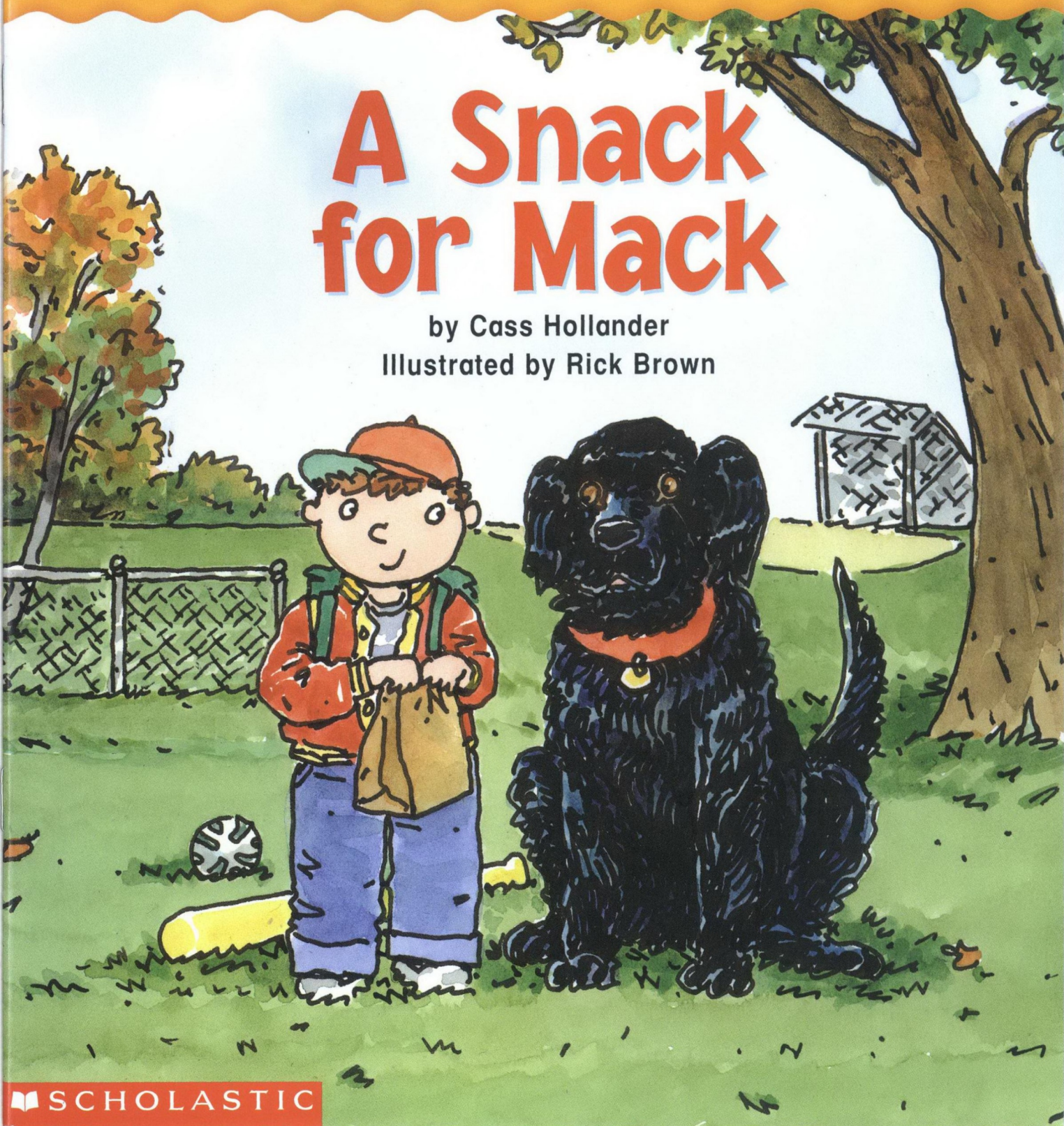




-ack

A Snack for Mack

by Cass Hollander
Illustrated by Rick Brown



For my own black dog, William,
who'll do almost anything for a snack.



