Raffy's Ocean Discovery Pack

A free printable adventure for curious little explorers, ages 4-8



Hello! I'm Raffy. Come and meet my friends!

We'll look closely, play, wiggle and discover something amazing. You don't need to know our stories to join in!



Raffy
Mudskipper



Barry
Bream



Willa
Whiting



Keely
Seahorse



Tia
Sea turtle



Murray
Crab



Clancy
Kookaburra

This adventure belongs to:

Little friends. Big care.

Grown-ups: allow 30-60 minutes. You need pencils, crayons and room to move. Read together, point or draw. Print pages 1-12 for the adventure; page 13 is an optional sing-along sheet. A4 at 100%, or fit to Letter.

Meet a real mudskipper

A fish out of water? Meet the real animal behind Raffy.



REAL PHOTOGRAPH



STORY ILLUSTRATION

A real mudskipper

Look for raised eyes, fins and a long body. The exact species and location of this photograph are not recorded here.

Raffy

A make-believe friend inspired by real mudskippers.

LOOK CLOSELY

Where are the eyes? Point to a fin. What is the same in both pictures? What has the artist changed?

I noticed...

Photo: Petr Kratochvil, "Mudskipper", PublicDomainPictures.net, CC0. Image scaled without cropping. Source and licence link in the grown-up notes. Raffy is an illustration, not an identification guide.

Three muddy surprises

Share each surprise with someone. Which is your favourite?

1

A fish that visits land!

Mudskippers are fish. They can spend time out of water on wet mud.

2

Air-breathing skin!

They can take in oxygen through moist skin. Staying damp helps them breathe out of water.

3

Fins that help them move!

Their side fins help them prop up and move across mud. Their body and tail help power quick skips.

MY FAVOURITE SURPRISE IS NUMBER: _____

Draw or tell: which body part would you like to look at more closely?

Explorer care: watch wild animals where they live. Never take a fish out of water to try this. Different fish have different needs.

Explore the mangroves

Use the friend pictures on page 1. Point, circle or tick.



[ ] Raffy the mudskipper [ ] Clancy the kookaburra

[ ] Barry the bream [ ] Willa the whiting [ ] Keely the seahorse

[ ] Tia the turtle [ ] Murray the crab [ ] a blue crab [ ] two snails

Extra: give a clue without saying a name. This is Raffy's imagined world, inspired by a real habitat.

Who can do that?

Match each animal to its real-world behaviour. Draw lines or say the letter.



1. Mudskipper

A. I can fly from a branch.



2. Seahorse

B. I swim using flippers.



3. Sea turtle

C. I can grip with my curled tail.



4. Kookaburra

D. I use fins to move over wet mud.

MAKE A BODY CLUE

Pretend your arms are fins, wings or flippers. Can your partner guess your animal? You can point to its picture instead.

Do the Raffy Hop!

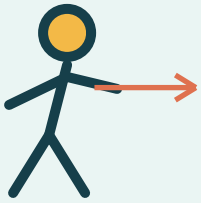
Practise these four moves slowly. Then put them together.

1. Wiggle left



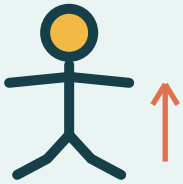
Gently wiggle your body to your left.

2. Wiggle right



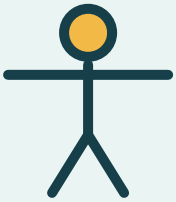
Gently wiggle your body to your right.

3. Little hop



Make one tiny hop, or a small shoulder lift.

4. Fins out wide



Open your arms as far as feels comfy.



YOUR BODY. YOUR WAY.

Seated? Wiggle your shoulders, lift them gently, then open your arms. Small movements count!

Grown-ups: make a clear space with a non-slip floor. Keep hops small and land softly; there is no real puddle. Children can sit, stand, adapt, watch or rest. Stop if anything feels uncomfortable.

These are practice moves from "Mud is good!", Raffy's existing song.

Music, wiggles and YOUR move

Follow along, or let a grown-up call the moves without music.

