

The

# Deductive Detective



By Brian Rock  
Illustrated by Sherry Rogers

# The Deductive Detective

Someone stole a cake from the cake contest—who could it be? Twelve animal bakers are potential suspects but Detective Duck uses his deductive reasoning skills to “quack” the case. After all, the thief left hairs behind so the thief wasn’t a bird. Follow along as he subtracts each suspect one at a time to reveal just who the culprit was. This clever story will have children of all ages giggling at the puns and the play on words.

It’s so much more than a picture book . . . this book is specifically designed to be both a fun-to-read story and a launch pad for discussions and learning. Whether read at home or in a classroom, we encourage adults to do the activities with the young children in their lives. Free online resources and support at [www.ArbordalePublishing.com](http://www.ArbordalePublishing.com) include:

- For Creative Minds as seen in the book (in English & Spanish):
  - Deductive Reasoning
  - Number Patterns and Subtraction
- Teaching Activities (to do at home or school):
  - Reading Questions
  - Math
  - Language Arts
  - Science
  - Geography
- Interactive Quizzes: Reading Comprehension, For Creative Minds, and Math Word Problems
- English and Spanish Audiobooks
- Related Websites
- Aligned to State Standards (searchable database)
- Accelerated Reader and Reading Counts! Quizzes
- Lexile and Fountas & Pinnell Reading Levels

eBooks with Auto-Flip, Auto-Read, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio available for purchase online.

**Brian Rock** received a master’s degree in Children’s Literature and Creative Writing from Hollins University. Brian’s short stories for children appear regularly in the regional magazine *Kid’s World* and his poems for children have appeared in *Highlights for Children*, *Poetry Train*, and various regional publications. His short story, *The Frog Dad*, was selected as one of the inaugural titles for iPulpFiction’s “Don’t Read This in the Dark” series. For six years Brian worked in the Chesterfield County public school system teaching at-risk students.

**Sherry Rogers** spent twelve years as a corporate graphic designer and artist before “leaving it all behind” for the freelance world of illustrating children’s books. In addition to *The Deductive Detective*, some of Sherry’s other titles include *The Penguin Lady*, *Ten for Me*, *Hey Diddle Diddle*, *Newton and Me*, *Moose and Magpie*, *Paws, Claws, Hands & Feet*, award-winning *Sort It Out!*, *Kersplatypus*, *Burro’s Tortillas*, and *If You Were a Parrot*. Sherry lives in Northern California with her family and their pets.