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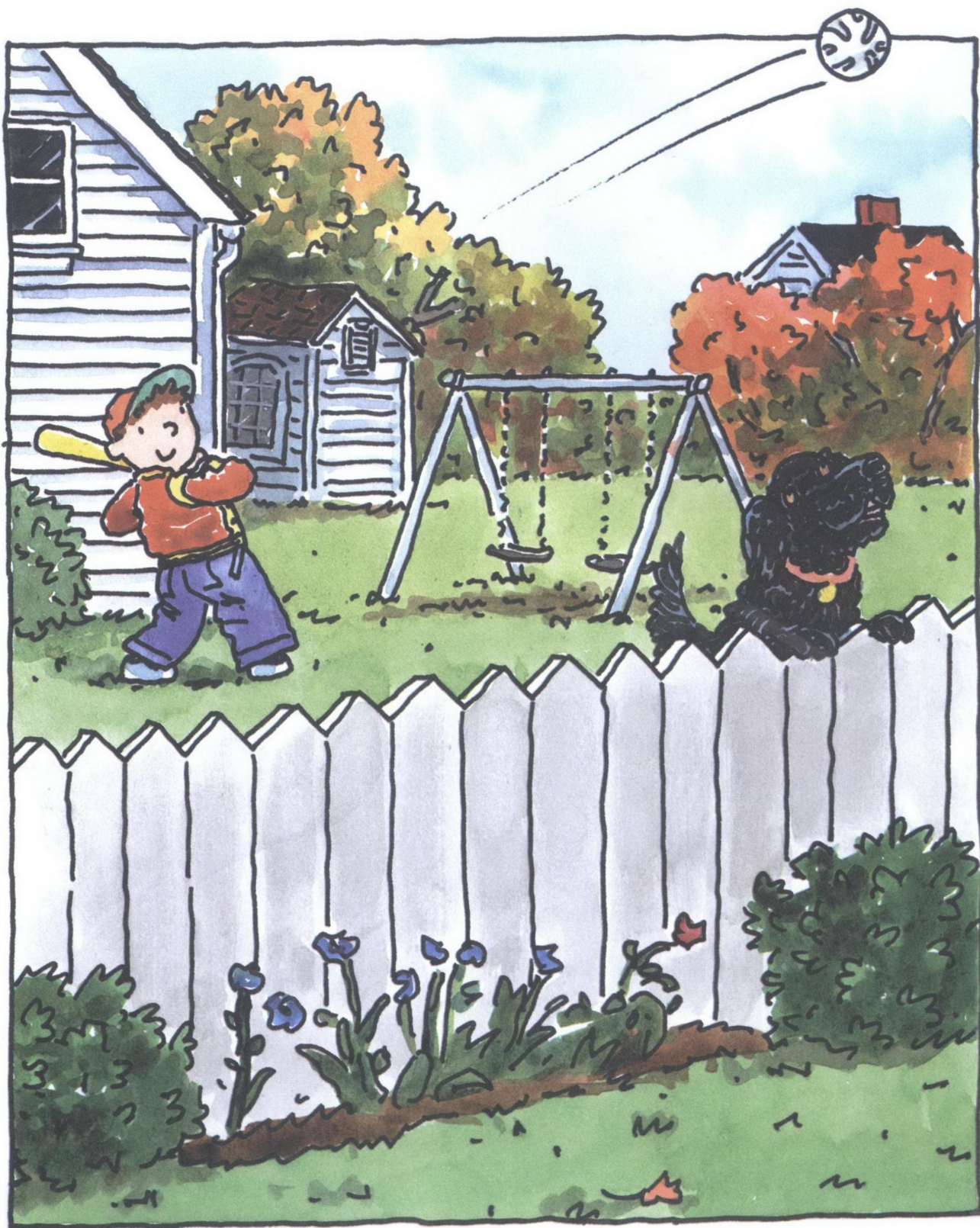
This is Jack and his black dog Mack.



