

AlphaTales

D d

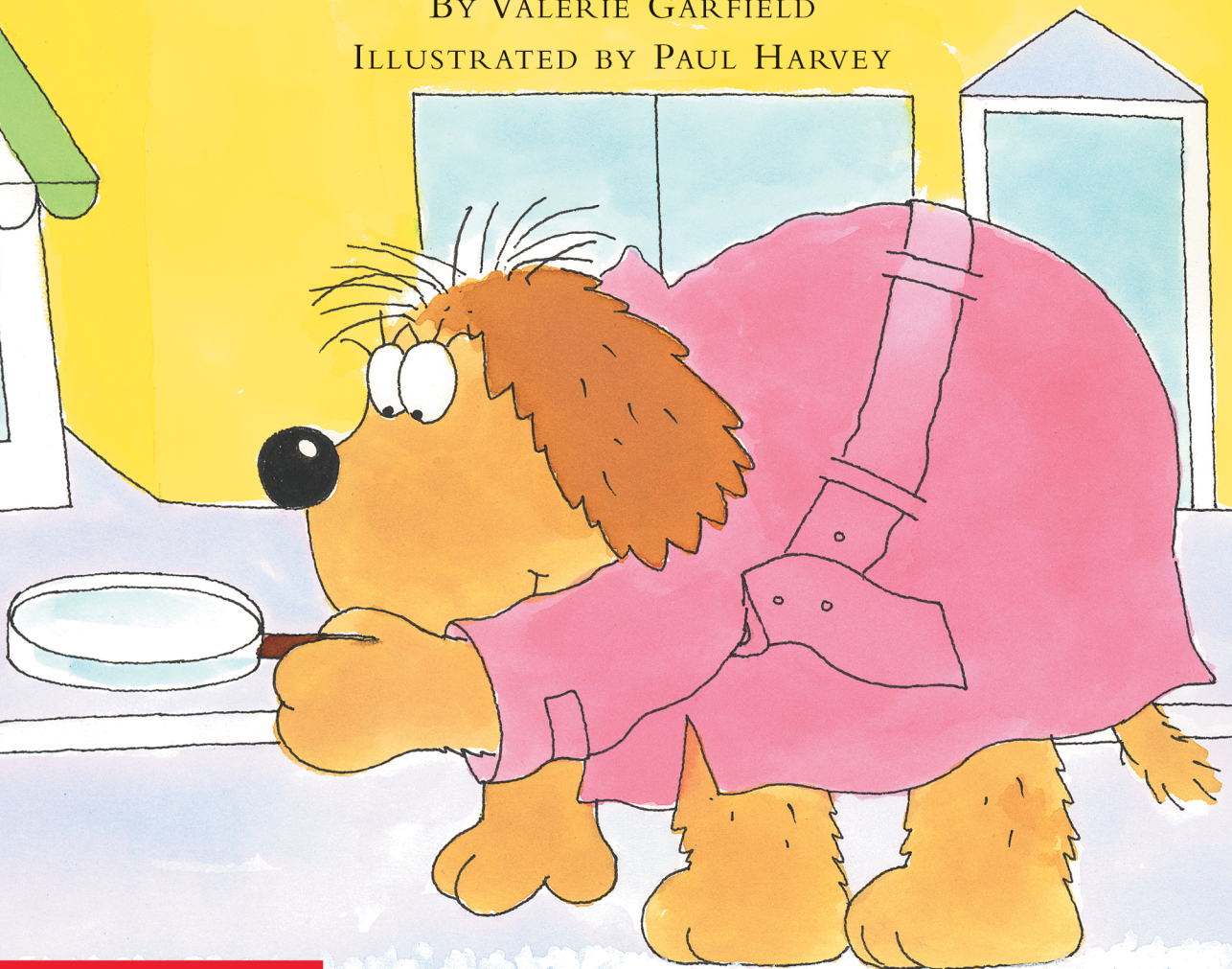
Detective Dog



Disappearing Doughnuts

BY VALERIE GARFIELD

ILLUSTRATED BY PAUL HARVEY



AlphaTales: Detective Dog and the Disappearing Doughnuts © Scholastic Teaching Resources

For Jordan,  
who is letter perfect  
(and who loves a good doughnut).