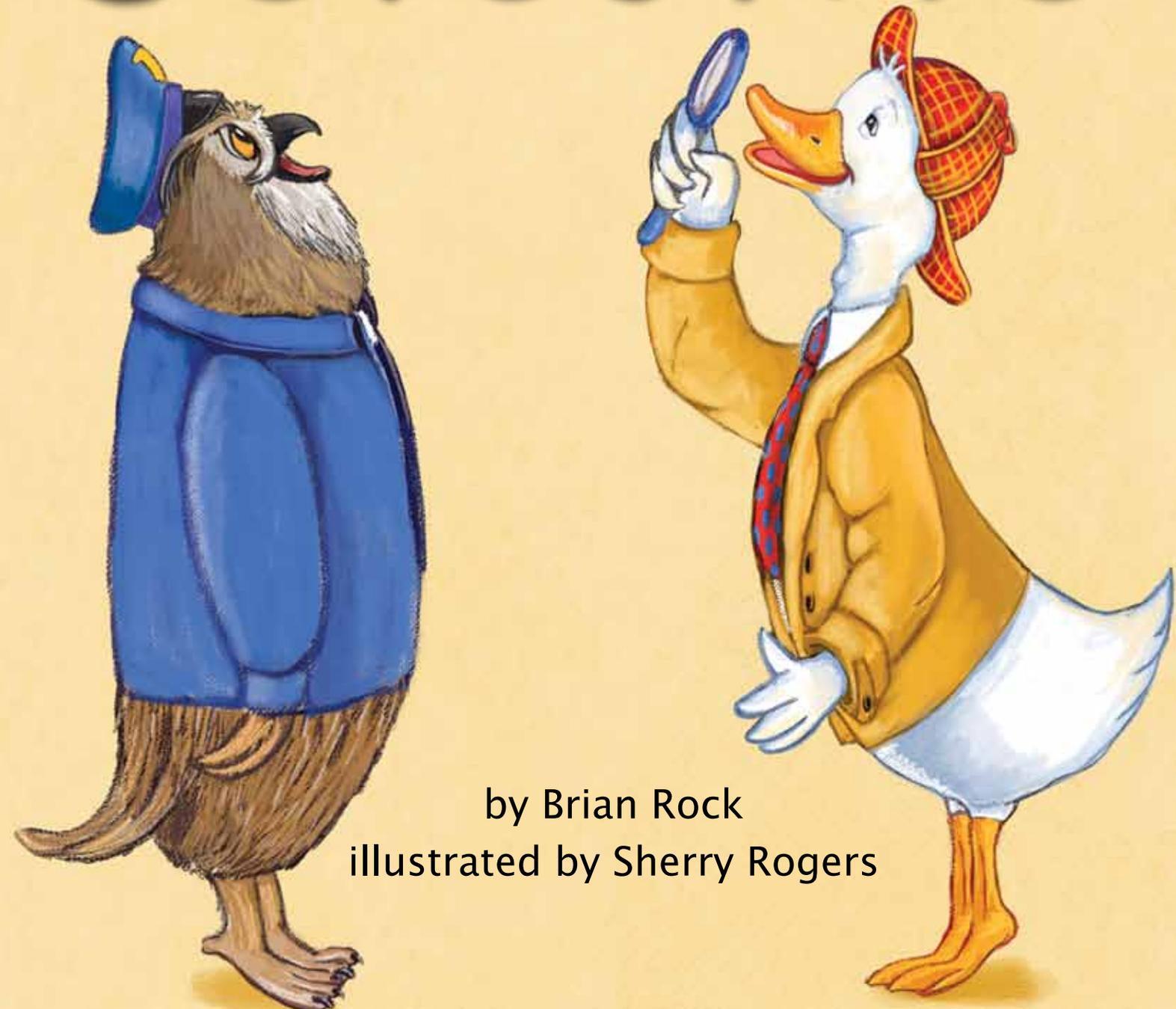


Brian Rock



Sherry Rogers

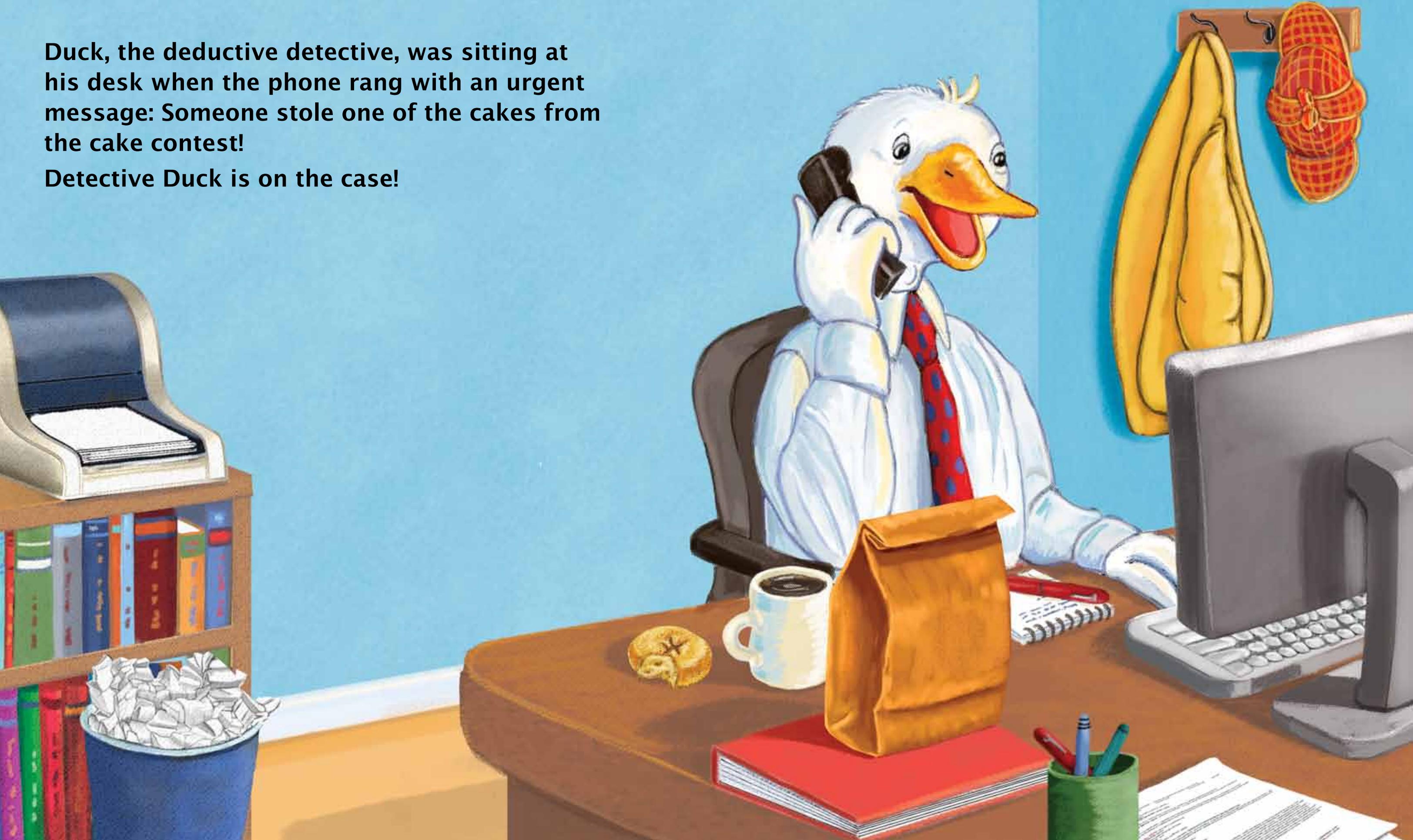
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**Duck, the deductive detective, was sitting at his desk when the phone rang with an urgent message: Someone stole one of the cakes from the cake contest!**

