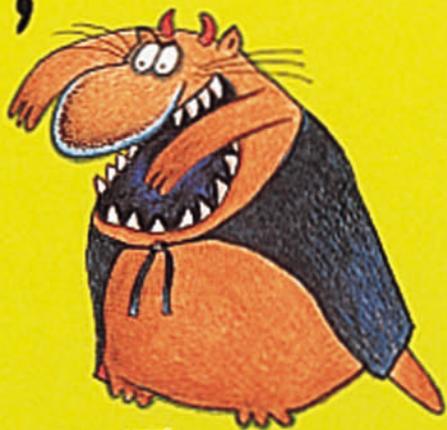


Words Are CAtegorical



Hairy, Scary,



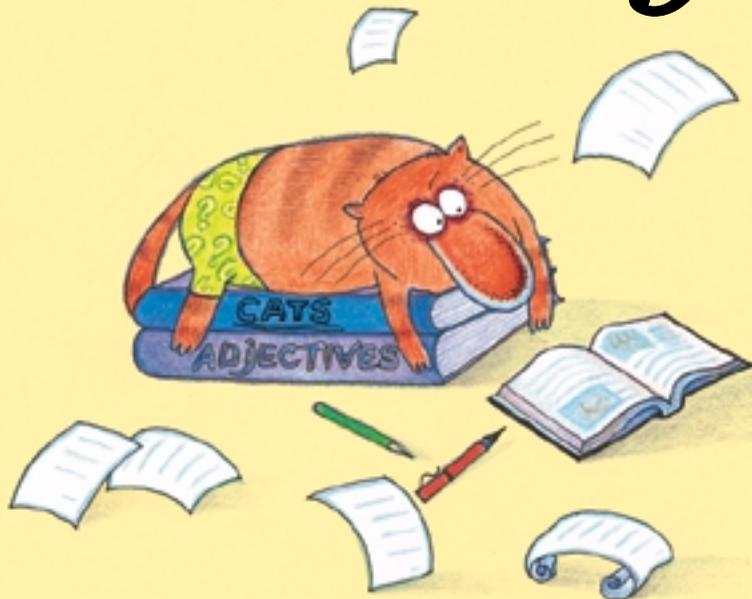
Ordinary

What Is an Adjective?

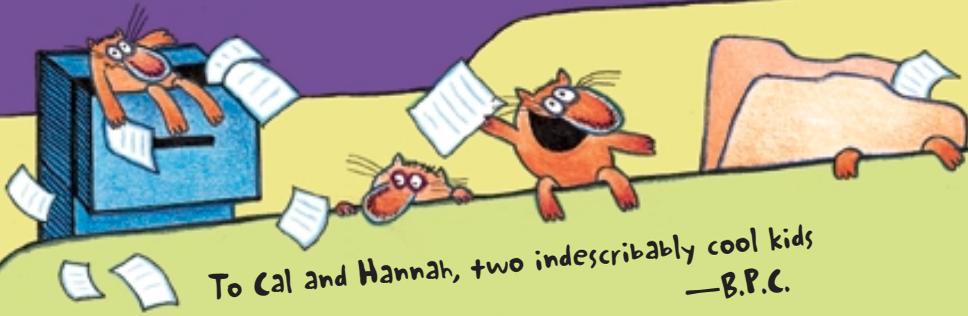
by Brian P. Cleary

illustrated by Jenya Prosmitsky

Hairy, Scary, Ordinary



What Is an Adjective?



To Cal and Hannah, two indescribably cool kids
—B.P.C.

To my grandmother Anastasia, the first artist
in our family
—J.P.

adjective: A word
that describes a thing,
idea, or living being.





Hairy, Scary,

Ordinary

What Is an Adjective?

by Brian P. Cleary

illustrated by Jenya Prosmitsky

 CAROLRHODA BOOKS, INC. / MINNEAPOLIS

Adjectives are

words
like

hairy.



Scary, cool,
and ordinary.



They describe,

like **tan**

and **tall**,

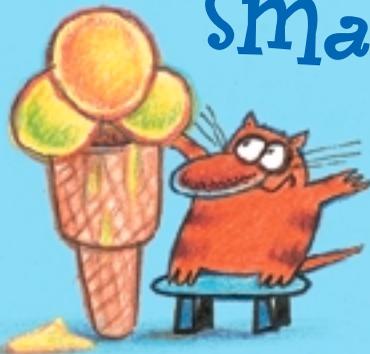


Funny,

frisky,



smooth, and
Small!



