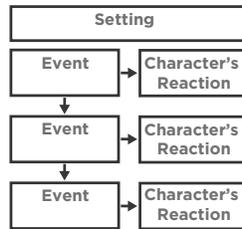


## Comprehension Check

### Summarize

Use a chart to tell about the characters and events in the story. Then use the information to summarize the story.



### Think and Compare

1. Reread the book. How do the characters work with each other to solve the mystery? (**Character, Setting, Plot**)
2. Think about when you lost something. Where did you find it? What evidence helped you find it? (**Apply**)
3. Todd needed Nosey to help solve the case. Explain other ways that dogs can help people. (**Evaluate**)

# The Case of the Missing Scarf

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illustrated by Stacey Schuett



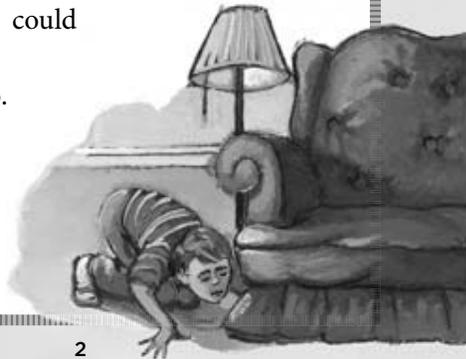
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## Chapter 1 On the Case

Todd's mother had a problem. "I've lost my favorite white scarf," she said. Todd wanted to help her find it. He searched under tables and behind chairs. He looked in closets and under the beds. He didn't see the scarf anywhere.

Todd wasn't worried, however. He was curious. He had solved many cases in the past. Once he found his father's lost baseball cap behind an old paint can in the garage. Another time he found his mother's keys among the leaves of a houseplant. In fact Todd had solved every case he had ever worked on. He thought he could complete this assignment too.



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The Case of the Missing Scarf

"Mom, guess what's here!" Todd said, pulling out his mother's white scarf.

Todd's mother felt embarrassed, and her face turned red. "Now I remember what happened!" she cried. "When I drove home this morning, my scarf fell onto the front seat. I tossed it in the glove compartment. I completely forgot about it after that." Then she added, "Todd, you will never be accused of failing an assignment. You're the best detective ever!"



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## Chapter 4

### A Surprise Discovery

Todd pulled Nosey out of the store. He was glad to be outside again, but he was too upset to walk home. He saw a pay phone and called his mother. He asked her to pick him up.

As he waited, Todd considered what to do next. His search had ranged from the attic to the park to the drugstore. Those were the only places his mother said she had been that morning. So where else might her white scarf be?

A few minutes later, Todd's mother drove up. Todd put Nosey into the back seat of the car, then got in next to his mother. As he sat in the parked car he began to tell her what happened in the store. Suddenly Nosey started to bark loudly. He leaped over the front seat and sniffed the glove compartment. Todd opened it and laughed.



Todd took out his handy detective notepad and pen. He asked his mother several questions, as any good detective would. "When did you last wear the scarf?" he asked. "Do you remember taking it off? Where did you last see it?"

Todd took notes as his mother replied. "I put on the scarf this morning when I got dressed," she said. "After breakfast I went up to the attic to get some blankets. Then I walked to the park and back. Later I drove to the drugstore. After I got home, I realized my scarf was missing."

Now Todd knew just where to begin his search. He led his mother up to the attic. As he looked for the scarf, he sneezed several times. His allergies were acting up because of the dust in the attic. His mother handed him a tissue.

“I wear the scarf a lot,” she said. “In fact you could find it by the smell of my perfume.” Suddenly she had an idea. She left the room and soon returned with a perfume bottle. “Here, smell this,” she said to Todd. “This is what my scarf smells like.”



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The Case of the Missing Scarf

With great effort, Todd finally managed to pull Nosey away. The clerk was still quite upset. Todd tried to make things better with a joke. “Well at least Nosey didn’t consume the cookies in the next aisle,” he said. The clerk didn’t even smile.