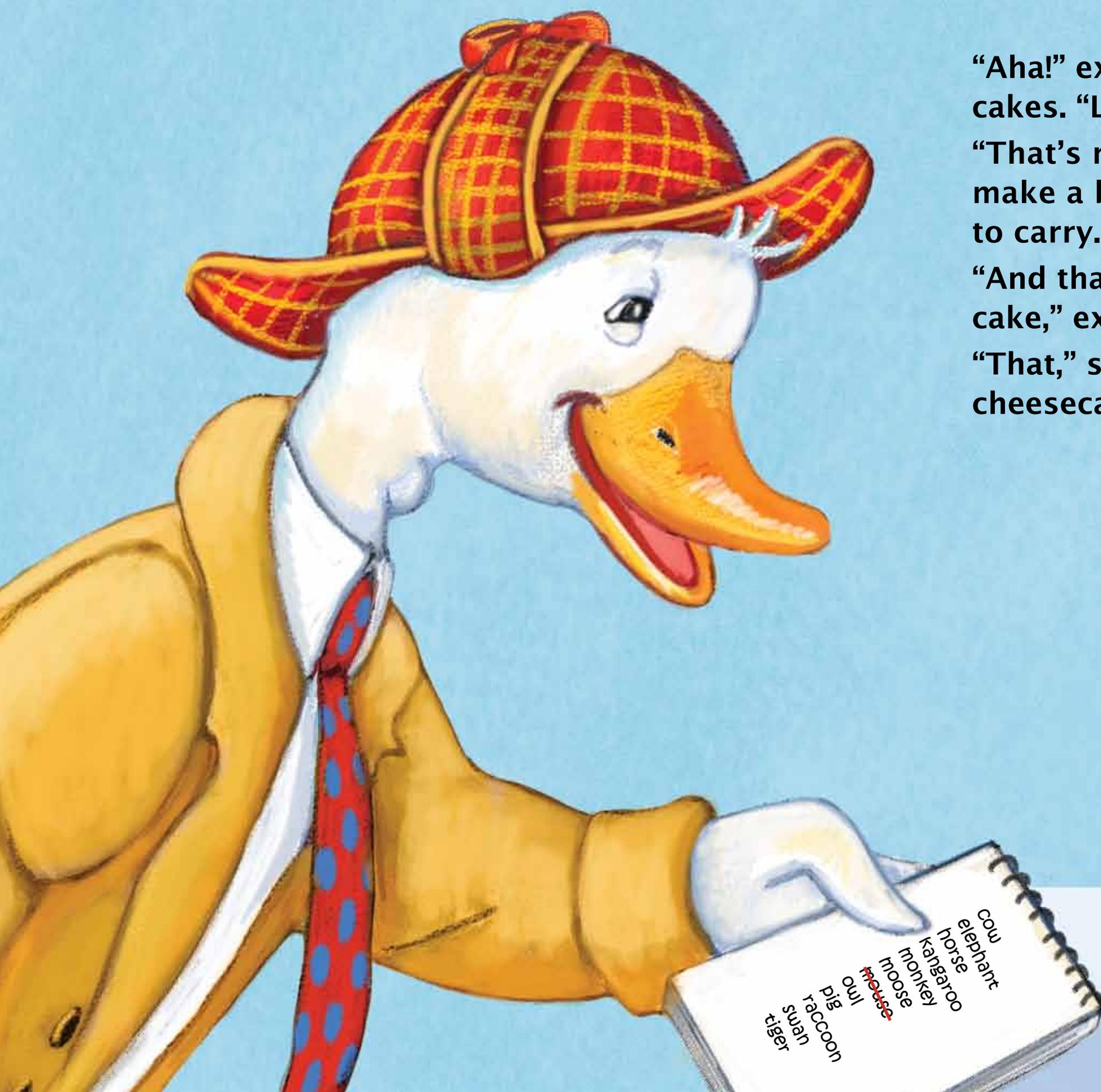
**Detective Duck is on the case!**



When Duck arrived, Owl, the night watchman, took him to the scene of the crime. All thirteen bakers were already there. Fox was sitting in a chair crying, "Someone stole my beautiful cake!" "Hoo could have stolen it?" asked Owl.

Detective Duck looked at the scene and said, "One of these twelve bakers stole that cake! But I'll quack this case in no time. I'll find clues that will subtract each suspect until there is just one left."





“Aha!” exclaimed Duck, pointing to the remaining cakes. “Look how small this cake is.”

“That’s my cake,” squeaked Mouse. “I couldn’t make a bigger cake or it would be too big for me to carry.”

“And that is why you could not have stolen the cake,” explained Duck.

“That,” said Mouse “and because I only like cheesecake.”