WATCH WITH A GROWN-UP

Scan for the full music video.
Or visit raffysoceanfriends.com/play/ and find "Mud is good!".

Sing the chorus

MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Squish, squish, squash to the beat!
MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Feel that mud beneath your feet!



Pat or step to the beat.

One person sings "Mud is good!" and the others echo it. Gently step to the beat, pat your knees, or choose a comfortable movement. The full lyrics are on bonus page 13.

Invent one move. Draw it, show it, or give it a funny name!

My move is called:

Speak a little Oceanese

Four quiet gestures from Raffy and his friends.

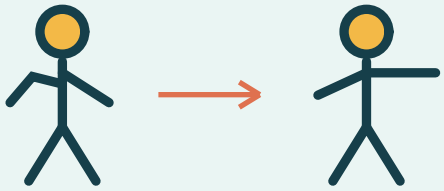
Oceanese is the friends' invented way of communicating. It is part of Raffy's stories, not a real-world sign language.

Hello



Gently wave a hand, paw or fin.

Friend



1. Chest 2. Friend

Touch your chest, then gesture towards your friend.

Thank You



Give a small bow.

Stop



Cross your arms once to make an X.

Point to a word or picture if you prefer. Agree on adaptations together.

The quiet message game

Take turns being the messenger and the message detective.



1 Choose Secretly choose Hello, Friend, Thank You or Stop from page 8.

2 Send Show the gesture, or point to its card. Your partner guesses the message.

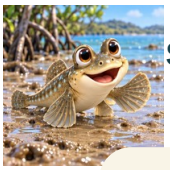
3 Check Was it understood? Swap roles and try another. When anyone says or signals Stop, pause the game.

Make your own friendly greeting. Draw it or describe it here.

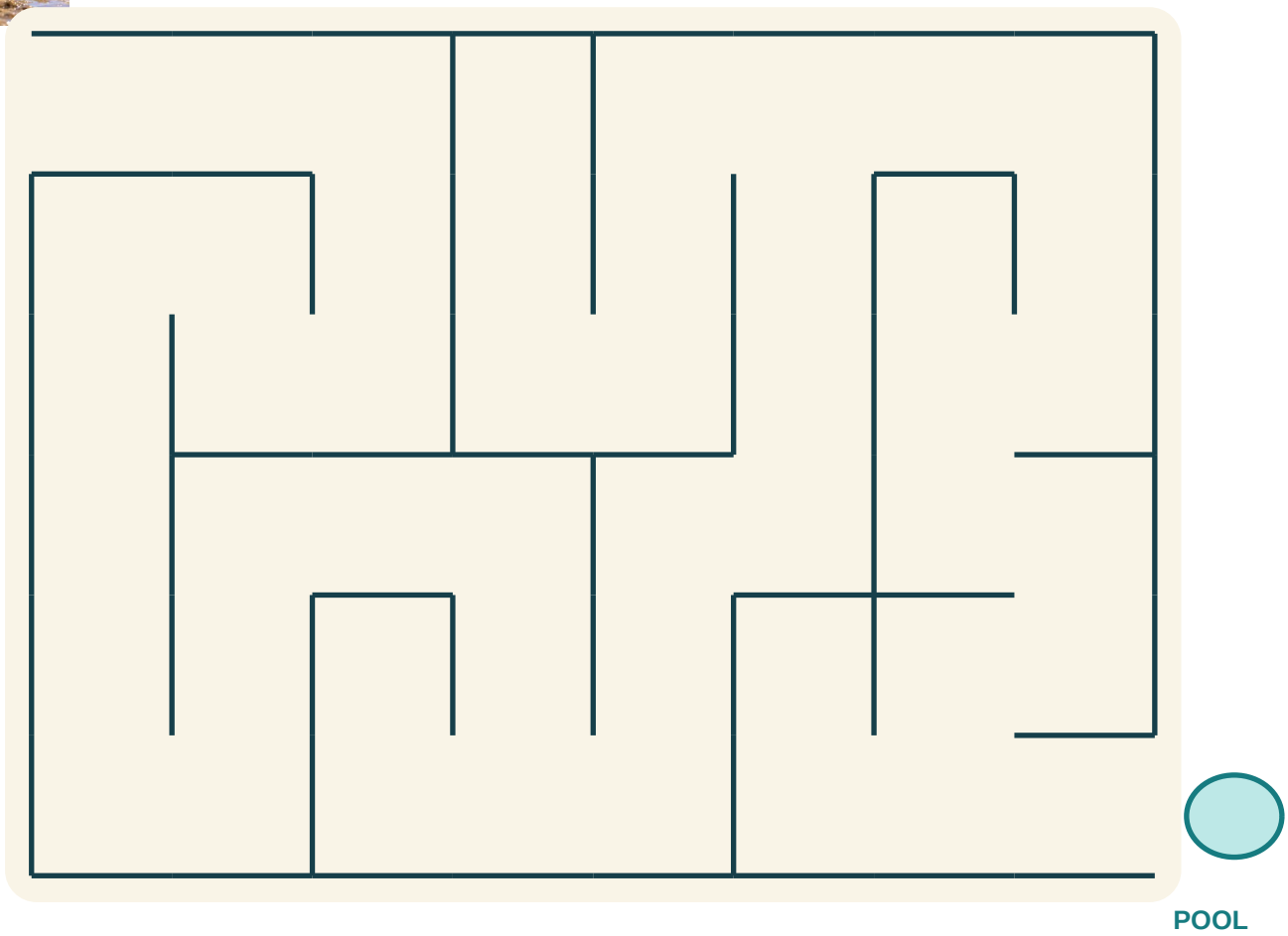
Choose a meaning together, then teach it to someone. Your new greeting is your own invention; the four Oceanese gestures stay the same.