Todd considered what to do next. Suddenly he heard a loud crash and a dog barking in the next aisle. Todd immediately became suspicious. He thought it sounded like Nosey's bark. Sure enough, he found Nosey at the perfume display. The dog had gotten loose from the parking meter and had run into the store. He was sniffing perfume bottles that had fallen to the floor. Todd tried to pull the dog away.

The store clerk was very unhappy. "Dogs are not allowed in this store," he said in a strict voice. "Just look at the mess he's made. Please take your dog outside this minute!"

Todd was very embarrassed. He tugged again at Nosey's leash, but the dog wouldn't budge. It was hard to pull Nosey away. He was eagerly sniffing the same kind of perfume that Todd's mother wore. Nosey had finally located the smell that he had been taught to find. Now he wasn't willing to leave.

Todd sniffed the bottle several times. However he couldn't smell the perfume because his nose was badly stuffed. He considered what to do next. His mother had said she walked to the park earlier. So Todd decided to go to the park to continue his search. Maybe he would find the white scarf there. But if he couldn't smell it, then how could he be sure he found the right one? Todd knew a good detective had to be sure about everything.



## Chapter 2 An Extra Nose

After some more consideration, Todd had an idea. "I'll use the help of a special four-legged friend," he said.

Todd walked next door to his neighbor Mrs. Rose. She owned a pet bloodhound named Nosey. She called him that because bloodhounds have an excellent sense of smell. "Good afternoon, Mrs. Rose," Todd said. "May I please borrow Nosey for some temporary help?"

"Of course you may," Mrs. Rose said with a big smile. "Todd, are you working on one of your detective assignments?" Todd smiled and nodded his head.

Mrs. Rose went to her backyard and returned with Nosey. The dog licked Todd's hand. The two always got along. Todd thanked Mrs. Rose. Then he led Nosey home. His mother was standing by the front door.



Todd entered the drugstore. A clerk stood behind the counter. "Do you happen to have a white scarf here?" Todd asked. The clerk pointed to Aisle Six.

Todd was excited as he walked down the aisle. He hoped he would find his mother's scarf there. However all he saw were several new scarves for sale.

Todd returned to the clerk. He said, "I'm sorry, but I didn't make myself clear before. What I meant was, did you find a white scarf that was lost here earlier?" The clerk checked a lost-and-found box behind the counter. He shook his head.

### Chapter 3

## What a Mess!

Todd took out his detective pad and read over his notes. His mother had been to the drugstore after coming back from the park. So Todd headed to the drugstore with Nosey to continue his search.

At the store, Todd saw a big sign in the window. It had a no pet policy. Todd would have to keep him outside. He saw a parking meter on the sidewalk. He tied Nosey's leash to the pole.

Todd petted the dog, and Nosey licked his hand. "You stay here while I look for the scarf in the store," Todd said.



"Mom," Todd called, "please get your bottle of perfume again."

Todd's mother brought out the bottle. Todd put it under Nosey's nose. The dog sniffed several times. "Good boy," Todd said, petting the bloodhound.

Todd then turned to his mother. "Mom," he said, "Nosey now knows what your scarf smells like. If he's attracted to a white scarf in the park, then that evidence will prove it's yours."

Todd walked Nosey to the park. Todd led Nosey all around the area. At first the bloodhound was very quiet and even seemed bored. Then, suddenly, Nosey raced to a tree and began to bark loudly. Todd ran quickly to keep up. He hoped that Nosey had found the white scarf.

Todd looked around the tree but saw no scarf. Instead Nosey was barking at two squirrels that were running up and down the tree trunk. "A fine bloodhound you are!" Todd laughed.



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The two continued their walk. Nosey sniffed frequently. He sniffed the benches and the swings. He sniffed everything in sight.

Suddenly Nosey grew excited again. He ran to a pond and barked loudly. Todd quickly followed. He hoped to find his mother's scarf there. Instead he saw Nosey barking at a family of ducks.

"Another false alarm," Todd sighed. He left the park with Nosey. But he wasn't about to give up. Todd was sure he could find the missing scarf.



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