12 suspects

- 1 mouse

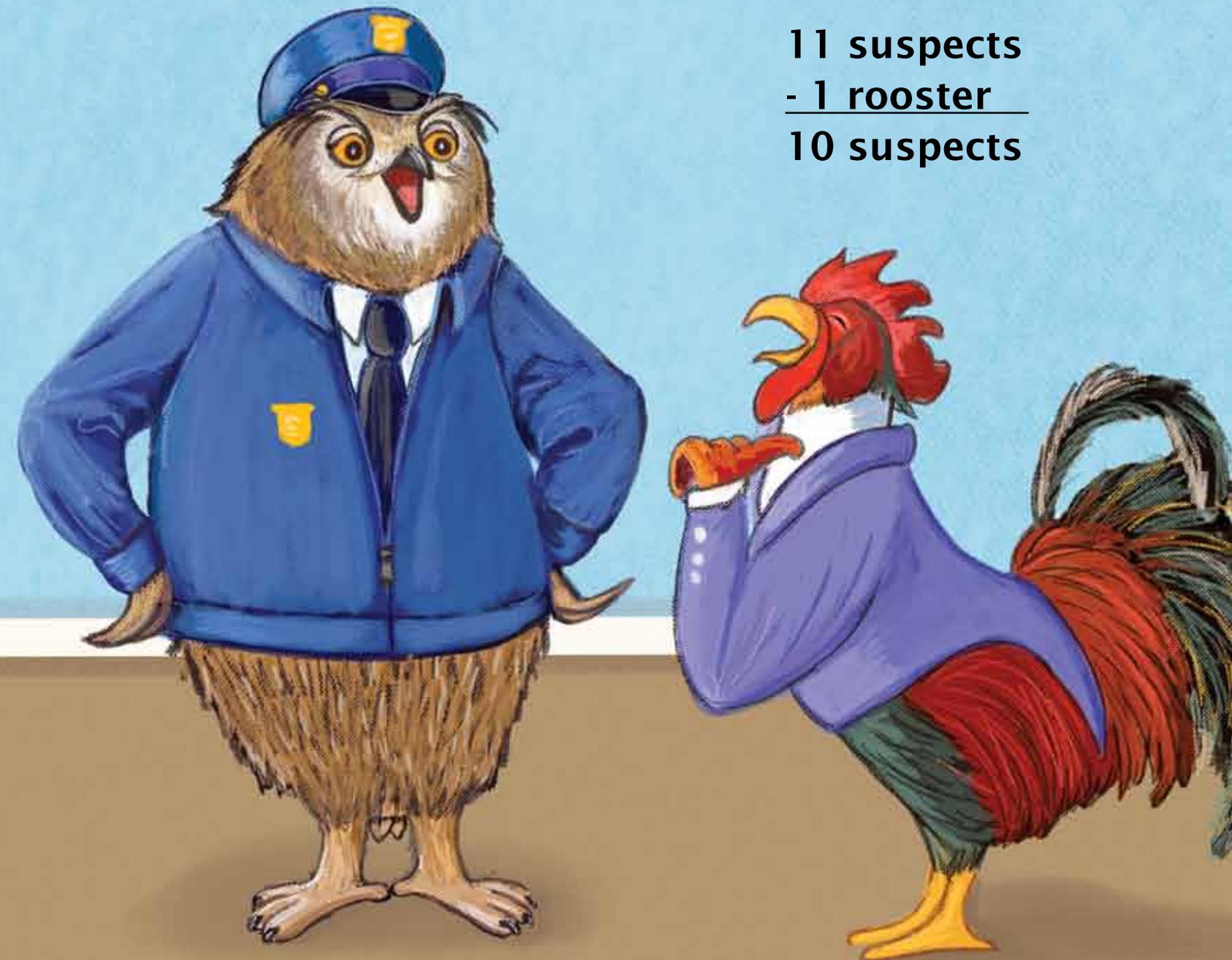
11 suspects



“Now,” said Duck, “what time was the cake stolen?”  
“It was taken at sunrise when I went to get breakfast,” said Owl.



“That means you could not have taken the cake,” said Duck, pointing at Rooster. “I heard you crow at sunrise this morning, so you could not have been here as well. So you’re free to fly the coop.”  
“Great,” said Rooster. “I’ve got other things to *cock a doodle do*.”



