

# Ray

## A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

**Themes:** Adventure, Humor, Light, Nature

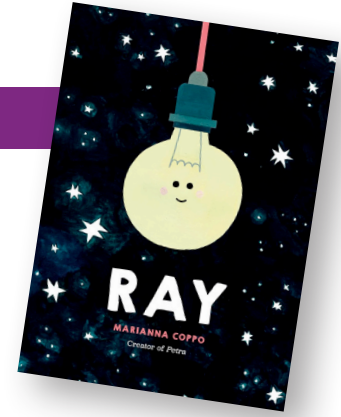
**Book Brief:** At the end of the hall, near the staircase, is a closet. In that closet lives Ray, who is a light bulb. Ray spends most of his time in darkness, which is pretty boring if you don't know how to fill it.

**Author:**

Marianna Coppo

**Illustrator:**

Marianna Coppo



## TIME TO READ!



**Before:** Read the title of the story and look at the cover. Ask your child what they think will happen in the story.

**During:** As you read, ask, “What do you notice about Ray? How do you think he feels?”

**After, ask questions:**

- How did Ray feel at the beginning of the story?
- How did Ray’s world change? What happened?
- What did Ray learn at the end of the story?

## INTENTIONAL TALK

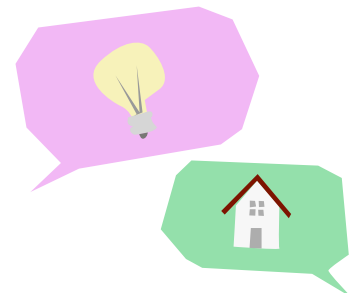
When children build **Story Awareness**, they learn how to tell a story. They enjoy looking at pictures and hearing text that make stories interesting, engaging, and relatable. They also learn to make the connection between the pictures and the text to understand the book. As children strengthen their understanding, they can practice constructing stories themselves with wordless picture books.

The last page of *Ray* shows his dreams the story with no text. Have your child practice creating a story by sharing their own words for that part of the book, or even continuing the story by sharing what will happen next. If you speak another language at home, this is a great way to practice that language as well.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### Playing with “Light” Words

Compound words are made up of two or more words. Breaking apart and putting together a compound word helps children hear sounds within words, supporting their awareness of putting sounds together to form words. The word “light” appears in many compound words (e.g., flashlight, sunlight, and lighthouse). Say a compound word with “light” in it in two parts and have your children put it together to create a new word. For example, say “light... house”, and then your child might say “lighthouse”. Then, give them the word “light” and see how many compound words they can create.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



### OTHER BOOKS BY LOLA M. SCHAEFER

- **Fish and Crab (2023)**
- **Thingamabob (2022)**
- **Petra (2018)**