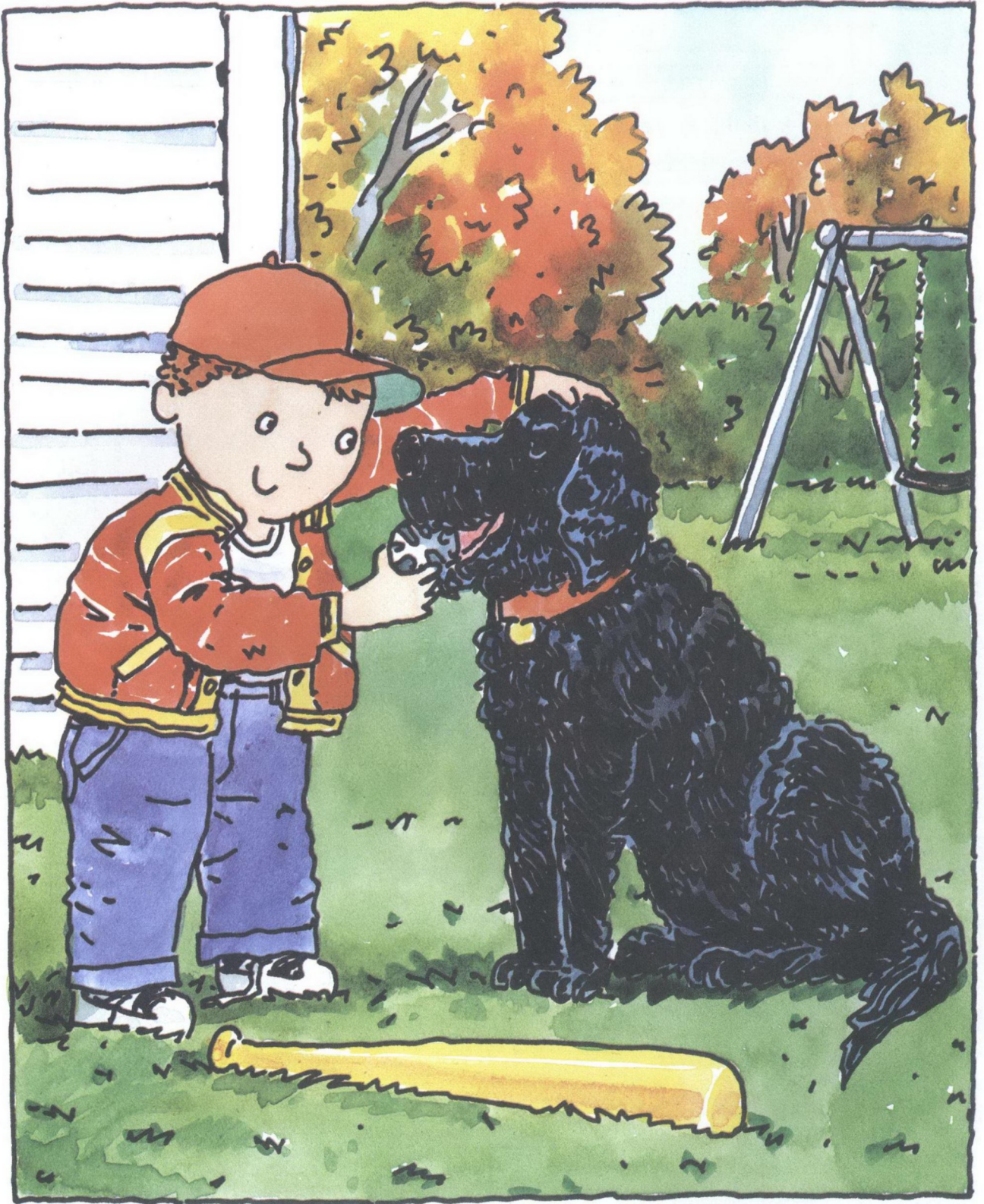
Jack has a knack for forgetting things.



