

Kids
& Co.

Dad's Birthday Present

by Geoff Patton
illustrated by David Clarke



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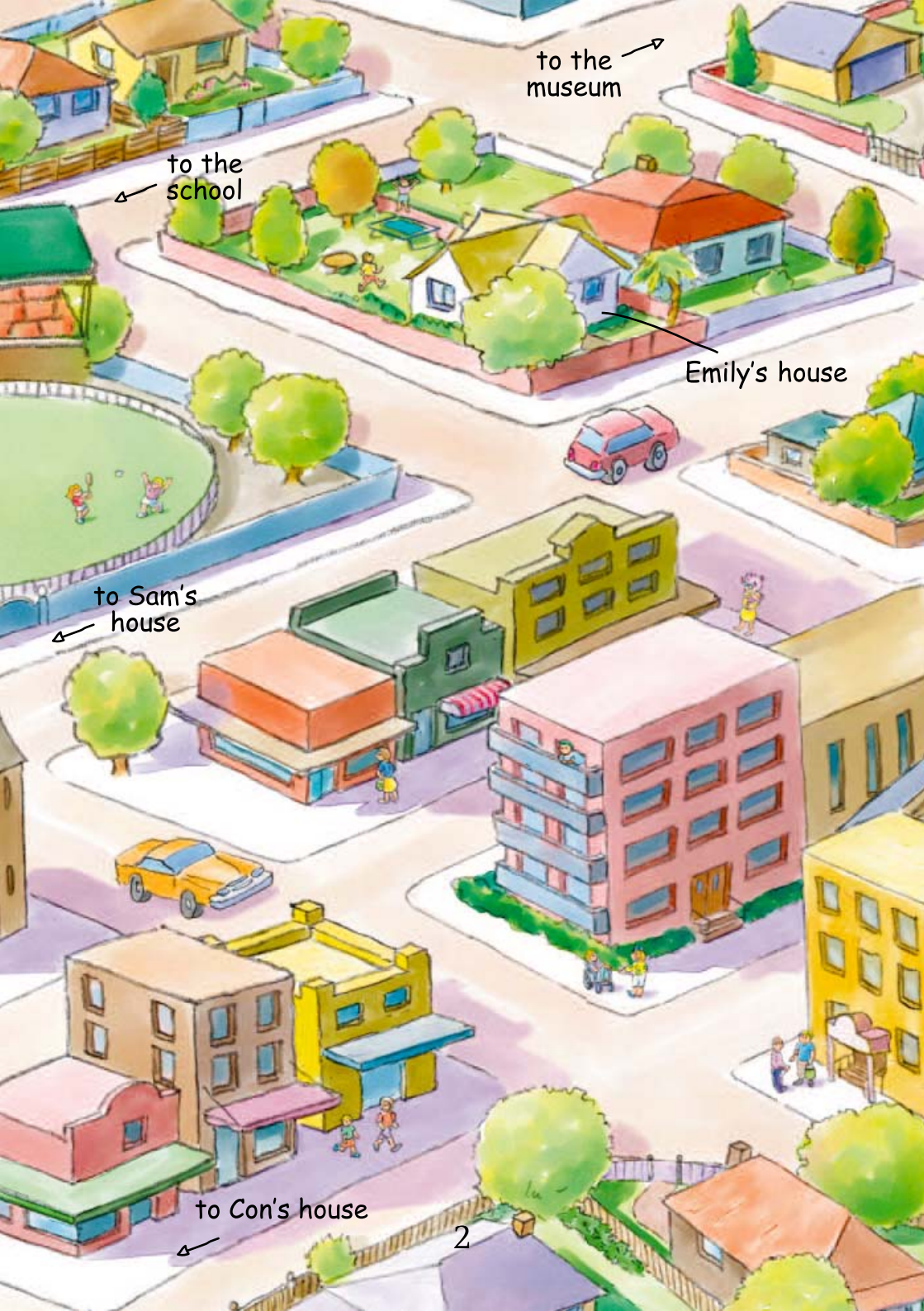