They tell us
things

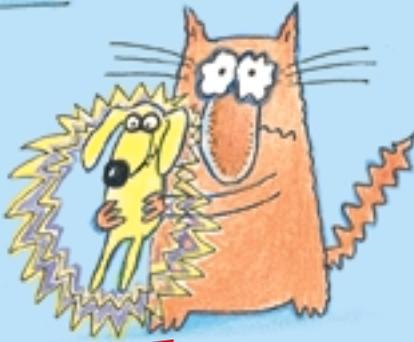


are
orange
or
green,

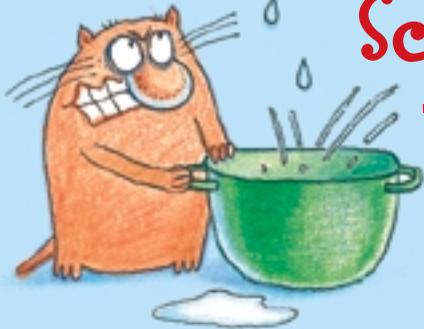


Hot or cold
or in-between,

Leaky,



Squeaky,



ancient,

new,



Easy,



breezy,

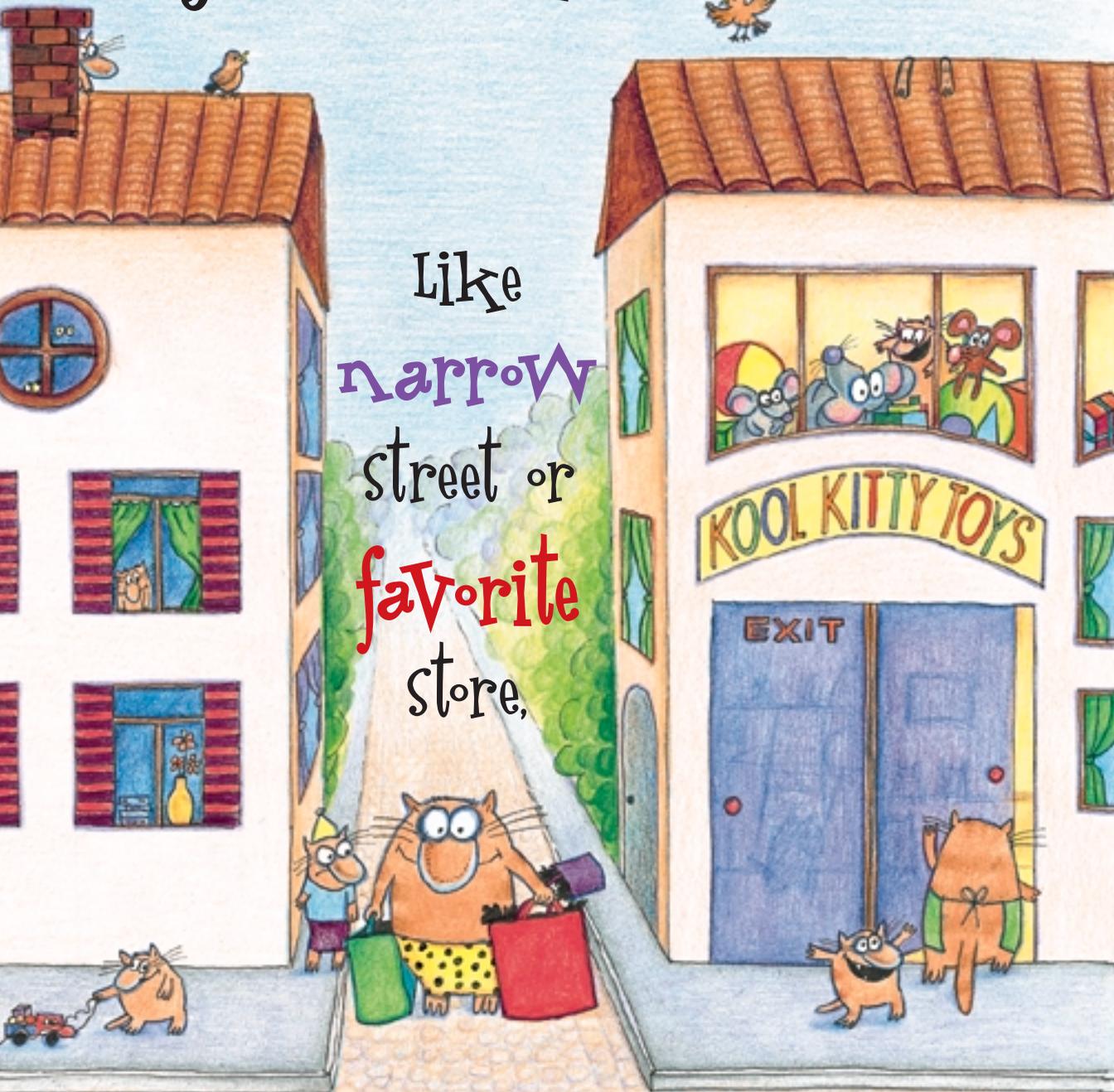


broken, blue.



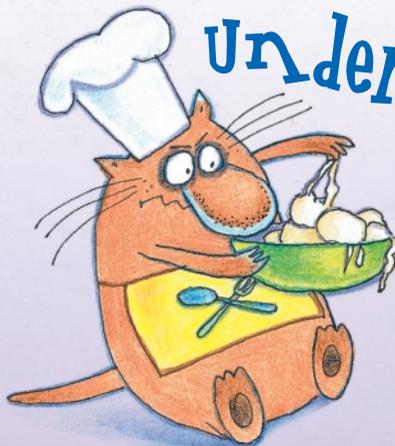
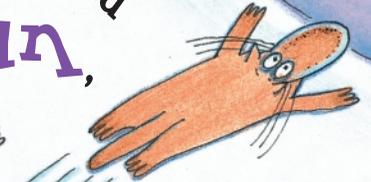
Adjectives help tell us more,

Like
narrow
street or
favorite
store,



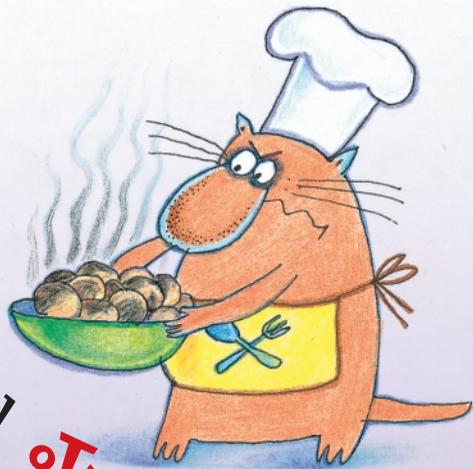
Hilly, chilly,

fast, and
fun,



Undercooked

and



Overdone.



