



Once the mules were unpacked, Charlie and Trike pitched their tents in the campground and set out to investigate the riverbank.

"I see a rainbow trout!" Charlie shouted. "Wait, there's two!" Charlie scurried along the edge, watching the fish swim through the water.

"Charlie!" Trike said, his voice distraught. "Watch out!"



Charlie froze. Down by his feet, a rattlesnake lay coiled in the leaves. It flicked out its tongue and rattled its tail.

Slowly, Charlie backed away from the snake. But he was moving closer to the river's edge.

Suddenly, he felt the sand give way beneath his feet.

"Help!" he cried, as he plunged into the swirling Colorado River.

Charlie bobbed and twirled in the water.

"Grab a hold of that branch!" Trike yelled.

"Captain Wes is coming!"

