

## **Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain: a Nandi Tale**

Aardema, U. (1981). *Bringing the rain to kapiti plain*. New York, NY: Dial Books for Young Readers.

This is the great Kapiti Plain,  
All fresh & green from the African rains –  
A sea of grass for the ground birds to nest in,  
*(shake Easter tinsel)*

And patches of shade for wild creatures to  
rest in;  
With acacia trees for giraffes to browse on,  
And grass for the herdsman to pasture their  
cows on.

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

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But one year the rains were so very belated,  
That all of the big wild creatures migrated.  
Then Ki-pat helped to end that terrible  
drought –  
And this story tells how it all came about!

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This is the cloud all heavy with rain,  
*(drums rumble)*  
That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This is the grass all brown & dead,  
*(sand paper blocks)*  
That needed the rain from the cloud overhead

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The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,  
*(drums rumble)*  
That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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These are the cows, all hungry & dry,  
Who mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;  
*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,  
*(sand paper blocks)*

That needed the rain from the cloud overhead  
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The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,  
*(drums rumble)*

That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This is Ki-pat, who watched his herd  
As he stood on one leg, like a big stork bird;  
*(Child acts out the part of Ki-pat)*

Ki-pat, whose cows were so hungry & dry,  
They mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;  
*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,  
*(sand paper blocks)*

That needed the rain from the cloud overhead  
–

The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,  
*(drums rumble)*

That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This is the eagle who dropped a feather,  
*(triangle)*

A feather that helped to change the weather.  
It fell near Ki-pat, who watched his herd  
As he stood on one leg, like the big stork bird;

*(child acts out the part of Ki-pat)*

Ki-pat, whose cows were so hungry & dry,  
They mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;  
*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,

*(sand paper blocks)*

That needed the rain from the cloud overhead

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The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,

*(drums rumble)*

That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This is the arrow Ki-pat put together,

*(scale up a xylophone)*

With a slender stick & an eagle feather;

From the eagle who happened to drop a

feather,

*(triangle)*

A feather that helped to change the weather.

It fell near Ki-pat, who watched his herd

As he stood on one leg, like the big stork bird;

*(child acts out the part of Ki-pat)*

Ki-pat, whose cows were so hungry & dry,

They mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,

*(sand paper blocks)*

That needed the rain from the cloud overhead

–

The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,

*(drums rumble)*

That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This is the bow, so long & strong,

And strung with a string, a leather thong;

*(harp)*

A bow for the arrow Ki-pat put together,

*(scale up a xylophone)*

With a slender stick & an eagle feather;

From the eagle who happened to drop a

feather,

*(triangle)*

A feather that helped to change the weather.

It fell near Ki-pat, who watched his herd

As he stood on one leg, like the big stork bird;

*(child acts out the part of Ki-pat)*

Ki-pat, whose cows were so hungry & dry,

They mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,

*(sand paper blocks)*

That needed the rain from the cloud overhead

–

The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,

*(drums rumble)*

That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.

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This was the shot that pierced the cloud

*(cymbals)*

And loosened the rain with thunder LOUD!

*(rainsticks & drums)*

A shot from the bow , so long & strong,

And strung with a string, a leather thong;

*(harp)*

A bow for the arrow Ki-pat put together,

*(scale up a xylophone)*

With a slender stick & an eagle feather;

From the eagle who happened to drop a

feather,

*(triangle)*

A feather that helped to change the weather.

It fell near Ki-pat, who watched his herd

As he stood on one leg, like the big stork bird;

*(child acts out the part of Ki-pat)*

Ki-pat, whose cows were so hungry & dry,

They mooed for the rain to fall from the sky;

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

To green-up the grass, all brown & dead,

*(sand paper blocks)*

**That needed the rain from the cloud overhead**

–

**The big, black cloud, all heavy with rain,**

*(drums rumble)*

**That shadowed the ground on Kapiti Plain.**

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**So the grass grew green, & the cattle fat!**

*(shake Easter tinsel)*

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

**And Ki-pat got a wife & a little Ki-pat –**

**Who tends to the cows now, & shoots down  
the rain,**

*(children “moo” & hit cow bells)*

*(cymbals & rainsticks)*

**When black clouds shadow Kapiti Plain.**

*(drums rumble)*

**MATERIALS:**

**Harp**

**Xylophone**

**Triangle**

**Cow Bells**

**Sand Paper Blocks**

**Drums**

**Cymbals**

**Rain Sticks**

**Easter Tinsel**