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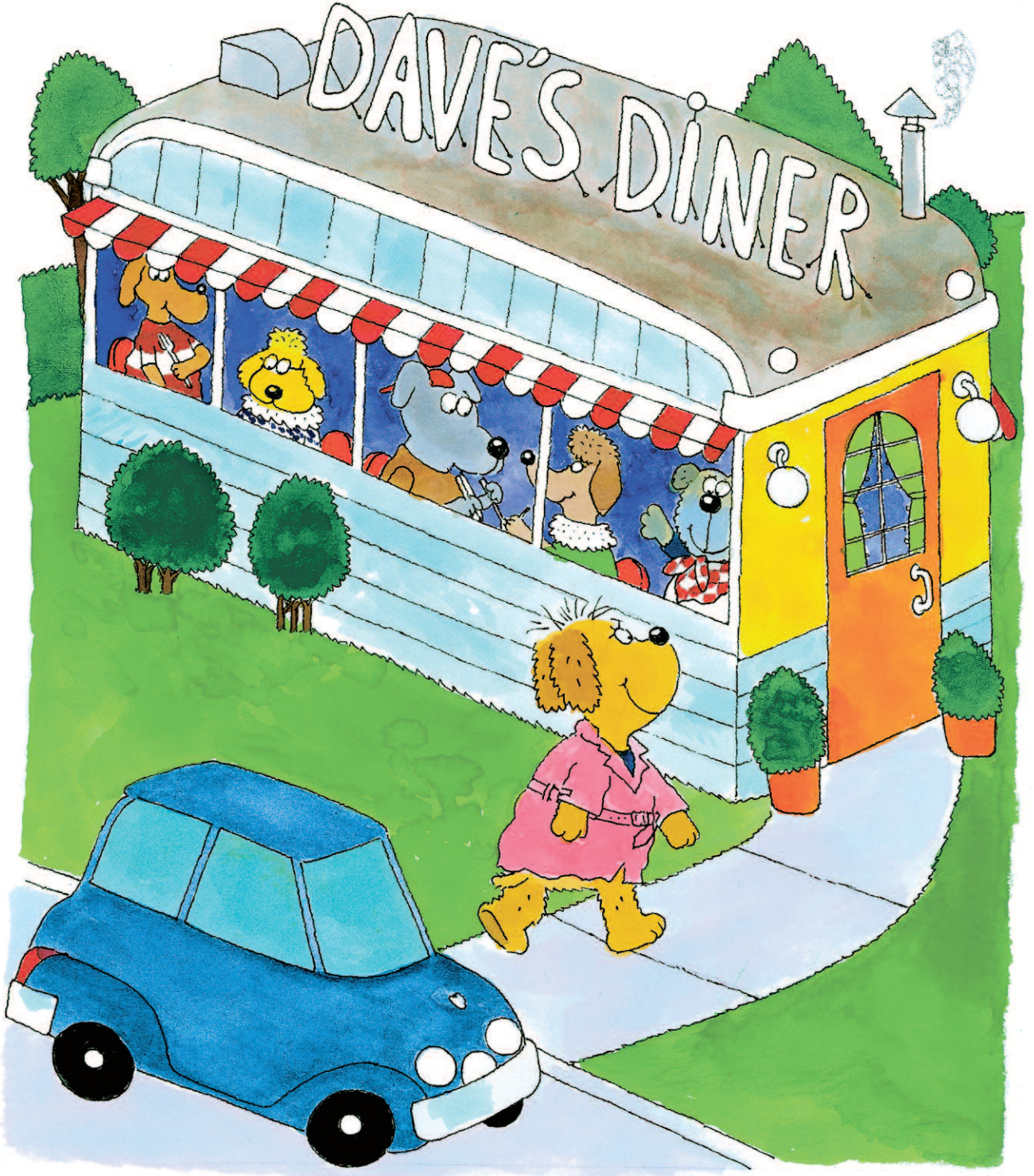
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Detective Dog went to Dave's Diner every day for dinner.



