

# A Better Reward

Jenny **delivered** food for a restaurant. She read the newspaper and said, "Uh oh." There was a story about a **thief**. He **stole** food, and no one had seen him. Even the police couldn't catch him. Jenny was a little scared. She worked close to that area.

The newspaper **included** a message from the police: "If anything strange **occurs**, call us. If you help us catch the thief, you'll **earn** a **reward**."

Jenny talked to Jim. He **managed** the restaurant. "Do you know about the thief?"

"Yes," he said. "But he steals more than one person can eat. And why haven't the police stopped him yet? It's a **mystery**. If you see him, **contact** the police. Don't run after him."

Jenny drove to a **customer's** house. She left her car and opened the **gate** to the house. But then she heard a noise by her car. She yelled, "Thief!" She wasn't scared. She wanted the reward! She did the **opposite** of what Jim told her to do.

"Hey," she yelled. "Get back here!" She **set** the food on the ground and ran to her car.

But the thief had already left with the food. Jenny followed a noise around the corner. She was **amazed**. She saw a dog and some puppies. They were eating her food! They looked thin and scared. "The **actual** thief is just a dog. She's feeding her puppies," she said. "That's why she steals so much food."

Jenny felt bad. She tried to **comfort** the dogs with another **plate** of food. Then she took them back to the store. Everyone there took a puppy home. Jenny called the police. She told them there was no real thief.

Jenny didn't do it to **receive** the reward anymore. She said, "It was just a dog. But there's no **charge** for catching this 'thief,'" she said. "My new dog is a better reward."