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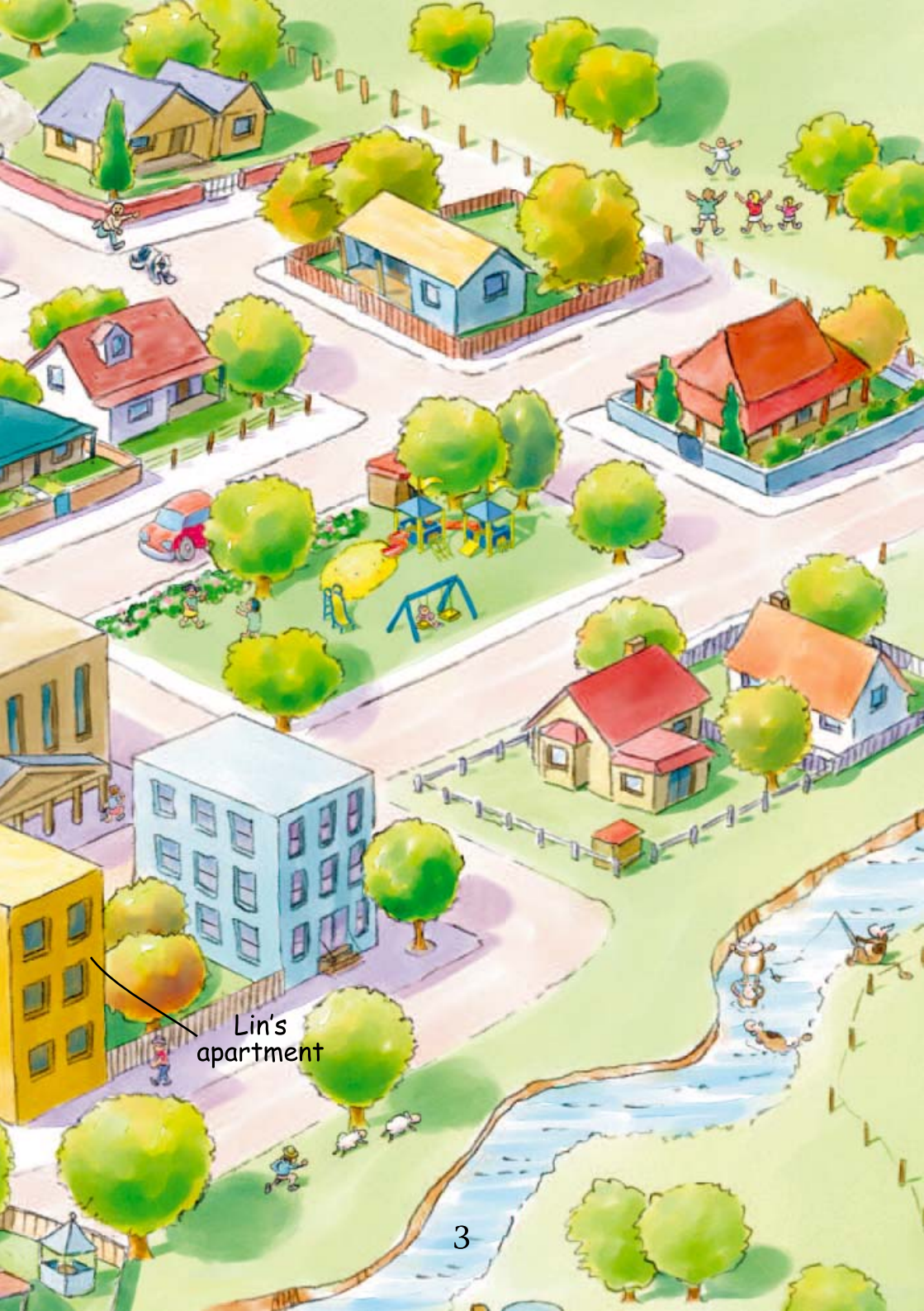
to the museum ↗

to the school ↙

Emily's house ↘

to Sam's house ↙

to Con's house ↙



Lin's
apartment

Hi. My name is Emily.
This is my family.

