

# Chasing Long Necks Across the Savanna

an adventure and activity book

Storyline and illustrations by Theresa Stacy-Ryan.

Written by Mary Stacy Orr.

## The Chase Series

There are ten books in the Chase Series  
based on the characters found in the fun adventure,  
"Chasing the Moon and the Morning Star."

"Chasing Long Necks Across the Savanna" is based on Location Four.

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First Printing: 2024  
Printed by Lulu.com

## Dedication

This story is dedicated to those who prescribe to "look before you leap" and "don't judge a book by its [sound] cover." "Sound" advice, if you ask me...

## Acknowledgments

This book was a collaborative effort with many in my Circle: my grandchildren who continue to be my muses in this endeavor, but more so than in any other book, took part in the illustrations, naming, and direction of this storyline. My Artists in Residence are Finn, Naymar, Ava, Jovie, and Donovan, and Emmett helped me name the rest of the oh-so-many characters! To all those who continue to cheer me on – Tess, Ger, Kathy, Antoinette, Elizabeth, Renée, and Leslie – thank you. And to Mary, my conspirator on the verse that makes these stories sing.

## This book belongs to

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Be ready as we chase the long necks across the savanna!

## Supplemental Materials

Watch videos, play games, and print your own activities for Chasing Long Necks Across the Savanna at [littlelionlighthouse.com/clnas](http://littlelionlighthouse.com/clnas)

[term] are terms and explanations that might be of interest to you, the reader, that you can share about the scene with your listener.

NOTE: References are included online at [littlelionlighthouse.com/clnas](http://littlelionlighthouse.com/clnas).



In the savanna,  
a moment we'll share.  
Africa's so grand ~  
wildlife everywhere.

Mom and her baby  
both greet the new day.  
Gerald knows he'll have fun.  
She says, "Go off and play!"



savanna (sa • VAN • nuh) A grassy plain in tropical and subtropical regions with few trees. This tree is an umbrella tree.  
@Serengeti, Tanzania, Africa



**BUZZ  
BUZZ**

Gerald looks all around  
but sees no friends today.

Then he hears a loud  
**BUZZ BUZZ.**

"I must get away!"



"RUN!" cries Gerald,  
passing Bluey in his race.  
No time to ask why.  
Now she joins in the chase.



Long necks is our way of talking about giraffes, with their long, long necks! In this chase, Giraffe Gerald is our main character and Bluey is his long-neck friend.



The long necks spot friends  
up ahead through the mist.

**"RUN**, zebra, cheetah, ostrich!"  
"Wait for me!" snake hissed.

3

The **Serengeti** in Tanzania, Africa has long dry seasons. All creatures, great and small, look forward to its wet season that brings the rain just like in this scene. Here Ozzie, the zebra, Cheetos, the cheetah, Slinky, the snake, and Pavey, the ostrich enjoy the sweet rains.



Off in every direction,  
no one asks Gerald why.

Chasing after the long necks,  
they **RUN RUN** – oh my!



Up ahead they find crocodile,  
elephant, hippo, bird, and lion.

"RUN!" cries Gerald.  
The pack all goes flyin'.

4

In the Dry Season, the wild animals depend on what little there is to eat. What mud can be found is welcome for hippos like our Max with his bird friend, Sunny, crocodiles like our Crocky, and elephants like our Molly.





Off they all scramble,  
kicking up heaps of dust.

Darting, leaping, and stomping,  
they **RUN RUN**. They must!



Huffing and puffing,  
gasping for air as they scurry,  
they try hard to keep up,  
zooming fast in a hurry.

5 Victoria Falls is a waterfall on the Zambezi River in southern Africa located on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is one of the world's largest waterfalls, with a width of 5,604 ft. (1,708 m) and height of 354 ft. (108 metres) – the world's largest sheet of falling water. The falls are roughly twice the height of North America's Niagara Falls and well over twice its width. –Wikipedia



Oh, no! A cliff! **WAIT!**  
They slam into each other...

**BAM** **BOINK**  
**SPLAT**  
**WHACK**

They smash up together!



They are smooched at the ledge,  
huddled close in a pack.  
The **BUZZ BUZZ** gets louder.  
They hear **STOP** and turn back.

What do they find  
chasing them as they flee?  
"I'm just a mosquito.  
**BUZZ BUZZ**  
It's just me!"



"I want to be friends,"  
Buzzy says to the crew  
as they **HUFF** and **PUFF** loudly.  
"Can I join all of you?"

Gerald smiles as they creep  
away from the ledge.

"I was scared. Your loud **BUZZ**  
chased us right to the edge."



Gerald says, "Let's go home."  
Ellie gives them a treat.  
"So how was your day?  
You all look so beat!"

"Mom, we heard this loud buzzing.  
So we dashed, and we clopped.  
The sound chased us for miles  
'til Buzzy buzzed 'STOP!'"

"We found out that Buzzy  
just wanted to play."

"Next time," she says, "find out *WHAT*  
before running away."



