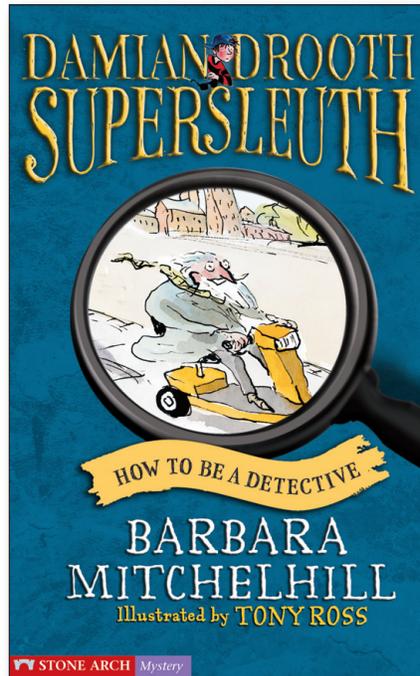




READER'S THEATER (Teacher's Version)



Damian Drooth: How to Be a Detective by Barbara Mitchelhill

PAPERBACK ISBN: 978-1-59889-259-8
HARDCOVER ISBN: 978-1-59889-120-1

- Characters:**
- Damian Drooth – reads below grade level**
 - Mom – reads slightly below grade level**
 - Todd – reads at grade level**
 - Winston – struggling reader**
 - Lavender – reads above grade level**
 - Harry – reads below grade level**
 - Narrator – reads slightly above grade level**
- Genre:** **Mystery**
- Ages:** **8-12**

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How to be a Detective page 1

Damian Drooth: My name is Damian Drooth. I'm a very successful detective. You may have heard of me. I've solved lots of crimes in our town.

Narrator: Not long ago, Damian decided that there must be millions of kids who wanted to learn to be crime busters like he was. So he started a school in the shed in his backyard after school.

Damian Drooth: I told people to be there at 10 in the morning. They had to wear sunglasses and they had to bring a bag of chips. That was my fee. I have to make a living somehow, right?

Todd: So, Damian, how do you spot a criminal?

Damian Drooth: Easy. I made up some rules about criminal types. Criminal Type Number One: They have eyes set close together.

Lavender: Just like Mr. Forrester, the fourth-grade teacher.

Damian Drooth: Exactly. Watch out for him! Criminal Type Number Two: Anyone with a beard. This is usually a man. And always remember, the best way to track down criminals is to be alert.

Todd: How do we do that?

Damian Drooth: I'll bet if we went down to Main Street, and if we were alert, we could find a criminal type person.

Lavender: Let's do it!

Damian Drooth: Um, not today.

Winston: Come on, Damian. What are you scared of?

Narrator: Everyone started talking. There was almost a riot.

Damian Drooth: How could I refuse? So we headed to Main Street.

Narrator: On Main Street, Damian and his detective class kept an eye out for crooks.

How to Be a Detective page 2

Lavender:

Over there, Damian! Look! A criminal!

Damian Drooth:

I could see an old man on a scooter. And he had a beard. Yup, a criminal all right. Lavender was quick. She'll make a great detective some day.

Narrator:

Then Damian spied a woman who was collecting money for charity. He was sure the old man on the scooter was going to rob her.

Harry:

Don't worry, Lavender. I'll stop him.

Narrator:

So Harry ran forward. The old man on the scooter had to swerve so he wouldn't hit Harry. The scooter fell over. Somebody screamed. A crowd gathered to help the old man.

Damian Drooth:

Come on, let's go! Never stay on the scene of a crime once you've solved it.

Narrator:

But when Damian got home . . .

Mom:

Damian! I've been getting calls on my cell phone all morning! What are you doing knocking down poor old men on scooters! And causing such a mess! Can't I trust you for half a day, Damian?

Damian Drooth:

I hate it when she shouts.

Narrator:

So Damian's mom made him go with her the next day to the dog show downtown. Damian's mom was in charge of all the food.

Mom:

I'm sure Damian will stay out of trouble here.

Damian Drooth:

But Mom was wrong. I mean, I spotted two criminal types at the dog show. Something bad was going to happen. I could just feel it. After all, I am a detective.

How to be a Detective page 3

Narrator:

Will Damian actually catch a real criminal? Is something bad going to happen at the dog show? Why did Winston bring his smelly dog, Thumper? And what happens to Damian when he pigs out on chocolate cake? Catch the rest of the story in *How to Be a Detective* in the series Damian Drooth, Supersleuth!

THE END