

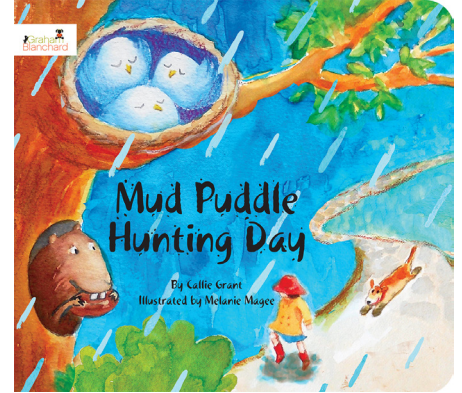
By Lynda Greene, Education Director

## Mud Puddle Hunting Day

This joyful book reminds parents how wondrous the world is to a young child. The musical text and watercolor images reveal the exquisite detail of nature that we sometimes miss, as we hurry children along in our busy lives. The glory of God's creation exists in the cozy bird's nest and the sound of rain falling on leaves that are so eloquently depicted in this lovely board book. Parents can help their children connect all these wonders to God's bounty and affirm the amazing gift of our senses and our innate ability to appreciate the world around us.

### Building on the Book:

- Take a nature excursion in your own environment. Give your adventure a name, just like the book! "Hill Climbing Morning," "Woodsy Wander" – be creative and have fun together.
- Encourage your young child to look, listen, and feel all the myriad details and intricacies of the world around them. Sit down together and close your eyes. What do you hear? What can you smell? How do plants differ from each other?
- Allow your child to set the pace and lead the way at convenient times. Try to see the world through their perspective for a change, and encourage a conversation of what you are experiencing together.
- Encourage children to be inquisitive by posing questions to them. Why do you think squirrels hide nuts? What do bugs do when it rains? Don't worry if you don't know the answers yourself! If your child's age and interest allow, you can discover and learn together.



**We would love to hear about your experiences with this book!**

**Please send ideas and comments to [hello@grahamblanchard.com](mailto:hello@grahamblanchard.com).**