

Where is the Rain?

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Zulu Chant (South Africa)

The giraffe and the elephant went for a walk.
They stopped in some shade and started to talk;
"I wish it would rain," said the giraffe with a sigh.
"I'm tired of watching the clouds pass us by!"
"Yes," said the elephant, "Where is the rain?
I wish I could eat fresh green leaves again.
The sun is so hot and the land is so dry;
When will the rain fall from the sky?"
Later in the day the sky turned grey,
The flying ants flew out to say,
"The rain is coming! We smell it in the air!
And in the distance, thunder we hear!"
The giraffe and the elephant looked up at the sky
And heard the black eagle give forth his cry,
"The rain has come, The rivers will flow;
The dry season is over; now the green grass will grow!"

Most rivers in Africa depend on seasonal rains. During the dry season, they dry up, leaving a winding brown, snake-like path. The rainy season in South Africa runs from October to April, bring heavy rain that impacts both animals and the land. The rainfall helps replenish the soil and water resources.