

“MAYA AND THE MISSING PUDDING”

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PART 1: Read the following story. Then, answer the questions below to solve the mystery of the missing pudding!

Maya went to the supermarket with her mother. While they were there, Maya bought her favorite kind of dessert: chocolate pudding! As soon as she got home from the store, Maya put the pudding in a paper bag and taped it shut. She wrote “Maya’s Top Secret Package of Danger. Hands off!” on the bag. She wanted to save the pudding for tomorrow’s snack, along with the usual carrot, of course.



Daisy, the family dog.

The next day when she opened the refrigerator, she shrieked. The bag was gone! All that was left was the lonely carrot. Where could the pudding be? She calmed herself and decided to look for clues.

The pudding was not in the cabinets, and she didn’t see an empty container in the trash. Then she gasped. The container was in the dog dish—empty! The family dog, Daisy, was nowhere to be seen.

Maya thought that something seemed wrong. “How could Daisy have opened the pudding?” she said to herself.

Maya decided to explore one more place. She went to her brother’s door and knocked. “Come in,” said Marco.

Maya opened the door, pointed a carrot at her brother, and said, “What happened to my secret snack?”

He looked at her and said, “I like your sweater. It’s pretty.”

“Never mind that,” she said, “I found the empty container in Daisy’s dish.”

“Well, chocolate pudding IS her favorite,” Marco responded.

“Ah ha!” Maya cried, “I knew you took it!”

Maya had solved the mystery.

PART 2: Answer the following questions on the back of this page.

1. How did Marco’s last response help Maya solve the mystery?
2. How do you think the pudding container ended up in the dog dish?
3. The container in the dish was a piece of evidence. Why was it misleading?
4. How would the story be different if the bag was clear and not paper?



Abigail Breslin in
KIT KITTREDGE:
An American Girl