

UNIT 35 STORY

The Case of the Missing Ring

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The Case of the Missing Ring

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Vocabulary Words



detective

A detective is a person whose job is to look for things or people. A detective is someone who helps solve problems.



apartment

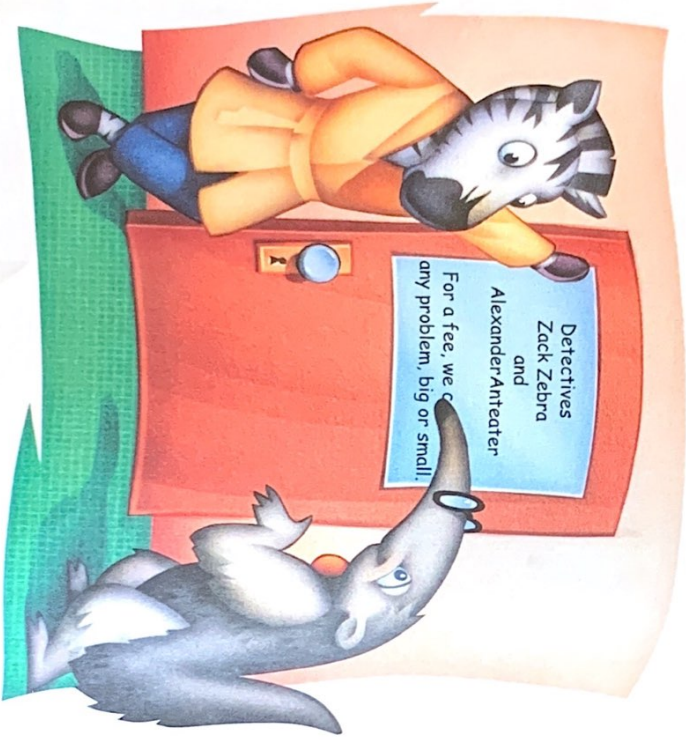
An apartment is a place where people live. Many people live in an apartment building.

fiction = something that is made up

The Case of the Missing Ring

Introduction

When someone makes up a story, the story is called fiction. This is another story about the zebra detective and his anteater friend. Do you think this story is fact or fiction?



Look at the picture. I know this story is fiction because zebras and anteaters don't have jobs. Name some things that tell you the story is fiction.

A is for Anteater
B is for Big
C is for Comics
D is for Detective

CHAPTER 1
The Detectives

Two old raccoons stood looking at the detectives' door.



Read what the door says.

The raccoons went into a small room. A zebra sat at the desk reading the comics. The zebra looked up.

Zack said, "Welcome. I'm Zack. I can solve any problem, big or small. What can I do for you?"



What is Zack's job? The story is called "The Case of the Missing Ring." What do you think is the raccoons' problem?

E is for Effort
F is for Fee
G is for Gum
H is for Husband
I is for Inspect

CHAPTER 2

The Missing Ring

Who is the main character? What is Zack's job?

Rindy Raccoon said to the detective, "Good afternoon. I am Rindy, and this is my husband, Rocky."

Zack said, "For one zipper and two ants, we can solve any problem. What is your problem?"

Rindy said, "My dear husband is missing his ring."

Zack said, "We will make every effort to get that ring back." Then Zack asked, "When did you have the ring last?"

Rocky Raccoon said, "I remember seeing my ring when I was doing the dishes. There was gum on one of the dishes, and I had to scrub and scrub!"

Zack said, "Aha! Then we must inspect that sink."



What was the problem? What made Zack think they should inspect the sink? Look at the picture. What tells you this story was made up? What kind of story is it?

J is for Jeep
K is for Kept
L is for Lost

CHAPTER 3
The Sink

Zack, Rindy, Rocky, and Alexander jumped into Zack's jeep. Zack said, "Please buckle up." Then they were off.



Zack said, "Please buckle up." Why did he say that?

At the apartment, the detectives went to work. Zack looked in the sink and near the sink. Alexander sniffed the floor. But there was no ring to be seen.