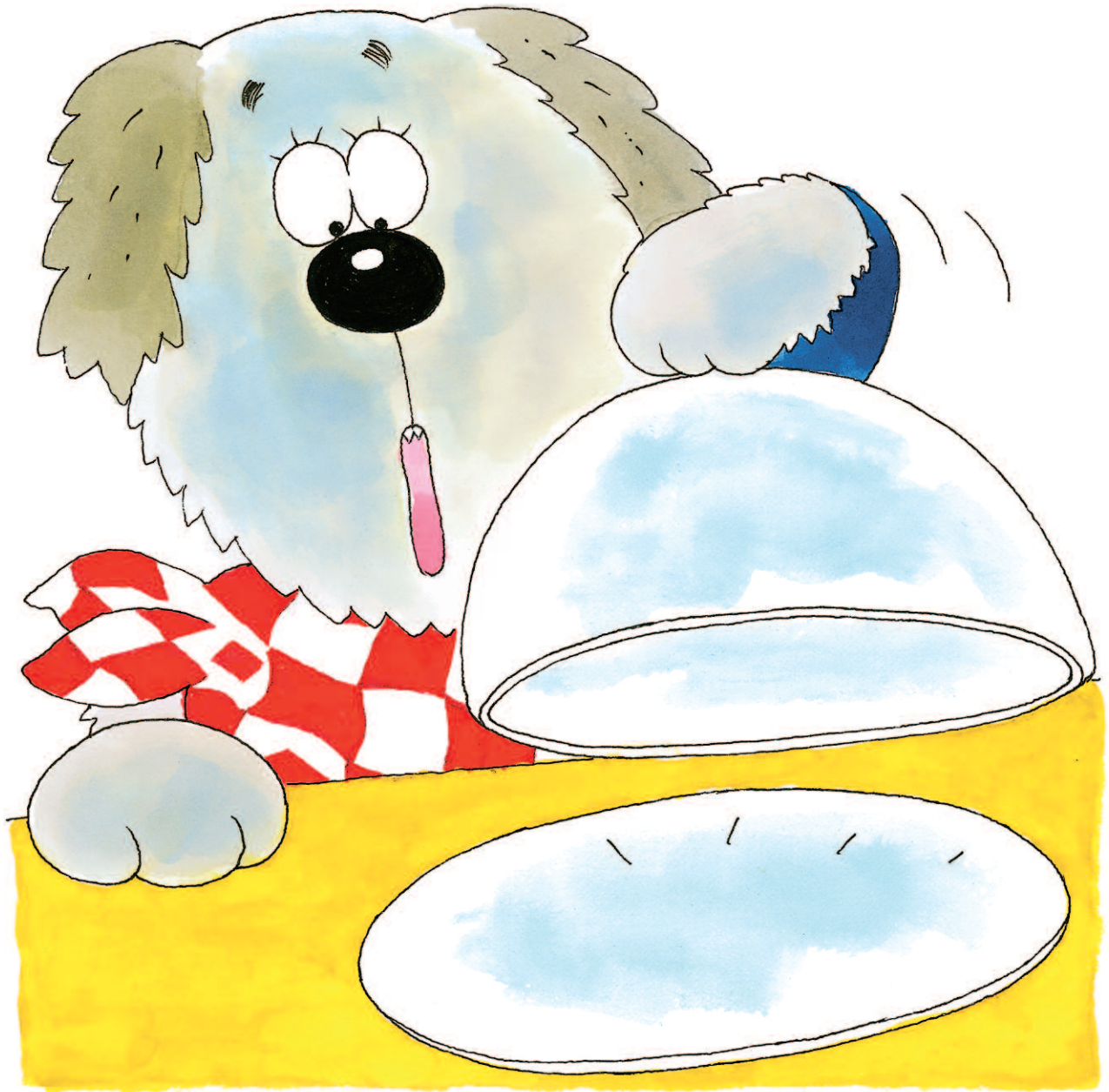


For dessert, Detective Dog always ordered a doughnut. Detective Dog LOVED doughnuts.





