

Story Detective

Read the story, then answer the four questions. Look back at the story for clues.

Case file The Missing Blue Mitten

On Monday morning, Priya could not find her blue mitten. The red one hung on the low hook by the door, all alone. “I wore both of them home from the park yesterday,” she said. Her brother Sam shrugged and kept eating his toast. Priya looked under the bench. She checked her coat pockets. Nothing. Then she spotted a wet paw print on the floor, and another, and another. Outside, snow was still melting on the porch. The prints led to the basket where Biscuit, their old dog, liked to nap. His tail thumped when Priya came close. Something blue and fuzzy poked out from under his belly. “Biscuit!” Priya laughed. “You took my mitten!” Biscuit yawned. Sam put down his toast and grinned. “His basket is right next to the heater,” he said. “He was not cold. I think he just likes things that smell like you.”



Questions Write your answers on the lines

- ① What color was the mitten Priya could not find? ② Where did Priya finally find her mitten?

- ③ Where had Biscuit been just before he took the mitten? Which clues in the story tell you? detective work

- ④ Why do you think Biscuit took the mitten? Do you agree with Sam? Explain your idea. your opinion

Ray says: Before you write, underline the words in the story that prove your answer.



For grown-ups: questions 1 and 2 are right there in the text; 3 asks the reader to connect two clues; 4 has no single right answer, so the goal is a reason, not a verdict. If they stall on 3, ask “Why were the paw prints wet?” **Answers:** 1 > blue · 2 > in Biscuit’s basket, under his belly · 3 > outside on the porch: the paw prints were wet and the snow was melting there · 4 > open (Sam thinks Biscuit likes things that smell like Priya, not that he was cold, since the basket is by the heater)