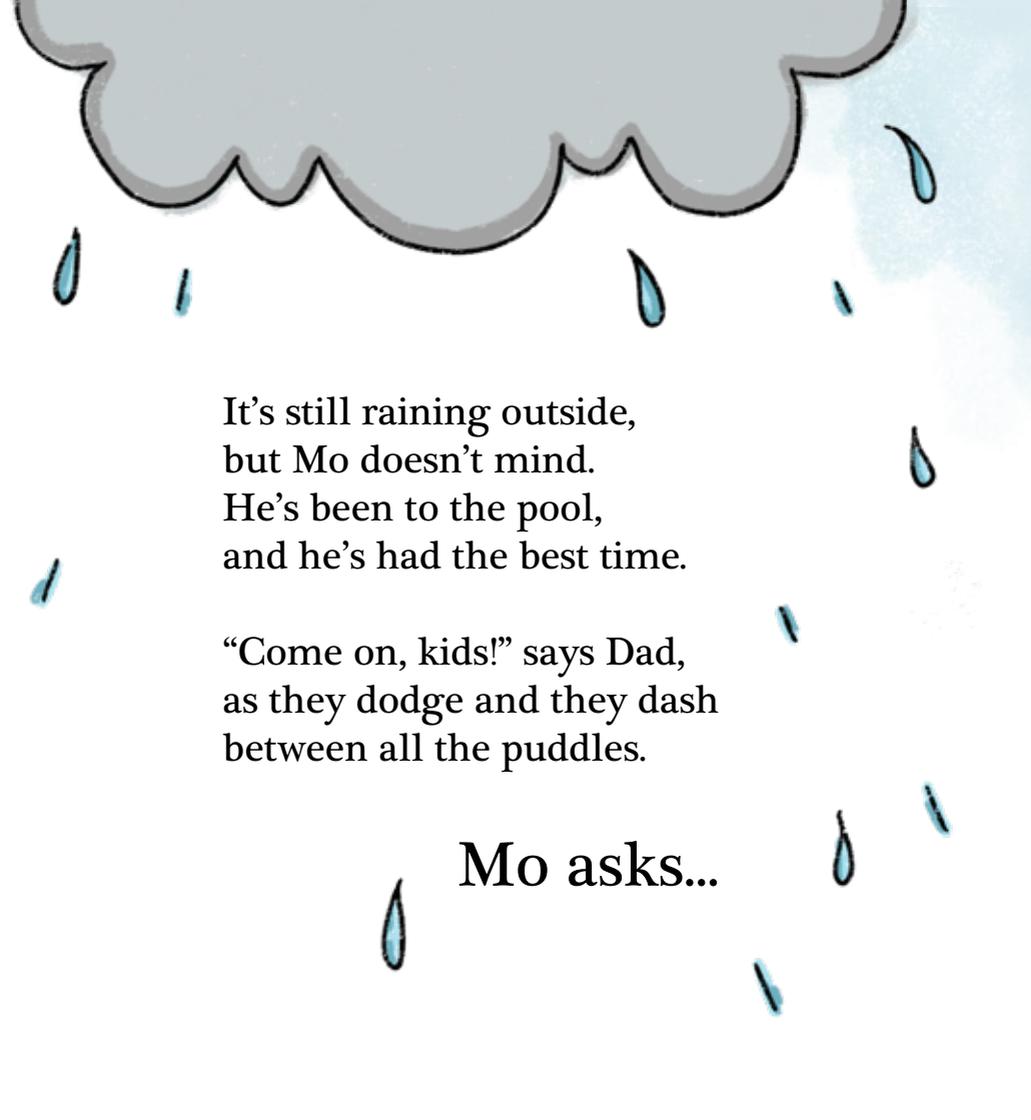


When they've chased and they've raced,
and they're ready for home,
they shower once more,
and Yas says to Mo:

“What did you think
of the pool, little one?”

“I didn't see any fish,
but I had lots of fun!”





It's still raining outside,
but Mo doesn't mind.
He's been to the pool,
and he's had the best time.

"Come on, kids!" says Dad,
as they dodge and they dash
between all the puddles.

Mo asks...

CAN WE SPLASH?



Inspired?

For more information, visit:
activenottingham.com/can-we-splash

And don't forget to share your stories on social media!

#CanWeSplash

Acknowledgements

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Nottingham City Council

Nottingham City Libraries

National Literacy Trust (Nottingham)

Nottingham UNESCO City of Literature

Swim England



Mo's never been swimming before.
Then, one rainy Saturday, Dad has an idea.

With his big sister, Yas, along for the ride,
Mo's first visit to the pool makes a splash
in more ways than one...

Written by Matt Clarke
Illustrated by Humeara Mohamed

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