One day after dinner, Detective Dog said to Dave, "Today is my birthday. I think I will have TWO doughnuts for dessert to celebrate." "On the double, detective," said Dave.



“Oh, dear!” Dave cried.  
“The doughnuts have disappeared!”  
“Doggone it!” said Detective Dog.  
“I have some detecting to do!”





Suddenly, Detective Dog noticed something near the door. Powdered sugar!  
“If I follow this trail of doughnut dust, I bet I’ll find the thief!” she said.





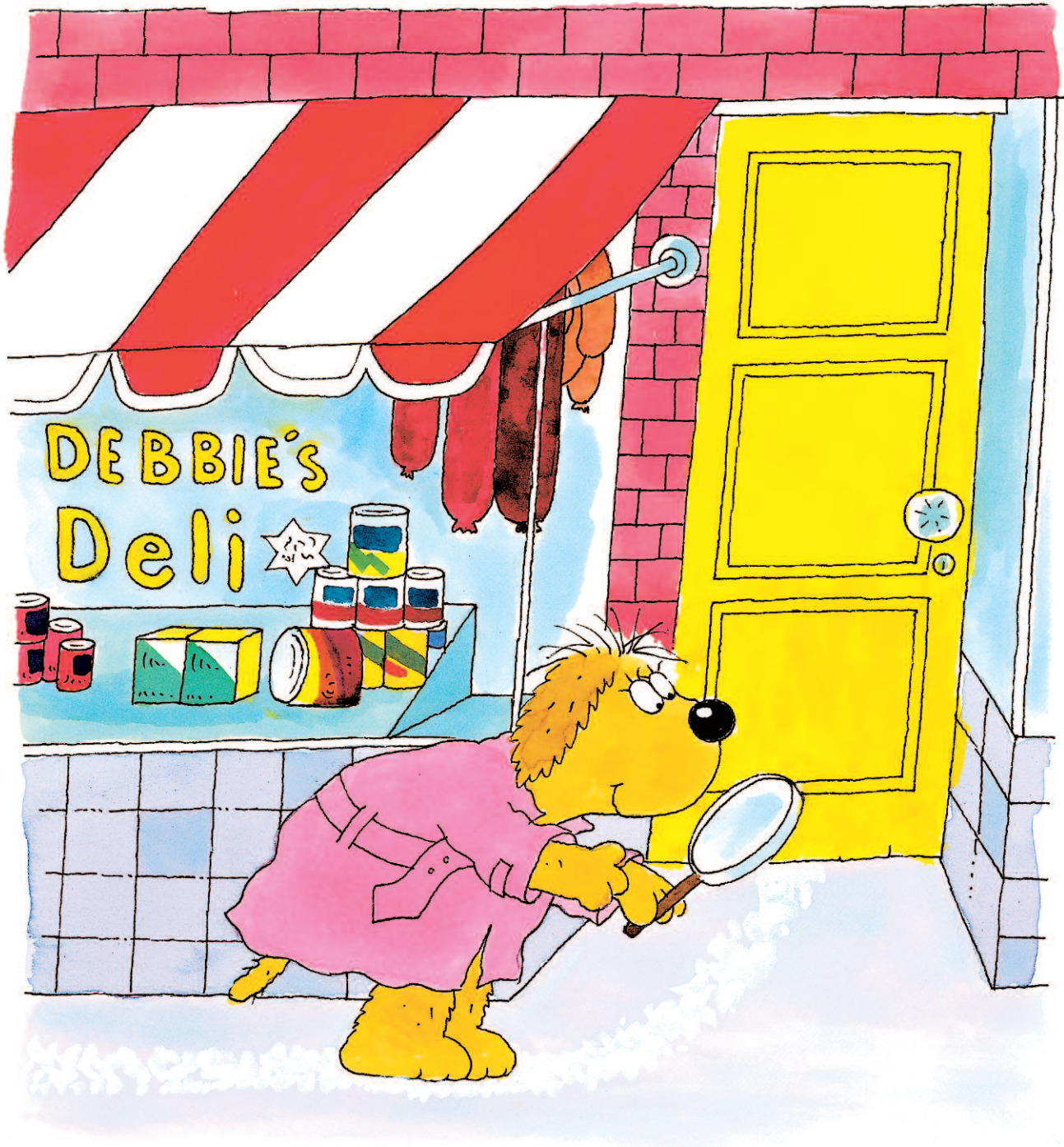
Detective Dog followed the trail of doughnut dust downtown.