They tell us of an
old black boot,



A rainy day,
a wrinkled suit,

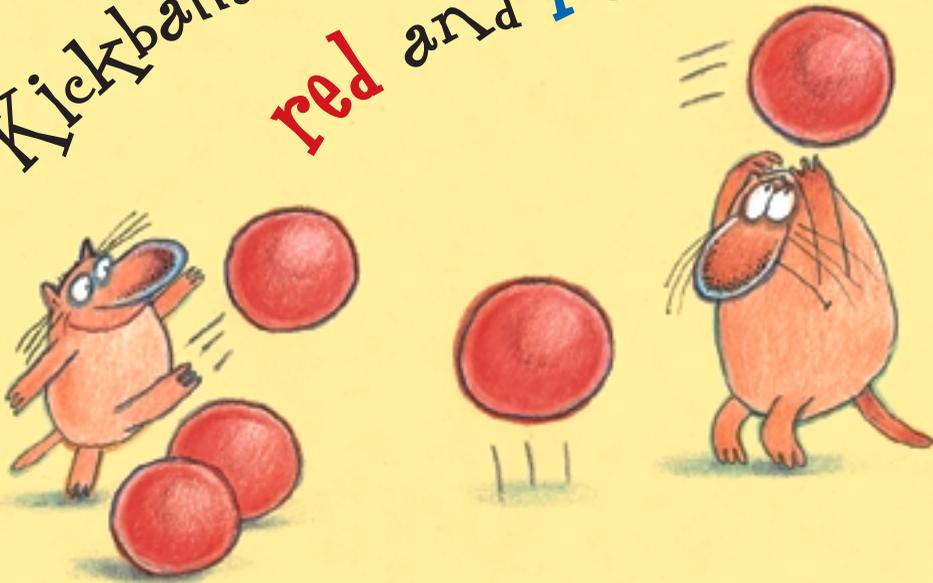


A silly
teacher,
giant
hair,

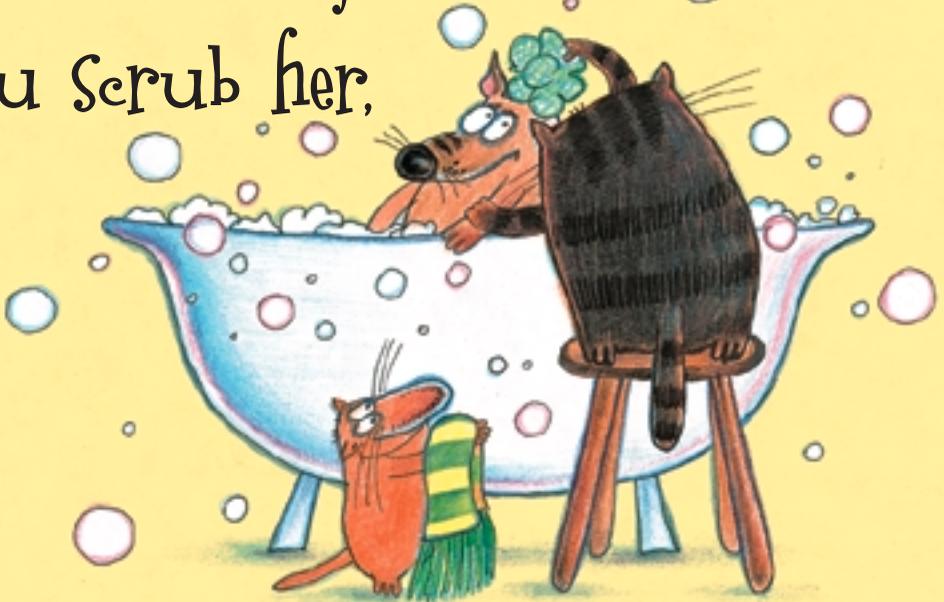


A large ^{cow}
at the local fair—

Kickballs that are
red and rubber,



Spot's clean fur each time
you scrub her,





cold, dark mornings,

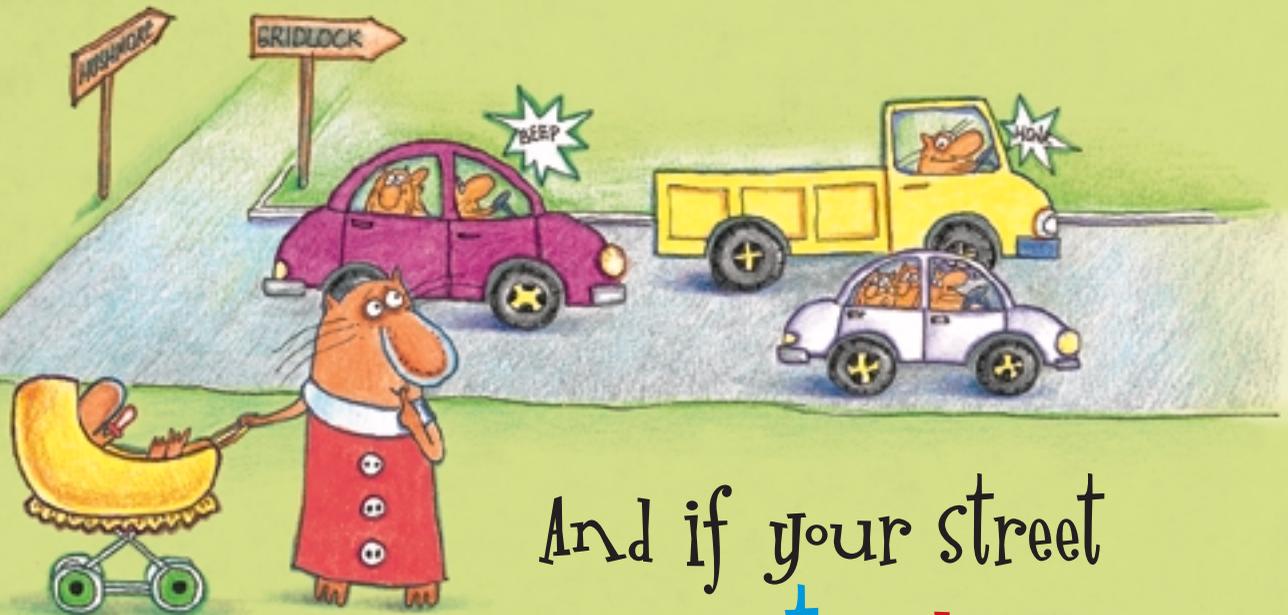
hot pink
shades,



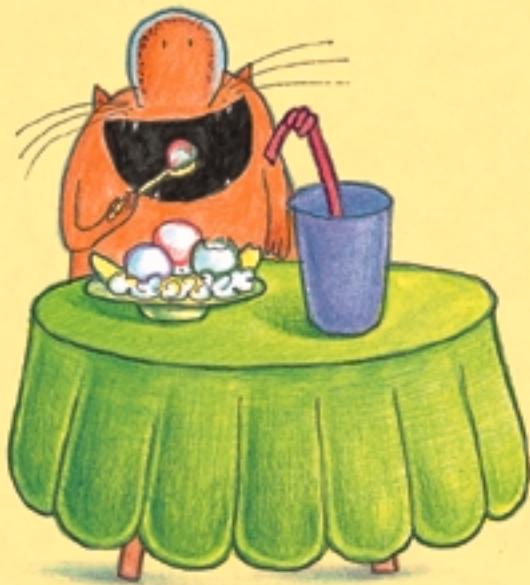
