



Zoom! and screech! Suddenly Sidney
zipped with a *poof!* to a stop
with a chirp,
and What?'s ears wiggled.

The three looked at one another.
They had heard a giggle!

"What was that?" whispered Poodle.
"Shhhhh. Someone is here."

There was another giggle.
It came from somewhere up there.

They looked up.



"Who is that?" Poodle whispered.
"Children," said Sidney. "They can see you."
"What?" said What?.

"They see you. They read you," said Sidney.

"Read me? Children?" whispered Poodle.

"Yes," Sidney said. "Their names are nouns,
and another noun's *noodle*."

Look up. There's a child blinking now."

They did.

There was a blink.

There was definitely a blink.

It made Poodle think,
but What? began to shrink.

It was too much for him.

"It is all right, What?," Poodle said,
and he patted What?'s head
to comfort him.

"They are children.

They are friends.

Their names are all nouns.

Each child spent
the whole book reading
to this sentence."

This was a lot for a beagle
to take in. He was shaken—
blinking children
who could read him.