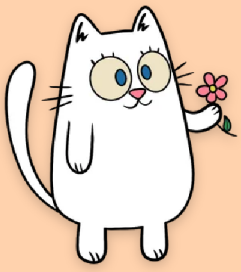
DRAMA · READER'S THEATER SCRIPTS · GRADES 3–5

The Great Cookie Mystery

A reader's theater script for 5 readers. The cookie jar is empty, and Detective Whiskers follows the clues.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Cast: NARRATOR · BAKER BEA · DETECTIVE WHISKERS, a cat · OFFICER BARKLEY, a dog · PIP, a mouse

NARRATOR: Baker Bea baked chocolate chip cookies every Monday. But this Monday, the cookie jar was empty.

BEA: *(gasping)* My cookies! All twelve are gone!

WHISKERS: *(tipping a hat)* Never fear. Detective Whiskers is here. Officer Barkley, what do you see?

BARKLEY: *(sniffing the floor)* Crumbs! A trail of crumbs going toward the wall.

WHISKERS: And look: tiny footprints in the flour. Too small for a dog. Too small for a cat.

BARKLEY: Hey, I would never... *(sniffs)* Okay, I thought about it.

NARRATOR: The detectives followed the crumbs to a tiny door in the wall.

WHISKERS: *(knocking softly)* Hello? We know you're in there.

PIP: *(opening the door slowly)* Please don't be mad! I didn't eat them. Look!

NARRATOR: Inside, the twelve cookies were stacked into a tower, with a birthday candle on top.

PIP: Tomorrow is Baker Bea's birthday. I wanted to throw her a surprise party.

BEA: *(softly)* Oh, Pip. Nobody has ever made me a party before.

WHISKERS: Case closed. The only crime here is a ruined surprise.

BARKLEY: So... do we still get cookies?

ALL: Happy birthday, Bea!

Answer the questions.

1. **What two clues did the detectives find?**

_____

2. **Why did Whiskers think the cookie taker was not a dog or a cat?**

_____

3. **Why did Pip take the cookies?**

_____

4. **What makes Barkley's lines funny?**

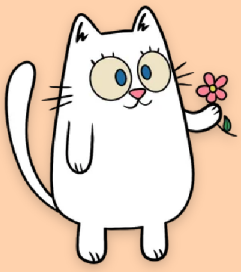
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ANSWER KEY · READER'S THEATER SCRIPTS · GRADES 3–5

Answer Key: The Great Cookie Mystery

Answers for grown-ups. Where kids write their own ideas, the key shows one example.



Cast: NARRATOR · BAKER BEA · DETECTIVE WHISKERS, a cat · OFFICER BARKLEY, a dog · PIP, a mouse

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BARKLEY: *(sniffing the floor)* Crumbs! A trail of crumbs going toward the wall.
WHISKERS: And look: tiny footprints in the flour. Too small for a dog. Too small for a cat.
BARKLEY: Hey, I would never... *(sniffs)* Okay, I thought about it.
NARRATOR: The detectives followed the crumbs to a tiny door in the wall.
WHISKERS: *(knocking softly)* Hello? We know you're in there.
PIP: *(opening the door slowly)* Please don't be mad! I didn't eat them. Look!
NARRATOR: Inside, the twelve cookies were stacked into a tower, with a birthday candle on top.
PIP: Tomorrow is Baker Bea's birthday. I wanted to throw her a surprise party.
BEA: *(softly)* Oh, Pip. Nobody has ever made me a party before.
WHISKERS: Case closed. The only crime here is a ruined surprise.
BARKLEY: So... do we still get cookies?
ALL: Happy birthday, Bea!

Answer the questions.

1. **What two clues did the detectives find?**

   A trail of crumbs and tiny footprints in the flour

2. **Why did Whiskers think the cookie taker was not a dog or a cat?**

   The footprints were too small.

3. **Why did Pip take the cookies?**

   To throw Bea a surprise birthday party

4. **What makes Barkley's lines funny?**

   He admits he thought about eating the cookies and still wants some.

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