Dad

me
(Emily)



Molly,
my little sister

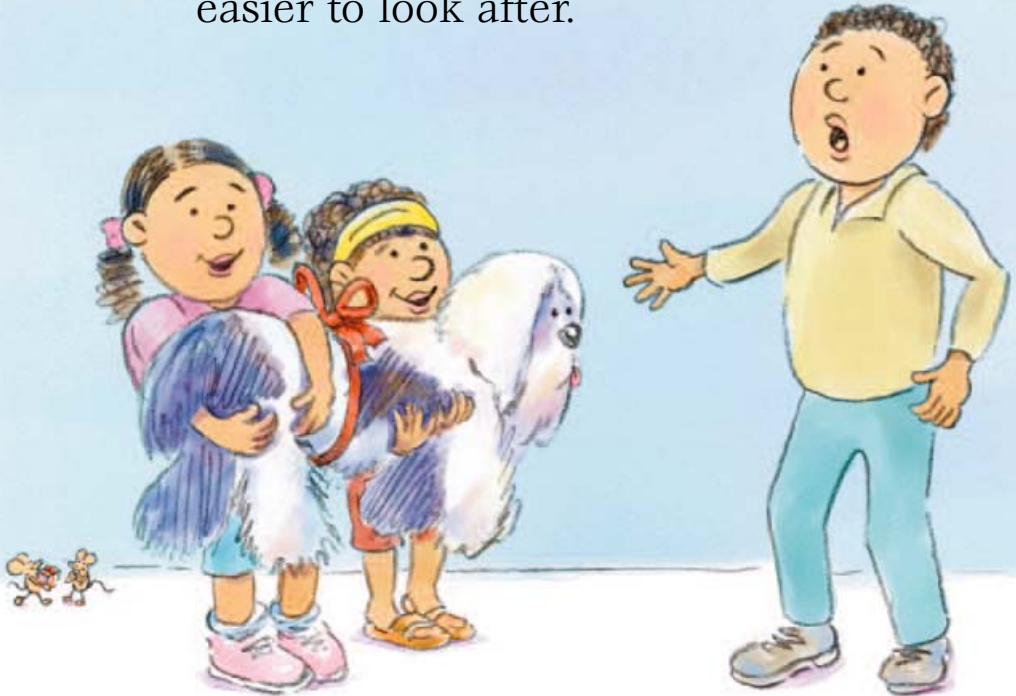


Puddle

Chapter 1

A Puddle in the House

We have a new puppy. Her name is Puddle. We gave her to Dad for his birthday. Dad said he *really* wanted socks. He said that socks were *much* easier to look after.