Young girls
drinking
lemonades.



They tell if root beer's
flat or fizzy,

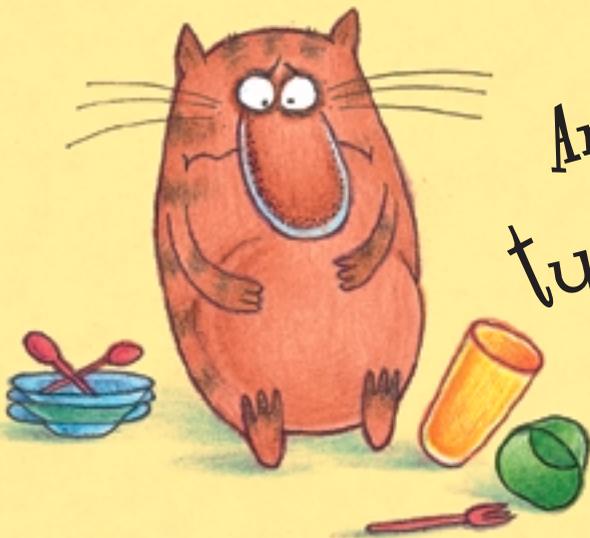


And if your street
is quiet or busy,



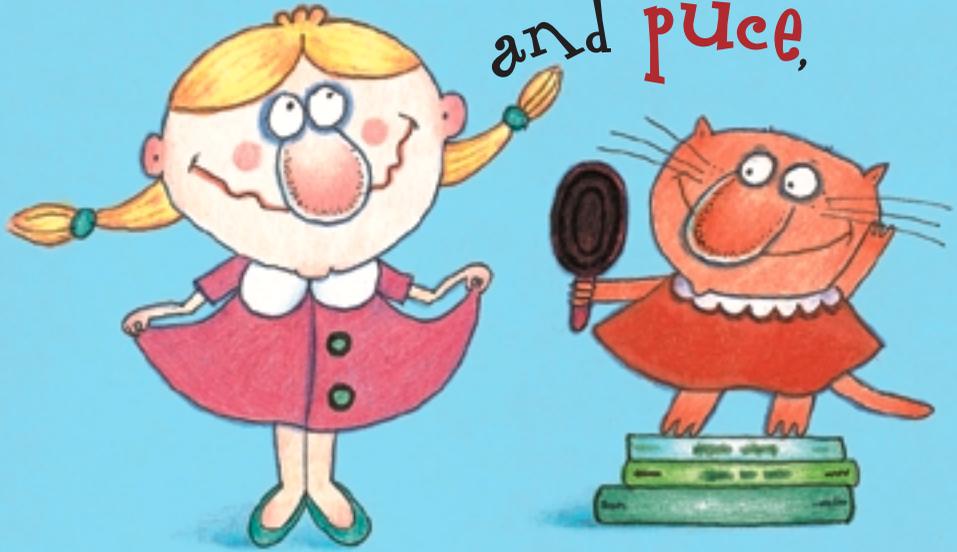
That treats
are **yummy**.

shakes are
thick,



And if your
tummy's **calm**
or **sick**.

They're colorful, like mauve
and puce,



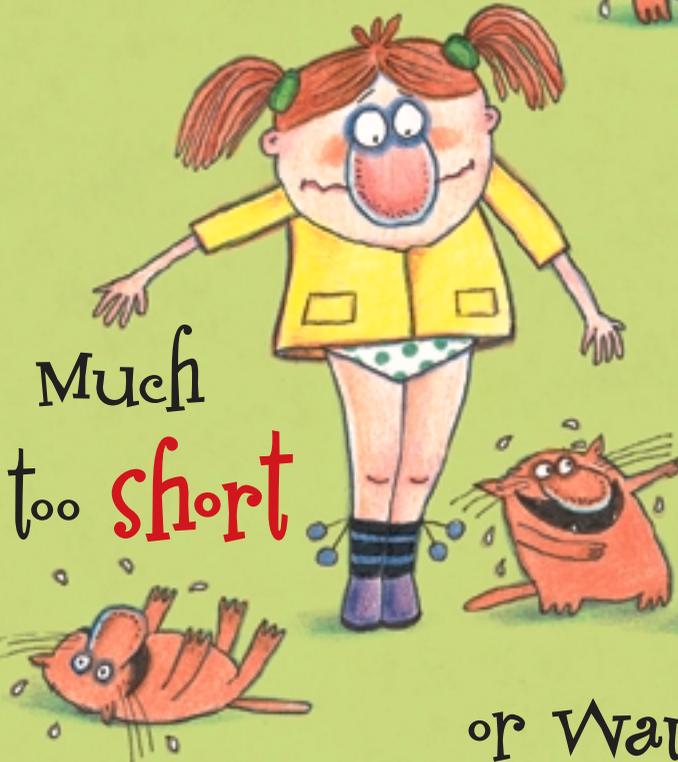
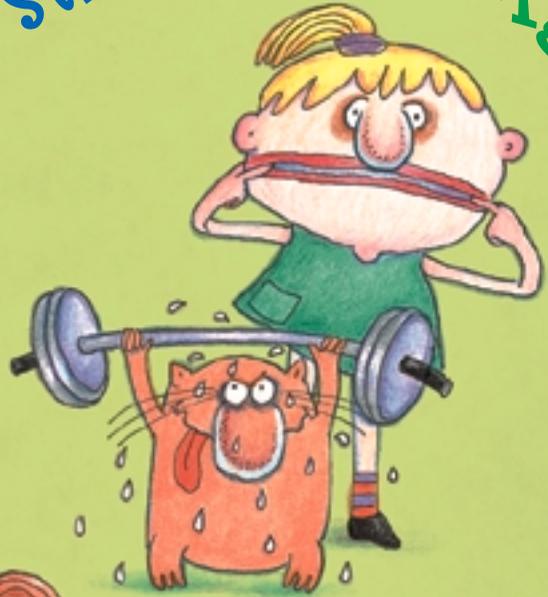
They help explain, like

