

**SLIME-
INATORS**
& Other
Slippery Tricksters

SLIME TRAVELERS

SLUGS



by Ellen Lawrence

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SLIME TRAVELERS SLUGS

by Ellen Lawrence

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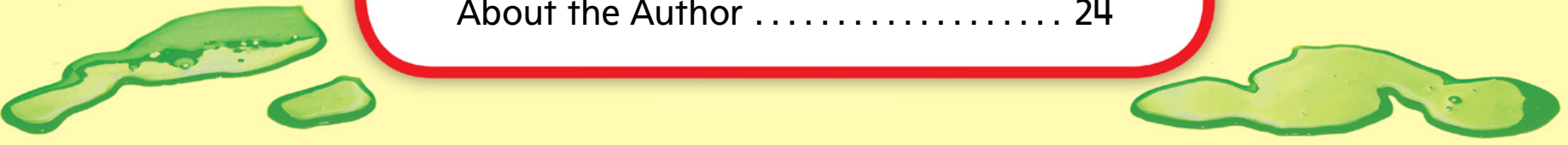
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A Slimy Trail

It's early morning in a garden.

Something has left a long, sticky trail on a walkway.

The slime-maker is a slug!

The little creature has spent the night looking for food.

As the sun comes up, the slug slides under a rock.

What is slime, and
how do you think it is
helpful to a slug?



a slug's slime trail

Slugs belong to an animal group called mollusks (MAHL-uhsks), which includes snails, clams, and octopuses. Mollusks have soft bodies and no bones. Some mollusks have shells to protect their bodies.

slug

slime trail

Super-Slimers!

A slug **secretes** slime from its whole body.

The slime is made of water and gluelike **substances**.

Some of the slime is very watery and helps keep a slug's body from drying out.

Other slime is thicker.

It helps the slug slide over the ground and even cling to walls upside-down!



Your body produces a substance that's very similar to slug slime. Can you guess what it is?

(The answer is on page 24.)

Inside a slug's body are slime-making substances. To make slime, a slug's skin soaks up water. When the water combines with the gluelike substances, lots of gooey slime forms.



slime