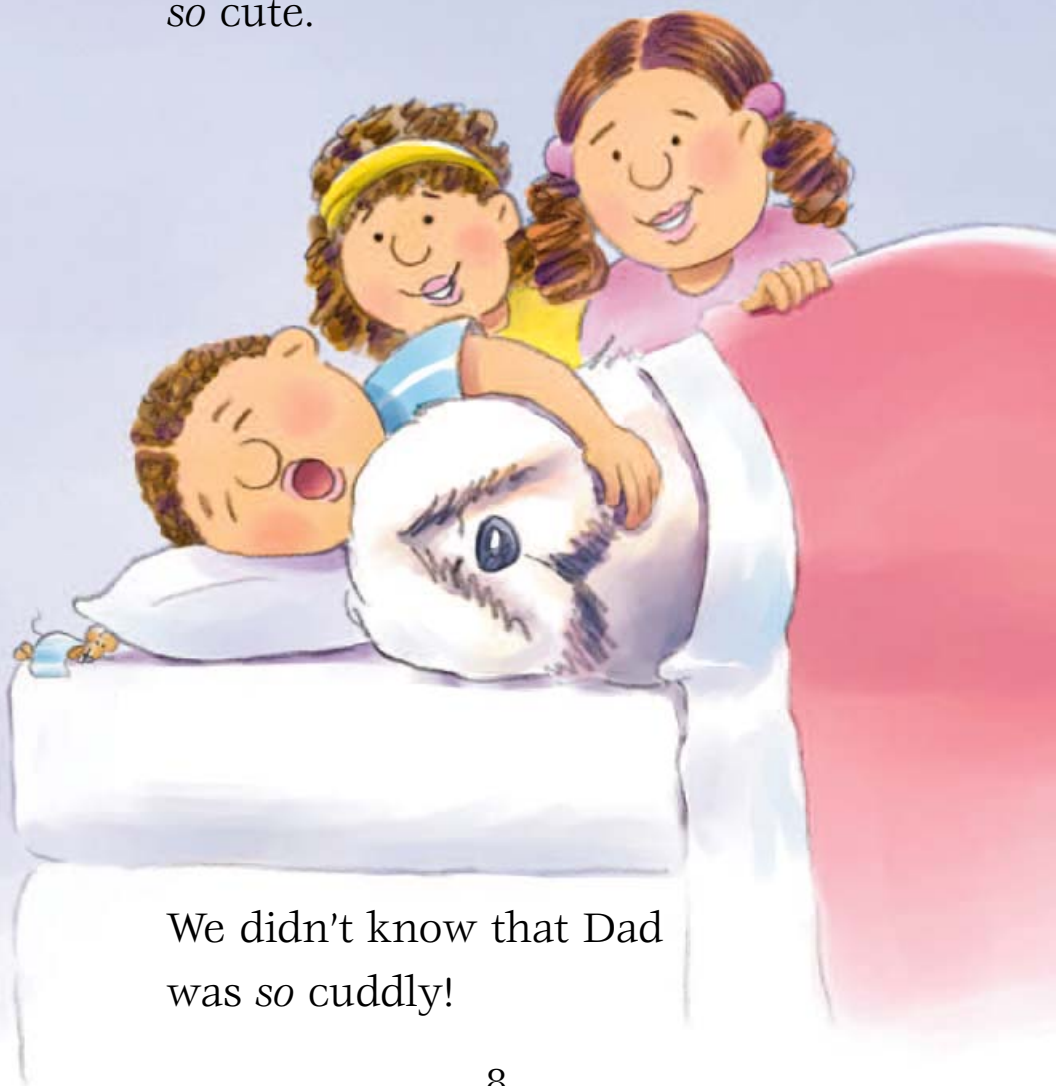
We said, 'Don't worry, Dad, we will look after her.'

In the night Puddle cried. She cried and cried and cried. But I didn't hear her. I was wearing my new woolly earmuffs. Molly didn't hear her. She was sleeping under the blankets.



Dad didn't hear her. He was snoring too loudly.

But Ms Purtle, who lives next door, heard Puddle. Ms Purtle phoned Dad. Now Puddle sleeps with Dad. Molly says they look so cute.



We didn't know that Dad was so cuddly!

Chapter 2

A Walk in the Park?

When we go to the park, we say, 'Can we take Puddle?' Dad says he *really* wants to take the car. He says that the car is *much* easier than walking Puddle.



We say, 'Don't worry, Dad, we will look after her!'

On the way to the park Puddle pulls on her lead. She pulls and pulls and pulls. I say, 'Heel, Puddle,' and give her to Molly. Molly says, 'Heel, Puddle,' and gives her to Dad.



Dad says, 'Heel, Puddle,' but Puddle run away from him.

Puddle runs into Ms Purtle's garden.
Puddle really likes Ms Purtle's
garden. So *did* Ms Purtle.
We go to the park, while Dad
helps Ms Purtle in the garden.



We didn't know Dad *liked* gardening!

Chapter 3

In the Bath – Out of the Bath

When we are having a bath, we say, 'Can Puddle come in?' Dad says he *really* doesn't think it's a good idea. He says it is *much* easier to have a bath without Puddle.



We say, 'Don't worry, Dad, we will look after her.'