Raffy's mangrove challenges

Help Raffy find the pool. Trace through the paths without crossing a root-wall.



START



POOL

COUNT THE FRIENDS







Crabs: _____ Fish: _____ Altogether: _____

Bonus: how many more fish than crabs? Tell or show your answer.

Invent an ocean friend

What surprising ability will your new friend have?

Draw your new ocean friend here. Add its home, too!

My friend is called:

Its special ability is:

This helps it to:

Circle one: REAL-LIFE IDEA / MAKE-BELIEVE POWER
Tell someone how your friend and Raffy could use their abilities together.

Official Ocean Explorer

You looked closely. You moved your way. You discovered something new.

THIS CERTIFICATE CELEBRATES

Explorer's name



"You belong in our ocean team!"

Keep asking questions. Keep being kind.
There are more adventures waiting for us.
Mud is good! - Raffy

Little friends. Big care.

Through fun stories, music and play, Raffy's Ocean Friends helps children discover the wonders of nature, care for our ocean and planet, and treat one another with kindness and respect.

Our ocean. Our planet. Our friends.
Let's look after them together.

Date: _____ More adventures: raffysoceanfriends.com

Sing along: Mud is good!

Raffy's full song lyrics. Follow along with the music video on page 7.

1. COME AND MEET RAFFY

Down where the mangroves meet the sea,
There's a muddy little friend waiting for me.
Two bright eyes and a great big grin,
Who's that? RAFFY! Come on in!

2. GET WIGGLING

Wiggle to the left,
Wiggle to the right,
Little hop across the puddle,
Fins out wide!

3. CHORUS

MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Squish, squish, squash to the beat!
MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Feel that mud beneath your feet!

4. SKIP, HOP AND WAVE

Skip, skip, stop!
Do a Raffy hop!
Wave your fins,
Now give a little bop!

5. CHORUS AGAIN

MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Squish, squish, squash to the beat!
MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Feel that mud beneath your feet!

6. BIG FINISH

MUD IS GOOD! (Mud is good!)
Where the mangroves meet the sea!
RAFFY!
Mud is good!

Read down the left column, then down the right. Words in brackets are the group echo. Sing, sign, move or listen - everyone can join in!