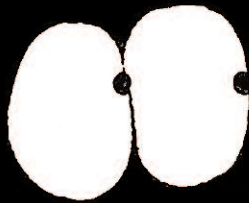
She followed it past Drake's Drugstore  
and the department store.





The trail lead right into Debbie’s Deli.  
“The doughnut-napper must be in here!”  
said Detective Dog.





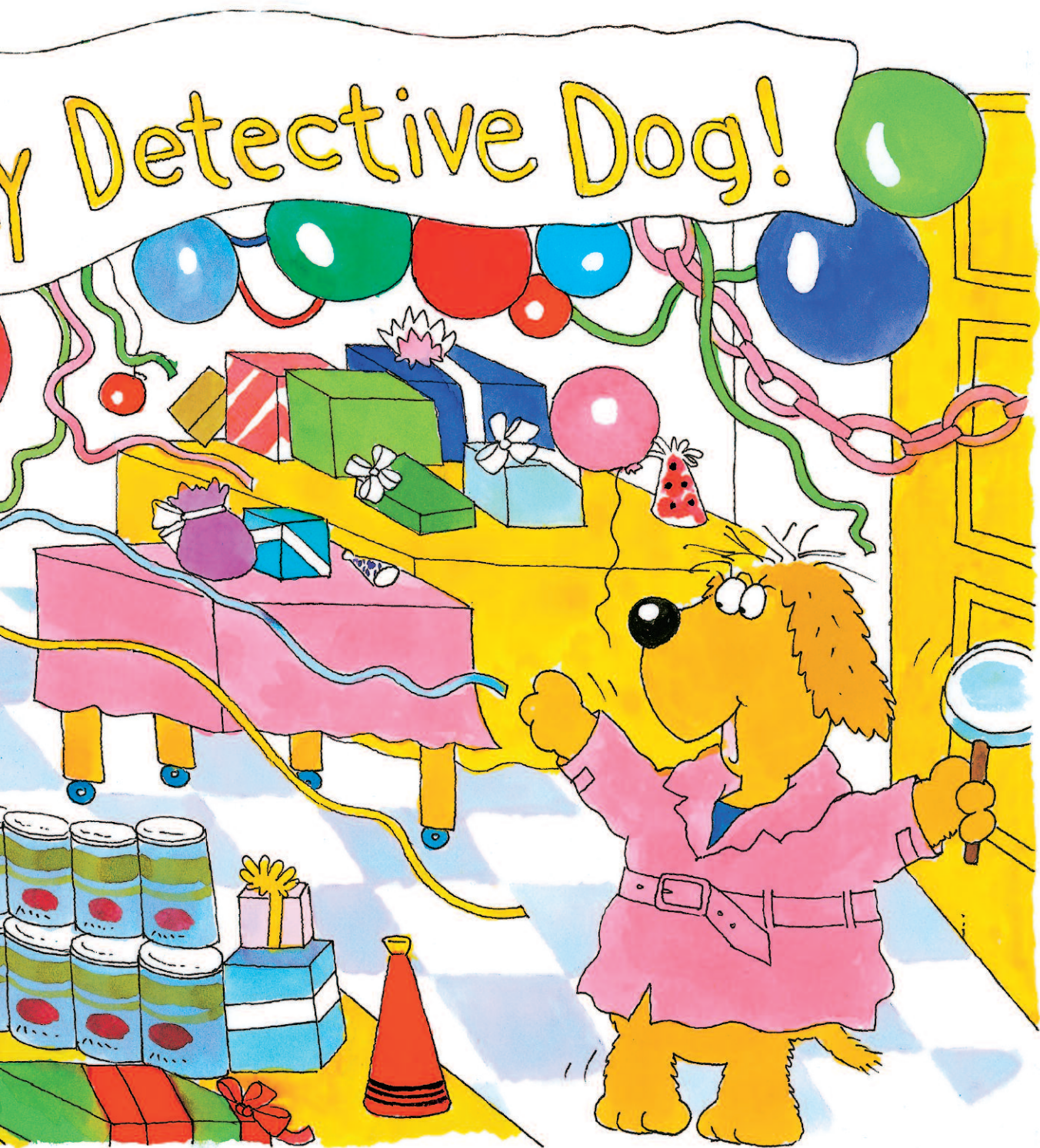
Detective Dog turned the doorknob.  
She stepped inside the deli.  
It was completely dark.