BOOM BABY!  
VROOM VROOM

RUN

Just then they hear  
BOOM, BABY!  
VROOM VROOM  
so near.  
What's that? What's that sound?

They all  
RUN RUN.  
Oh, dear!

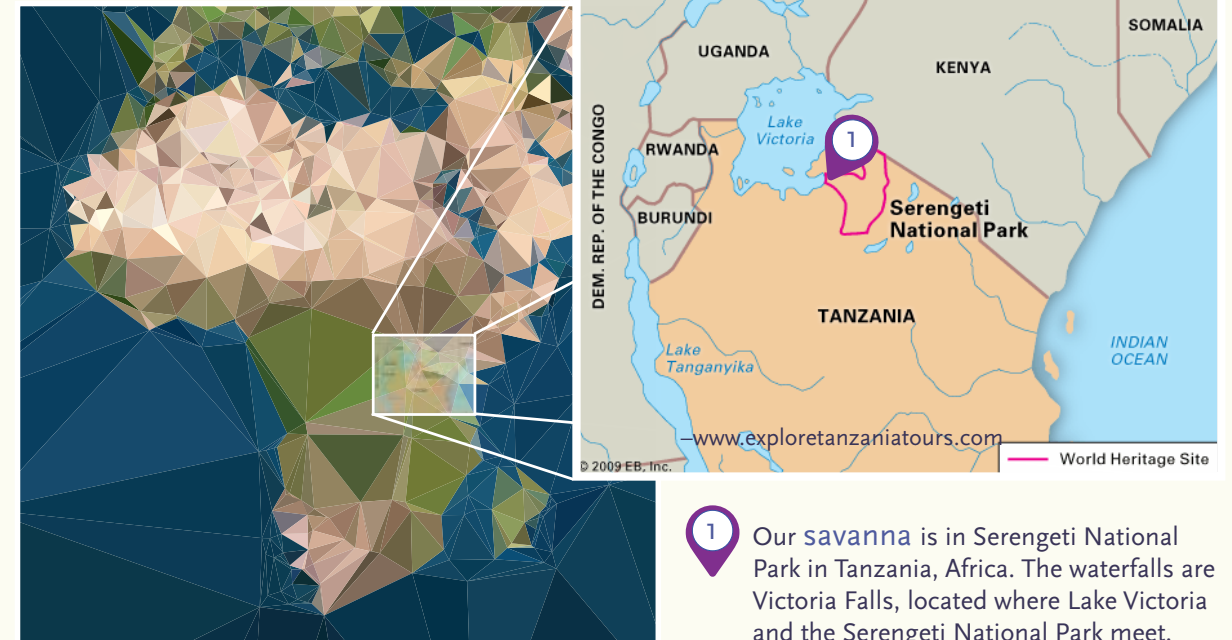
"Wait!" Ellie laughs.  
RUN RUN  
they all go.  
The chase starts again.  
Why?  
*They don't know.*

Help our mosquito friend Buzzy, find her new long neck friend Gerald!



## Where in the World does our Chase take place?

These maps show Africa and the location of the Serengeti in Tanzania.



1 Our savanna is in Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, Africa. The waterfalls are Victoria Falls, located where Lake Victoria and the Serengeti National Park meet.

## Can you learn our friends' names?

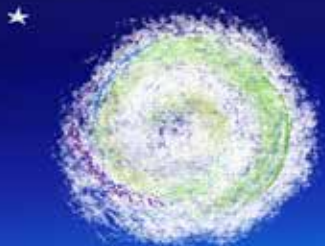
There were so many friends to meet, we couldn't use all the names in this book.

Mom Giraffe, Ellie  
Baby Giraffe, Gerald  
Blue Giraffe, Bluey  
Snake, Slinky  
Cheetah, Cheetos

Ostrich, Pavey  
Zebra, Ozzie  
Lion, Jan  
Bird, Sunny (a yellow and red barbet)

Crocodile, Crocky  
Elephant, Molly  
Hippo, Max  
Mosquito, Buzzy





Join us on our next Chase

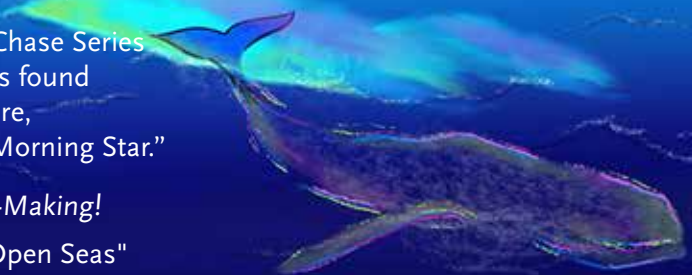
Swim with the gentle giants in our next adventure,  
"Chasing Whales Across Open Seas."

## The Chase Series

There are ten books in the Chase Series  
based on the characters found  
in the fun adventure,  
"Chasing the Moon and the Morning Star."

*One More Chase-in-the-Making!*

"Chasing Whales Across Open Seas"  
will be the 10th book in the Chase Series.



The Chase Series is a publication of the  
Little Lion Lighthouse.

LITTLE LION LIGHTHOUSE 

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