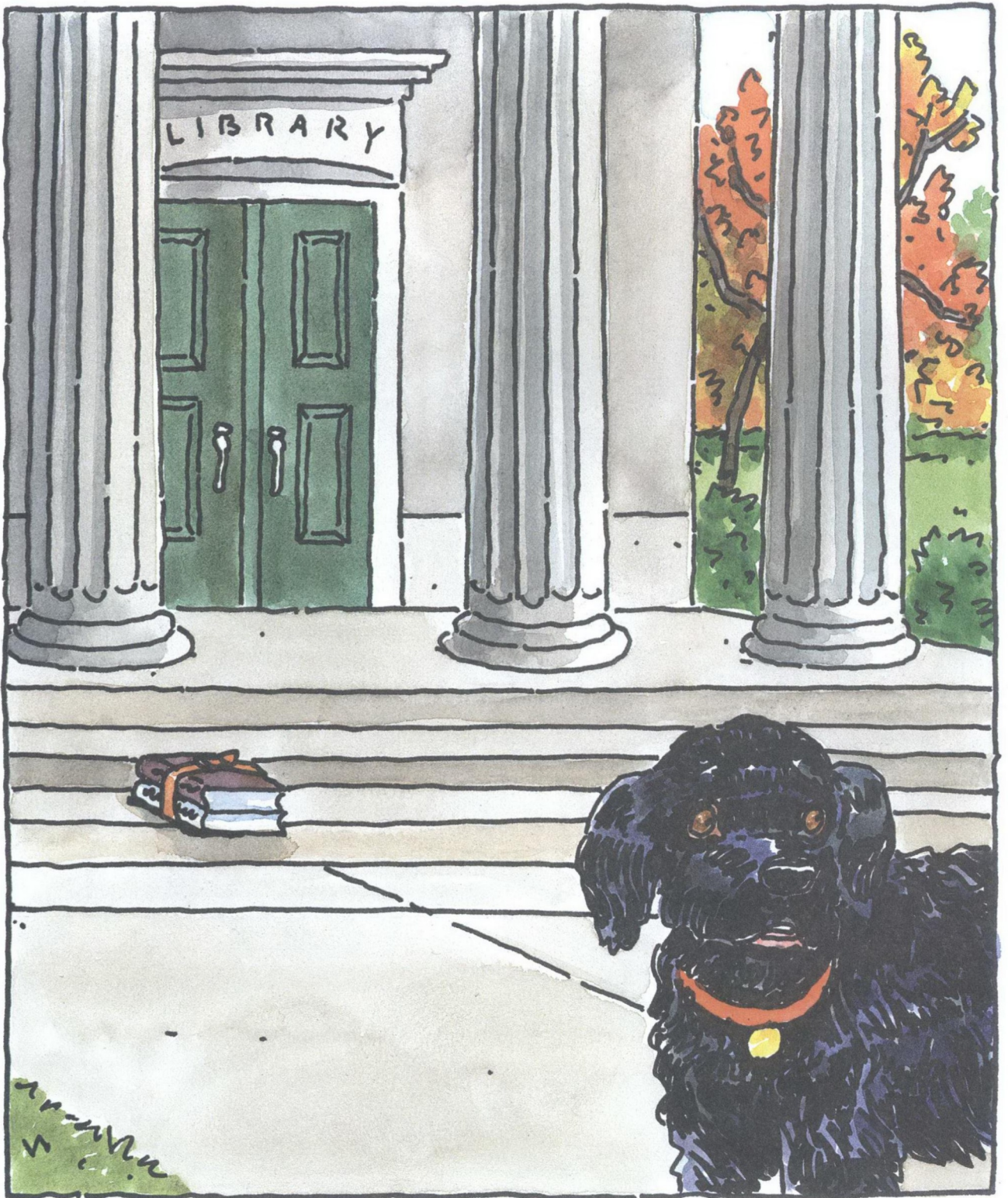
Mack has a knack for bringing them back.



When Jack hit the ball with a WHACK...



Mack brought it back.



When Jack left his books in a stack...



Mack brought them back.



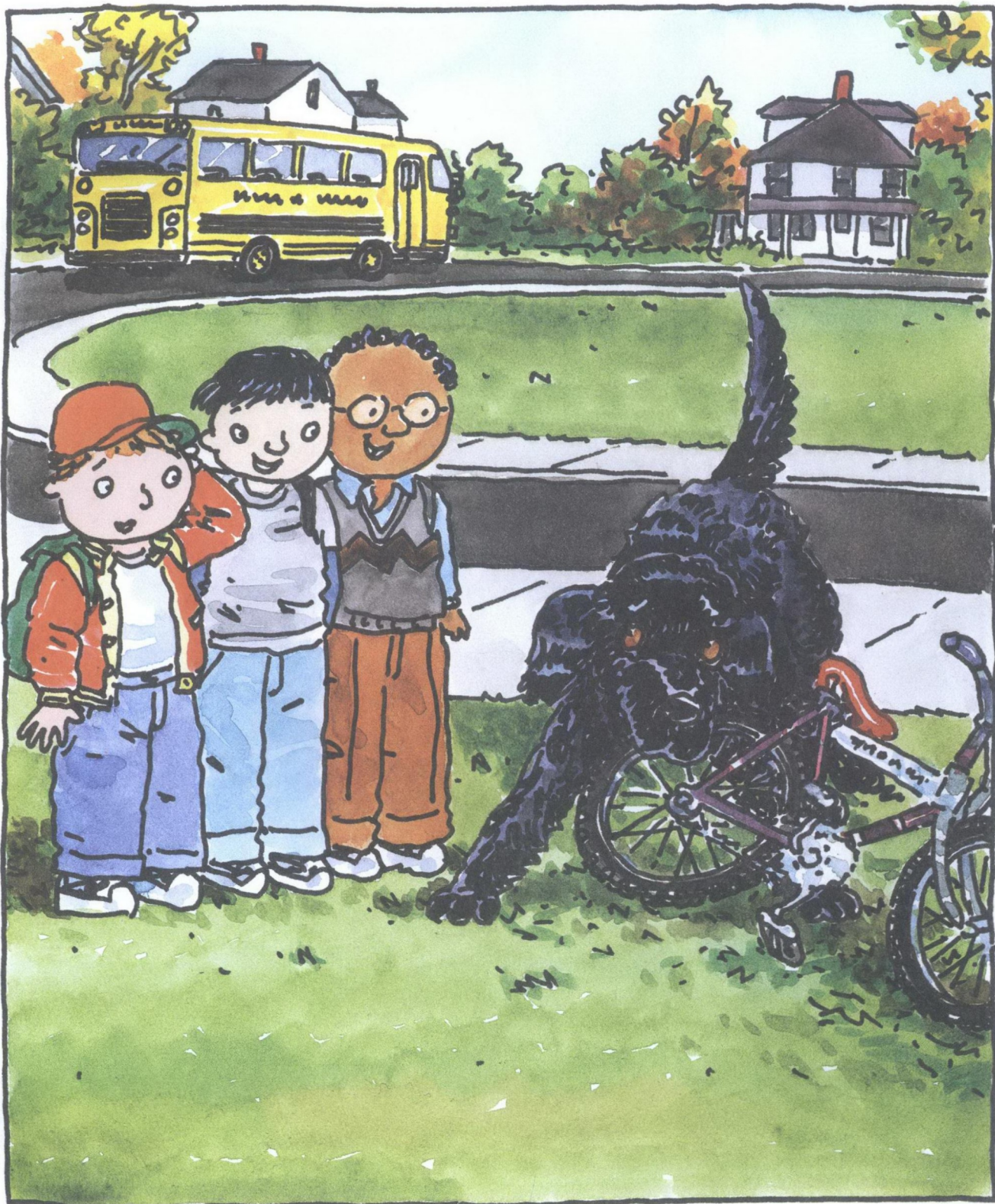
When Jack left his backpack beside
the track...