lean
and loose,

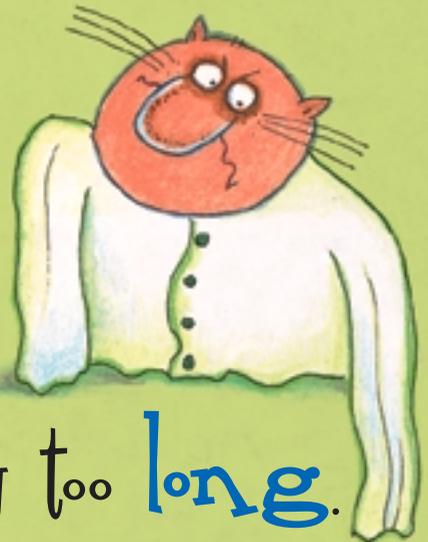


Baggy, saggy,

stretchy, strong,



Much
too short

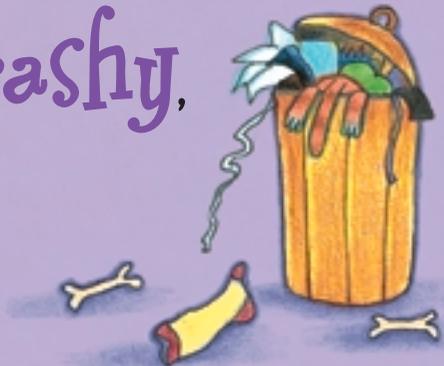


or way too long.

Adjectives are words
like
flashy.



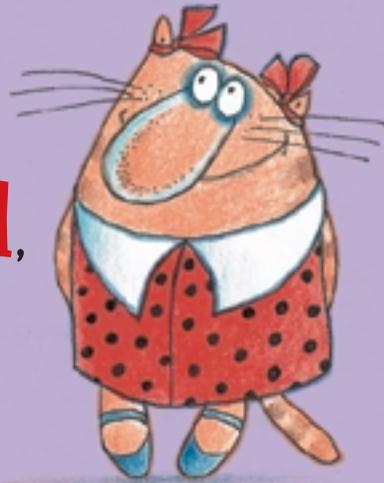
Vibrant,
bright, and
somewhat
trashy.





Frilly,
silly,

polka-dotted,

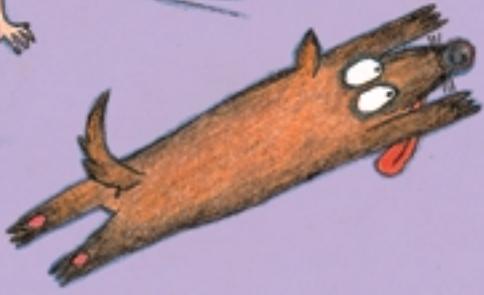


single-looped



or
double-knotted.

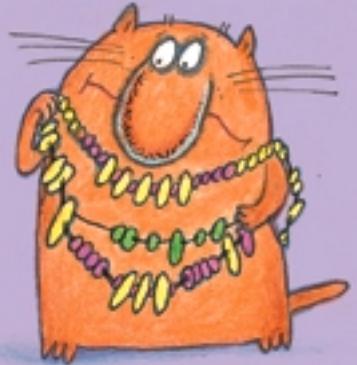
Words like
spunky,



rather
clunky,



Priceless, nice,



or downright **junky,**

Speedy, Spoiled,



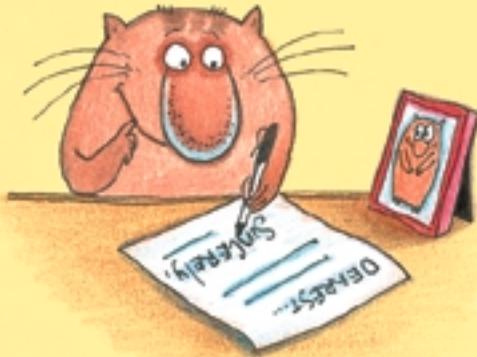
Spiffy, Spare,



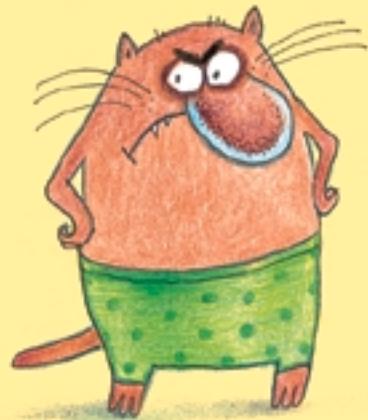
bronze and bare.