11 suspects  
- 1 rooster  
10 suspects



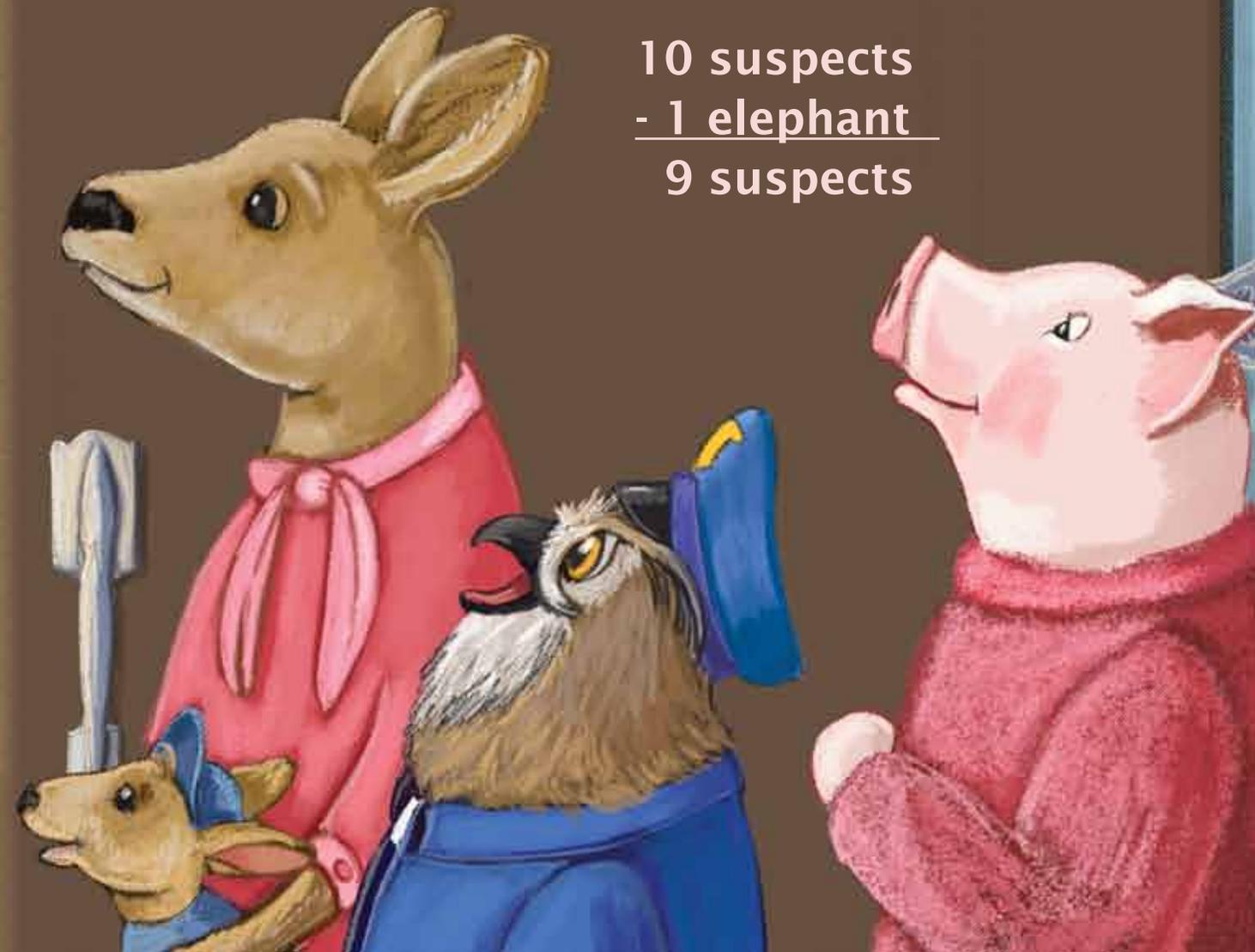
“What about these doors?” asked Duck, pointing to the double doors at the front of the room. “Were they still locked when the cake was stolen?”

“Of course, *hoo* else would have keys?” replied Owl.

“Then Elephant is not our thief,” said Duck, “since the only way he can fit into this room is through these two doors.”

“That’s because I’m royalty,” said Elephant. “I come from a long line of Tudors.”

10 suspects  
- 1 elephant  
9 suspects



## For Creative Minds

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### Deductive Reasoning

Deductive reasoning is the term for answering a question by using facts and logic. Detective duck uses commonly known facts and logic to prove that some of the animals could not be the thief. For example: Detective Duck observes that the window the thief escaped through is small. He also knows that Kangaroo is much larger than the window. So he can logically prove that Kangaroo is not the thief!

You can be a detective too! Can you answer these questions and explain how you know the answers? Deductive reasoning is being able to explain why something is true by using facts. What are the facts that you used to answer the questions?