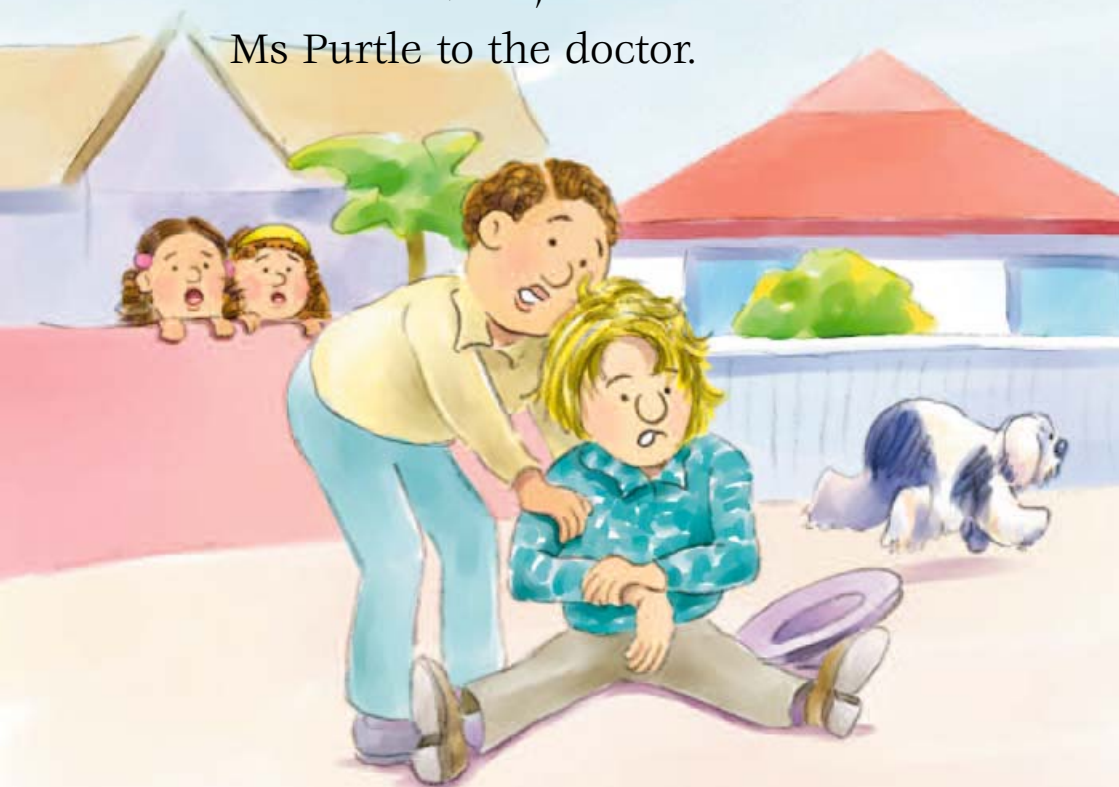
In the bath Puddle shakes. She
shakes and shakes and shakes.
I say, 'Out, Puddle!' as the water
sprays. Molly says, 'Out, Puddle!'
as the water sprays.

Out, Puddle!



Dad says, 'Out, Puddle!' as the
water sprays.

Puddle runs out of the bathroom.
So does Dad. Puddle runs out of the
front door. So does Dad. Puddle runs
into the street. So does Dad. Puddle
runs into Ms Purtle. So does Dad.
We have a bath, while Dad takes
Ms Purtle to the doctor.