They modify nouns
in ways that help tell us



If
someone's
Sincere,



delighted, or **jealous,**

If jackets are
herringbone,
pinstriped, or plaid,



If babies
are

crabby, excited, or glad.



They
tell us
that
shows
are **stupid** or **funny**,



of books that
are **stuffy**,
amazing, or **punny**



of looks that are **frightening**,



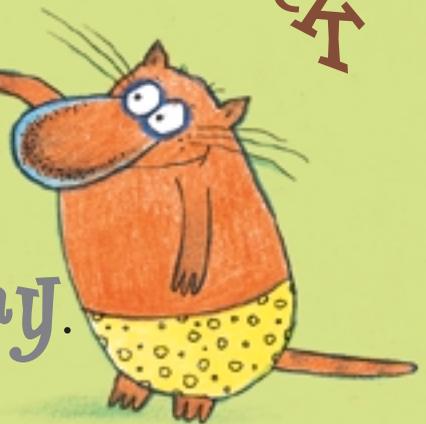
dogs that are **stray**,

of coffee that's **black**



in a cup

that is **gray**.



Adjectives help us
describe when
we're **tired**,



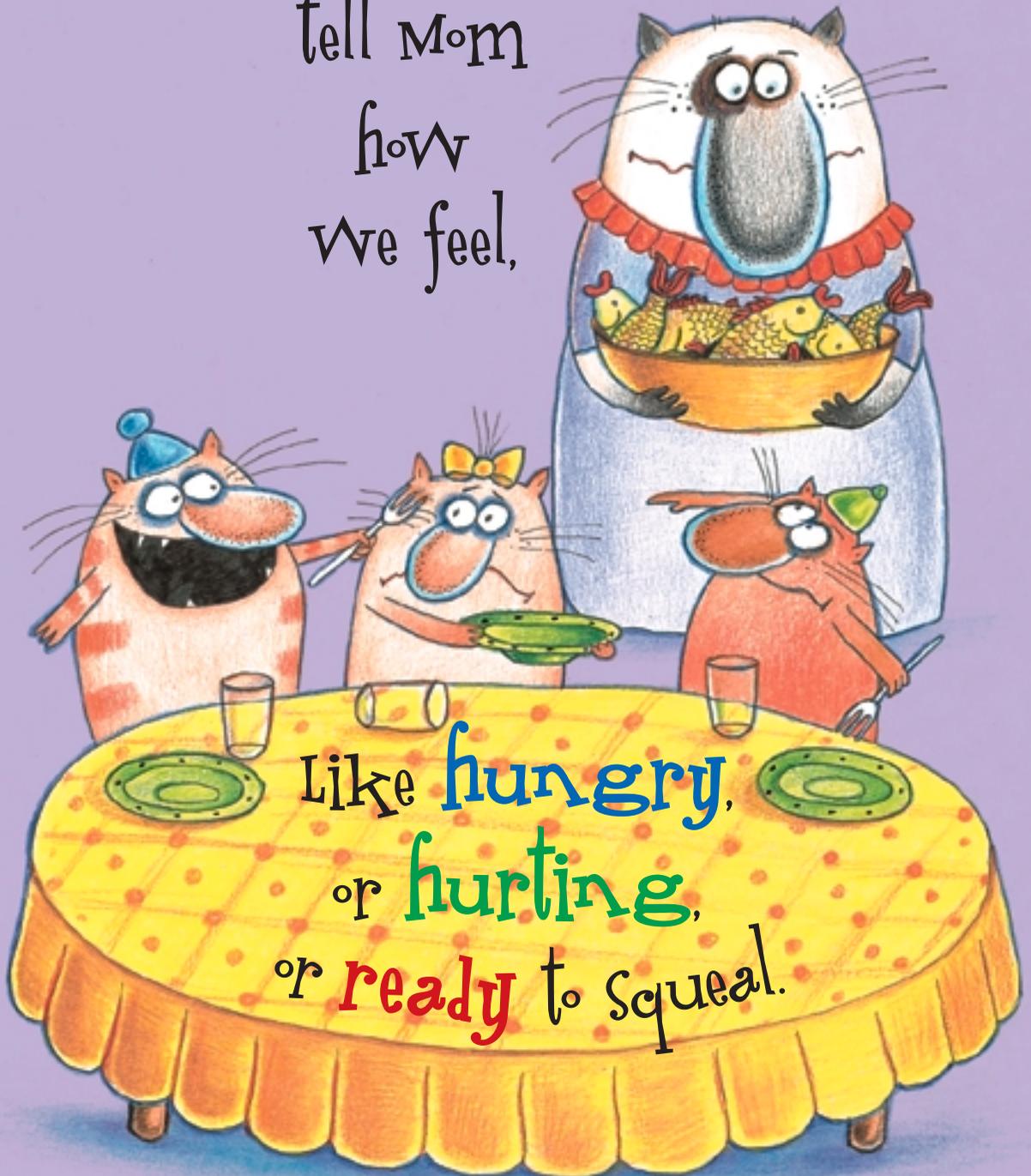
Or say
when
we're **grumpy**,



or when
we are
wired.



