

**Drop Them**  
**Both!**



The Boy sat on the  
hill. He held up a  
stone and a  
feather. Then he  
will drop them both.





Then an elephant grips the smooth stone. The sun is hot, but the stone is not. It will not snap!

'This thing has mass!' says The Boy as he thrusts at the elephant. He thrusts and thrusts, but the elephant just sits still.





But the feather?

The feather

does not have

a lot of mass.

It is thin and

soft in his hand.

The Boy thrusts  
the rock up with  
both hands. How  
much mass is in  
this rock? He must  
think and think.





This man  
has a set  
of scales!

Dad fills this flask with water, up to the top. 'This is one kilogram!' he says. One flask, one kilogram.



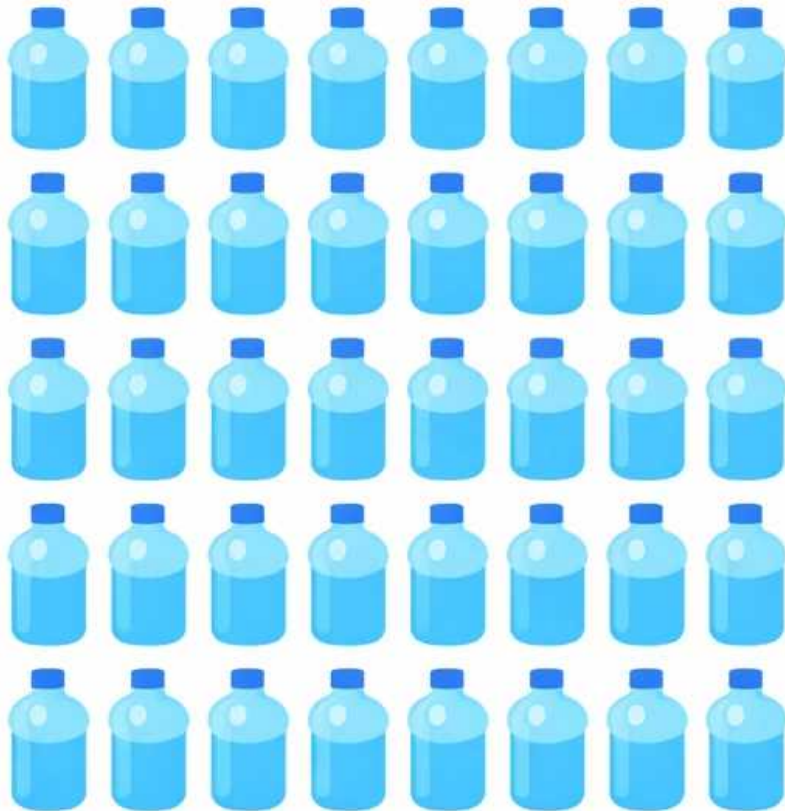


Dad says,  
'Think of this.  
Ten cows or  
200 dogs. Will  
the dogs win,  
or the cows?'

The world is so  
big. Can they  
get the mass of  
this big thing?  
The Boy must  
think and think.



A lot more flasks  
than this!