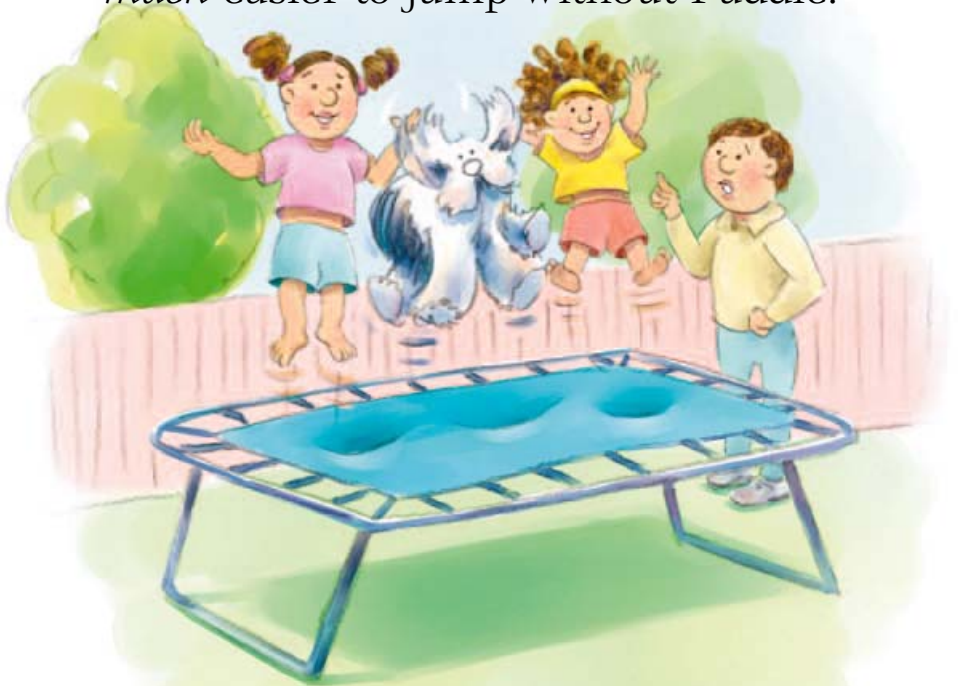


We didn't know that Dad
was so helpful!

Chapter 4

Sky High Puddle

When we are playing on the trampoline, we say, 'Can Puddle jump too?' Dad says he *really* doesn't think it's a good idea. He says it would be *much* easier to jump without Puddle.



We say, 'Don't worry, Dad, we will look after her!'

On the trampoline Puddle flies high.
She flies higher and higher and
higher. I say, 'Not too high, Puddle.'
Molly says, 'Not too high, Puddle.'



Dad says, 'Not too high, Puddle,'
but Puddle flies over the fence.

Puddle lands in Ms Purtle's yard.
Puddle runs into Ms Purtle's house.
Puddle really likes Ms Purtle's house.
So *did* Ms Purtle. We jump on the
trampoline, while Dad helps
Ms Purtle with the cleaning.



We didn't know Dad *liked* cleaning!

Chapter 5

Puddle the Watchdog

When our friends Jay and Fay call to ask us over, we say, 'Can we take Puddle?' My Dad says he *really* doesn't think it is a good idea. He says it would be *much* easier for her to stay home.



We say, 'Don't worry, Dad, we will look after her.'

But when Jay and Fay come to get us, Dad is asleep. He snores and snores and snores. We cover him with Molly's blanket.



We say, 'Don't worry, Dad, Puddle will look after you.'

Molly says, 'Puddle is the best birthday present Dad has ever had!' I think she is too. But maybe next year we will just buy him socks.





Survival Tips

Tips for surviving puppies



1 Hide your shoes.



2 Hide your socks.



3 Hide all of your clothes.



4

Keep a spade handy.
Puppies like to dig holes.



5

Keep paper handy.
Puppies like to make puddles.



6

Ignore bad behaviour.

Riddles and Jokes



Emily What did the dog say when he was jumped on by a tiger?

Ms Purtle Nothing. Dogs can't talk.

Emily Did you hear the one about the dog who ran 5 kilometres to get the stick? It was too far-fetched.

Molly Did you hear about the dog who went to the flea circus? He stole the show!

Emily Why did the dog howl?
Molly Because it saw the tree bark.

Molly What did the dog say when he sat on the sandpaper?

Emily Ruff, ruff!



Dad's Birthday Present

Puddle might be a strange name for a puppy. But this is no ordinary puppy. Just ask Ms Purtle, who lives next door!



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