Without 'em we couldn't
tell Mom
how
we feel,



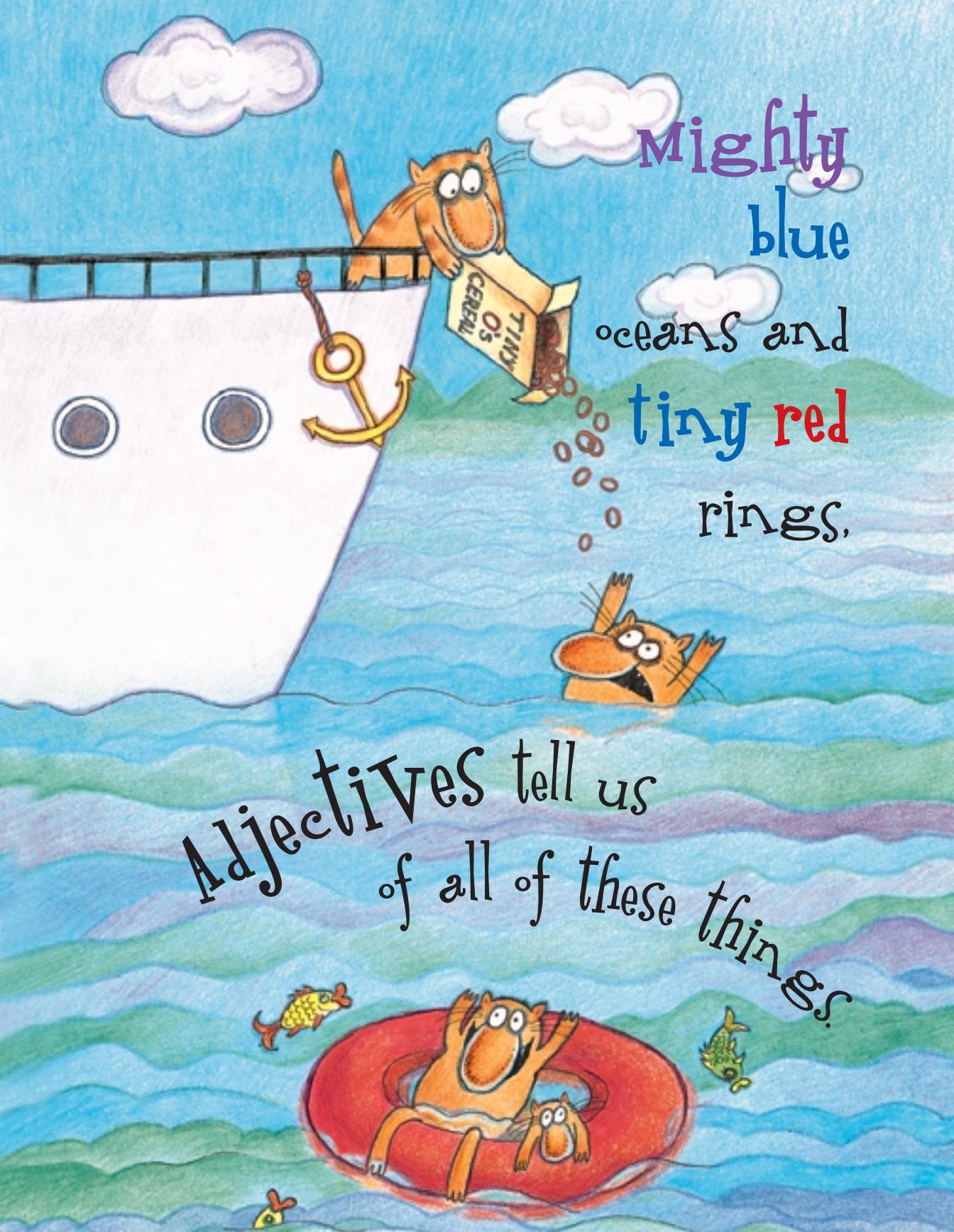
Like **hungry**,
or **hurting**,
or **ready** to squeal.