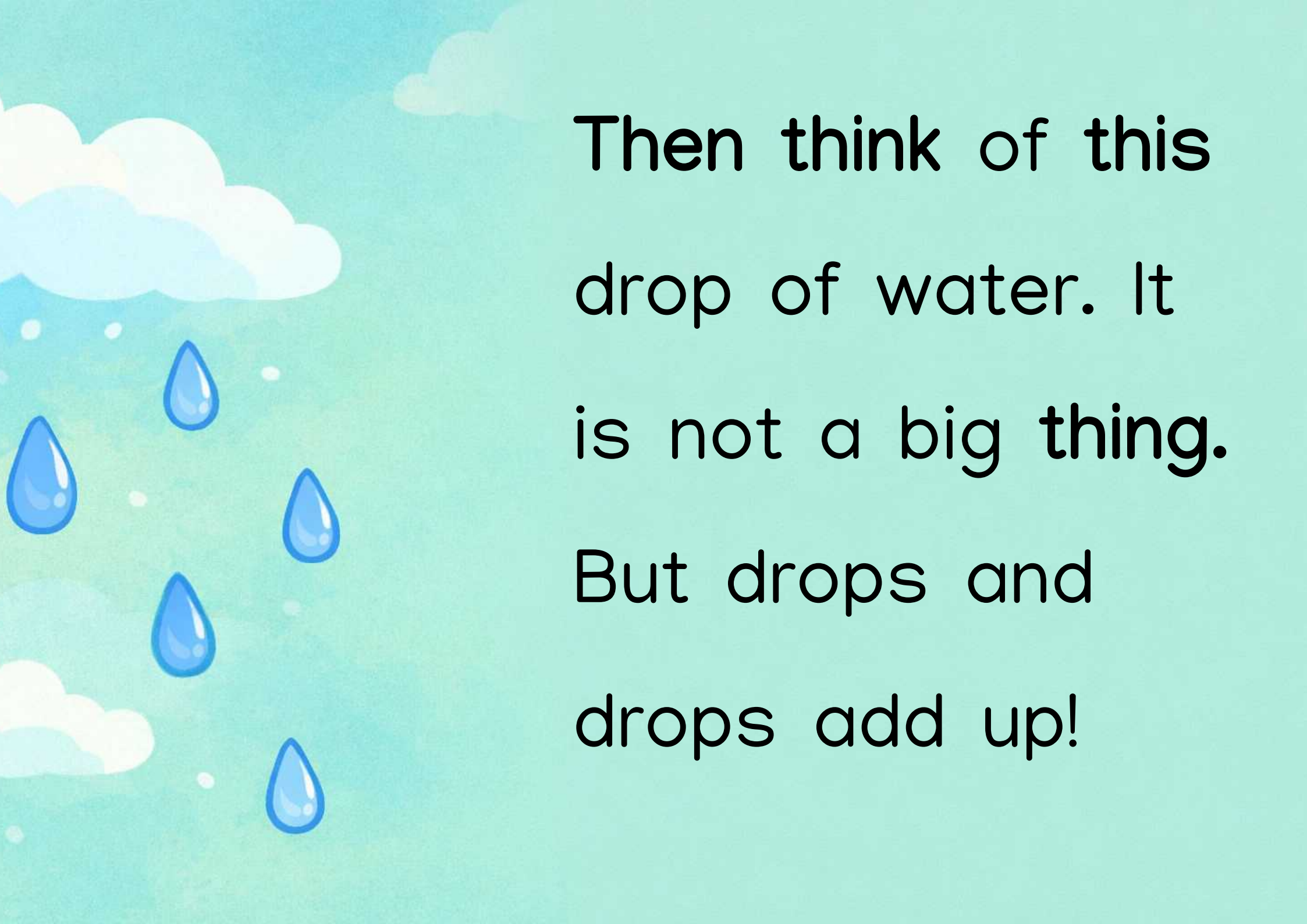


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You need a lot of feathers to make one kilogram! Think of that! Both sides are the same.





Then think of this  
drop of water. It  
is not a big thing.  
But drops and  
drops add up!

The Boy gets his own mass! He grins and drops them both. Do you think both land with a thud?





## Drop Them Both!

A rock and a feather, one in each hand - which one do you think will hit the ground first? The Boy is sure he knows the answer, but then he starts to wonder just how much heavier that smooth stone really is. With scales, flasks, and a very patient elephant, can he and Dad figure out the mass of almost anything, from a raindrop to the whole planet? This decodable reader practices the 'th' sound in words such as 'both,' 'smooth,' 'think,' and 'thrusts.'

Reading Skills: <th>

both, smooth, than, the, them, then, they, thing, think, thinks, this, thrusts

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