Mack brought it back.



When Jack left his bike in the rack...



Mack brought it back.



But when Jack dropped his
snack sack...





Mack did NOT bring it back!

-ack Word Family Riddles

Listen to the riddle sentences. Add the right letter or letters to the -ack sound to finish each one.

- 1 The opposite of front is ____ack.
- 2 The books on my desk are piled in a ____ack.
- 3 The plate was so old, it had a ____ack.
- 4 Watch out for the lion! He might ____ack.
- 5 My pen is not blue. It is ____ack.





- 6 When I come home from school, I eat a ____ack.
- 7 To go on vacation, first we need to ____ack.
- 8 The train on the track goes clickety- ____ack.
- 9 The race cars drive fast around the ____ack.
- 10 The ducks at the pond don't meow, they ____ack.

Now make up some new riddle sentences using -ack



-ack Cheer








Give a great holler, a cheer, a yell
For all of the words that we can spell
With an A, C, and K that make the sound -ack,
You'll find it in Mack and pack and snack.
Three little letters, that's all that we need
To make a whole family of words to read.



Make a list
of other -ack
words. Then
use them in
the cheer!

Reading Tips **-ack**

Here are some quick and fun ways to use this story to help children learn the word family -ack.

-  Explain to children that you are going to read a story that has many words with the -ack sound, made by the letters A, C, and K. All these words belong to a group called a word family.
-  Ask children to find the -ack word ending at the top of the front cover. Review aloud with children the sound these three letters make together. Can they find two words in the title with the -ack sound?
-  Flip over the book and read the story summary on the back cover. Ask children to point out the words they hear with the -ack sound. Explain that the story you are about to read includes many more words that end in -ack. Can they help you find them?
-  Read aloud the story once for pleasure and enjoy the whimsical illustrations. Then reread the book, emphasizing the -ack word ending in the appropriate words. Ask children to listen closely and identify all the words that end in -ack (they might raise their hand or clap when they hear one, or you might choose a volunteer to point to the word on the page). As they do so, make a list on chart paper of all the -ack words.
-  Write each of the words from your list on an unlined index card. Use a different color for -ack than the rest of the word. Read each word on the cards with children. On another reading of the story, distribute the cards to children and have them hold up their card as their word is read.
-  Pages 14–15 of the book feature 10 riddles with answers that require a word ending in -ack. Read each riddle aloud and have children volunteer answers.
-  Read aloud the cheer on page 16 several times, with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Invite children to join you in reciting the cheer when they feel ready (you might even choose a “cheerleader”).

Other words in the -ack family:

flack	drawback
hack	flapjack
lack	haystack
pack	setback
quack	sidetrack
shack	unpack
crack	lumberjack
tack	paperback
attack	piggyback

-ack

Jack always counts on his black dog Mack
to bring all the things he forgets right back.

But in the end, will Mack be able to resist the
temptation of Jack's lunch
sack? Read and find out!



WORD FAMILY TALES™

are humorous read-aloud stories created to build early phonics skills by teaching children to recognize “families” of words that share the same spelling pattern. This key reading strategy helps kids decode new words with ease—and become stronger readers, writers, and spellers. Set learners on the path to literacy success with these rib-tickling tales—one for each of the top 25 word families!

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