Lopsided, one-sided
ball games that bore us,



The sweet, gentle sounds
that descend from the chorus,



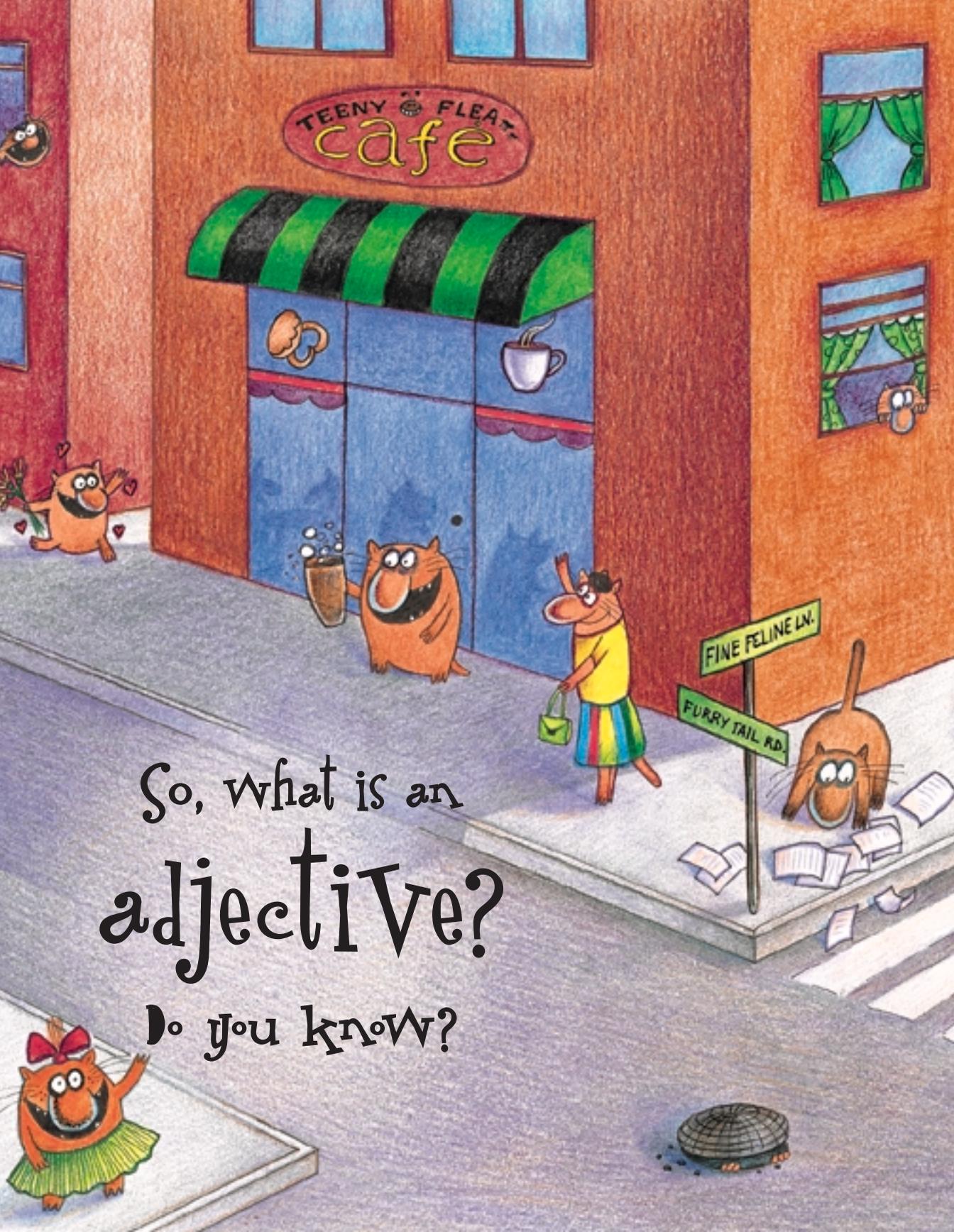
Mighty
blue

oceans and

tiny red

rings,

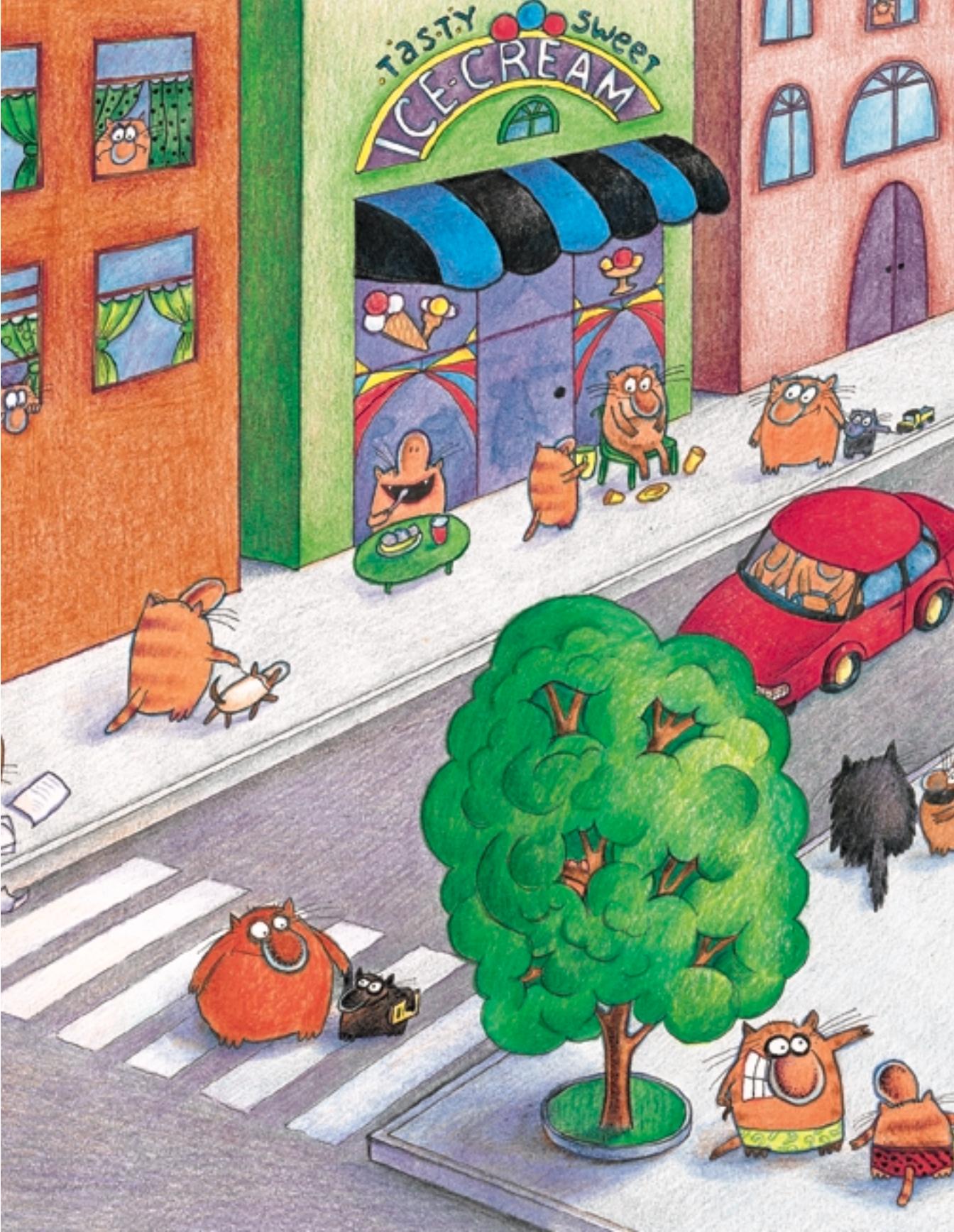
Adjectives tell us
of all of these things.



So, what is an
adjective?

Do you know?





ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

BRIAN P. CLEARY is the author of several other picture books, including A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun?, It Looks a Lot Like Reindeer, and Jamaica Sandwich? He lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

JENYA PROSMITSKY grew up and studied art in Chisinau, Moldova, and lives in Minneapolis. Her two cats, Henry and Freddy, were vital to her illustrations for this book and A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun?

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Summary: Rhyming text and illustrations of comical cats present numerous examples of adjectives, from "hairy, scary, cool, and ordinary" to "tan and tall," "funny, frisky, smooth, and small."

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