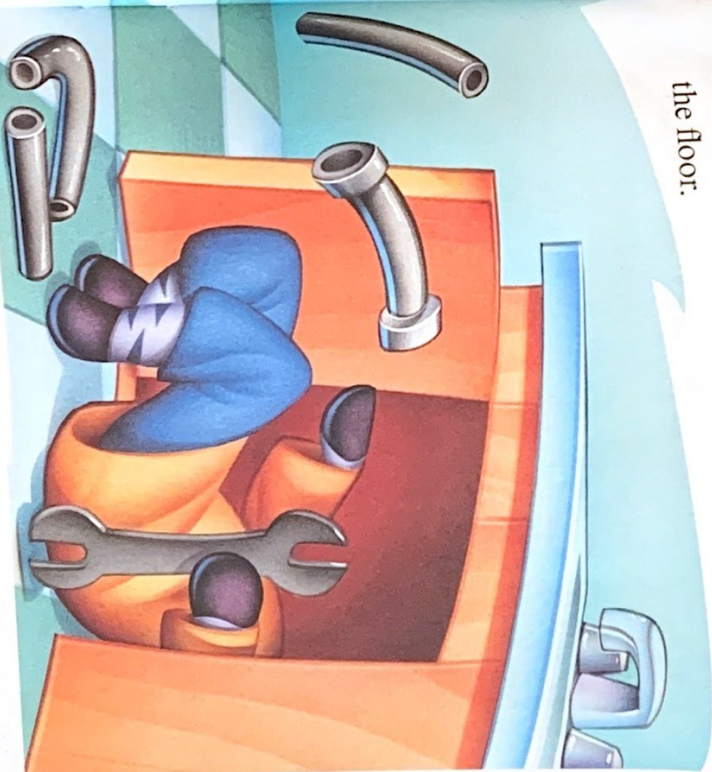


Rocky began to get grumpy. He said, "I've had that ring on my finger for many years."

Rocky seems to be worried that Zack won't find his ring. What makes it seem like Rocky is getting worried?

Zack said, "Never fear! We will not stop. We will not quit looking until we have the ring back."

Then as quick as a wink, Zack was back at work under the sink, and Alexander kept sniffing the floor.



What is Zack doing? Where does he think the ring might be?

M is for Muck
 N is for Near
 O is for On
 P is for Pipes

CHAPTER 4

A Ring in the Pipes

What is missing? Where does the detective think the ring is?

Clink, clink, clink. Zack worked on the water pipes under the sink. It was a very messy job.

Then Zack said, "I've got it. I've got the ring!"

Rocky and Rindy clapped. But then, they looked at the ring. It was gray and covered in muck.

Rindy said, "That's just junk. Rocky's ring isn't gray and yucky. Rocky's ring is made of gold."

Zack was puzzled. The ring was still missing. They had looked in the sink, near the sink, and on the floor.

Zack said, "A ring of gold—perhaps the ring isn't lost. Perhaps a robber took the ring. Who was in the apartment when the ring went missing?"

What does Zack think happened to the ring?



Q is for Quit
R is for Rocky
S is for Snort
T is for Trust

CHAPTER 5

Can You Trust the Fox?

What was the problem? Where had the detectives inspected?

Rindy said, "Franny Fox came to visit, but Franny is not a robber! She is my friend."

Zack said, "Aha! A fox! Never trust a fox."

Soon Franny was sitting in the Raccoons' living room.



Did Rindy trust Franny? Why? Did Zack trust Franny? Why not?

Zack said, "I want to hear your story. What were you doing when the ring went missing?"

Franny said, "I came to give Rindy and Rocky a present. When I left, Rocky was doing the dishes, and Rindy was going to bake a cake."

As Franny told her story, Alexander said, "Snort, snort!"



In the last story, "The Case of the Missing Hat," what happened when Alexander said, "Snort, snort"? What do you think is going to happen next?

Everyone looked at Alexander. He was licking batter off the floor.



Zack said, "Batter! That's it. Franny and Alexander have solved the case. We can trust the fox."

Then Zack looked at Rindy and said, "Where is that cake?"

Zack thinks the case is solved, but he hasn't found the ring. Where do you think the ring is?

U is for Unhappy
V is for Very
W is for Wedding
X is for Fox
Y is for Yelled
Z is for Zebra

CHAPTER 6

The Case Is Solved

This is the end of the story. What do you think will happen?

Rocky yelled, "Cake? Where is my wedding ring?"

Zack just grinned. Then he said, "Let's have that cake!"

Rocky was still very unhappy. He grumbled.

"You said you would get my ring back."

Soon they were all eating Rindy's cake. All of a sudden, Rocky bit into something hard. He said, "I think I just lost a tooth."

Zack asked Rindy, "Did Rocky eat a little batter before the cake was baked?"

Rindy said, "Yes."

Where do you think the ring is?

Zack said, "Rocky, look. That isn't your tooth. It's your wedding ring. The ring fell in the cake when you ate the batter."



Rindy was so happy she kissed Alexander. Then she was going to kiss Zack. But Zack said, "Thanks, ma'am. A zipper and two ants is all the thanks we want."

What did Rindy do when the ring was found? Why did Zack say, "A zipper and two ants is all the thanks we want"? Did this story have a happy ending?

The Case of the Missing Ring

We're going to retell the mystery. What was the title of the story? Look the pictures below. Who was the story about?



● At the beginning of the story, what was the problem?



■ In the middle of the story, what did Zack do to solve the mystery of the missing ring?



▲ What happened at the end of the story?



Let's go back to the beginning and retell the whole story by looking at the pictures. Look at the first picture. This story was about . . .