- If you are eating breakfast, what time of day do you think it is? Why?
- If it's dark and you turn on a light to see, is it day or night? Why?
- If you wake up to go to the bathroom and then go back to sleep, is it day or night? Why?
- If people are wearing raincoats and have wet umbrellas, what's the weather? Why?
- If you find a feather, did it come from a bird, mammal, or reptile? Why?
- If a wet towel is left in the girl's locker room, do you think a boy or girl left it? Why?
- If a cookie is missing and your little brother has cookie crumbs on his shirt, who do you think took the cookie? Why?
- If your little sister has a milk moustache, what do you think she was just drinking? Why?
- If you have air conditioning on in the house, do you think it is summer or winter? Why?
- If you are wearing a bathing suit and going to the beach to swim, what time of year is it? Why?
- If it is the last day of school for the year, what month is it? Why?



### Compare and Contrast the Animals



Compare and contrast the animal suspects:

All birds have feathers. Which animals are birds?

Some animals are active at night and sleep during the day (nocturnal). Which animal is nocturnal?

Which animals fly, hop, and walk to move from one place to another?

Which animals have four legs?

Which animals use their front legs as arms and hands?

Which animal has a trunk?

Which animal has antlers?

Which animals have tails?

Which animals are big and which are little?

Which animals could you find on a farm?

Which animals might live in your backyard?

Which animals would you see in a zoo?

**Birds:** rooster and swan. **Nocturnal:** raccoon **Move:** fly: rooster and swan; hop: kangaroo; walk: all others and eating or as arms), monkeys (like the kangaroo, monkeys use their two front legs for moving and as arms), mouse, pig, raccoon, tiger **Front legs as arms and hands:** kangaroos, monkeys and raccoons **Trunk:** elephant **Antlers:** moose **Tails:** all but shape and length are all different **Big:** cow, elephant, horse, kangaroo, moose, pig, rooster **Little:** monkey, mouse, raccoon, rooster **Backyard:** mouse, raccoon, and maybe moose depending on where you live **Zoo:** elephant, kangaroo, monkey, mouse, tiger

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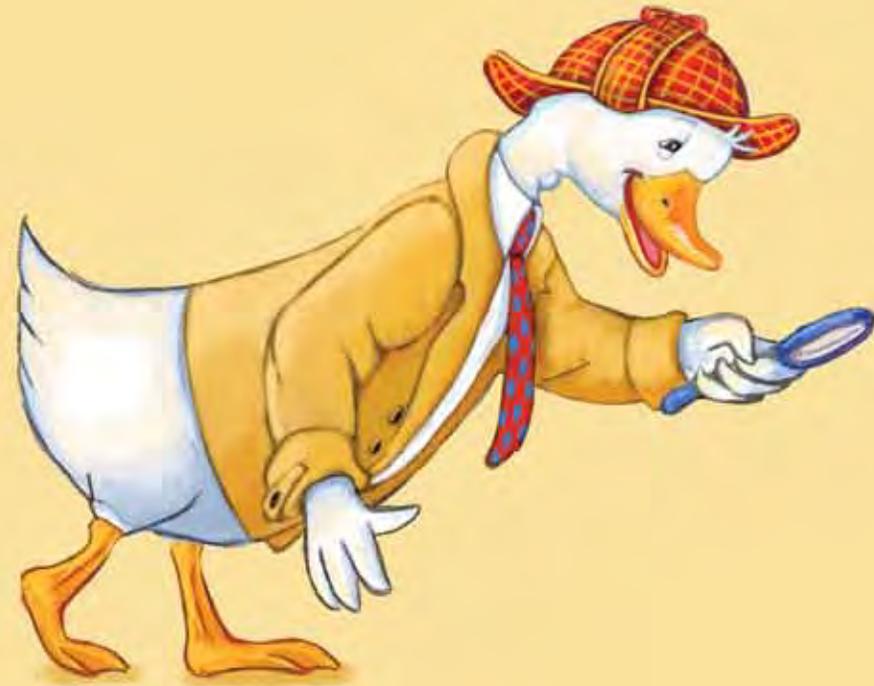
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