Suddenly, the light flashed on.  
“SURPRISE!” yelled Detective Dog’s friends.





“Hot diggity dog!” said the detective.  
“It’s a birthday party!”





Dave told Detective Dog that he only pretended the doughnuts had disappeared. Dave made the trail of doughnut dust to lead the detective to the party.





Detective Dog was delighted with the party. There were dazzling decorations and dandy gifts. And best of all, there were dozens and dozens of delicious doughnuts!



How many things can you find that begin with the letter D?







See page 19 for answers.

# Dd Cheer

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**D** is for dog and doughnut, too

**D** is for dolphin in the ocean blue

**D** is for doll, doctor, and door

**D** is for duck and dinosaur

Hooray for **D**, big and small—

the most dazzling, delightful letter of all!












# Reading Tips

D d

Here are some quick and fun ways to use this story to help children build important alphabet recognition skills.

-  Ask children to find big D and small d at the top of the front cover. Review the D/d sound with children. Can they find four words in the title that begin with the letter D/d? Read the title aloud, emphasizing the D/d sound as appropriate.
-  Flip the book over and read the story summary on the back cover. Ask children to point out words they hear or see that begin with D/d. Explain that the story you are about to read includes many more words that begin with the letter D/d. Can they help you find them?
-  Read the story aloud once for pleasure and enjoy together the whimsical illustrations. Then reread the book, emphasizing the initial D/d sound in the appropriate words. Ask children to listen closely for and identify all the words that start with D/d. Point out these words in the text, and make a list of them.
-  Write each of the words from your list on an unlined index card. Read each word on the cards aloud with children. On another reading of the story, children can match the words on the index cards with the words in the story.
-  Pages 16-17 of the book depict a busy scene full of D/d words. Some of these words have been introduced in the story, but a few are new. Ask children to find as many D/d words as they can. Add any new words to your list. The D/d words depicted in the scene include: dogs, doughnuts, dime, dishes, door, doll, dinosaur, dollar. (Children may come up with other D/d words on their own!)
-  Read aloud the cheer on page 18 several times, with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Invite children to join you in reciting the cheer when they feel ready. Encourage them to find any new D/d words in the cheer. Again, add these words to your list.
-  Don't let your exploration of the letter D/d end with the story! Display your list of words in a place where children can easily see it. During the rest of the day or week, children can add new D/d words that they encounter in other books, on signs, on food labels, and so on.



D d

Dozens of doughnuts have disappeared from Dave's Diner. Who took them? Detective Dog is on the trail!



**AlphaTales** are humorous stories designed to help young children recognize letters and the sounds they make. Lay the foundation for reading success with these kid-pleasing books — one for each letter of the alphabet!