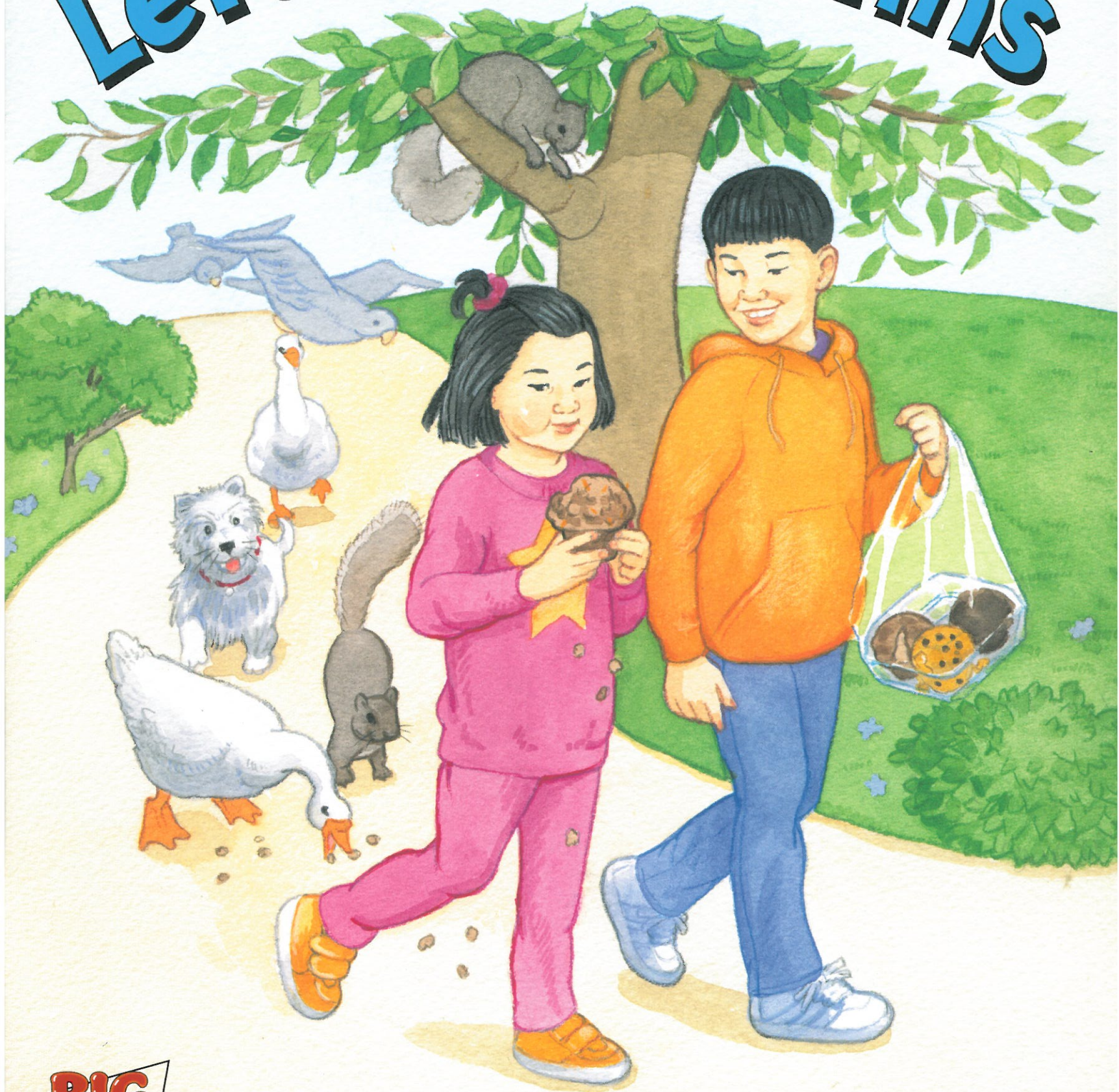


# Leftover Muffins



Robert Balfanz  
Herbert P. Ginsburg    Carole Greenes

DALE SEYMOUR PUBLICATIONS  
Pearson Learning Group

# Leftover Muffins



A STORY FOR YOU FROM  
Big Math for Little Kids™

Robert Balfanz   Herbert P. Ginsburg   Carole Greenes  
Illustrated by Anni Matsick

DALE SEYMOUR PUBLICATIONS  
Pearson Learning Group



**National Science Foundation**

This material is based on work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. ESI-9730683. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Copyright © 2003 by Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Dale Seymour Publications, an imprint of Pearson Learning Group, 299 Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. For information regarding permission(s), write to Rights and Permissions Department.

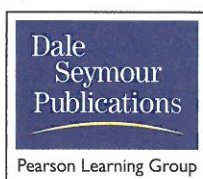
Big Math for Little Kids™ is a trademark of Pearson Education, Inc.

Dale Seymour Publications® is a registered trademark of Dale Seymour Publications, Inc.

ISBN 0-7690-2876-4

Printed in the United States of America

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 10 09 08 07



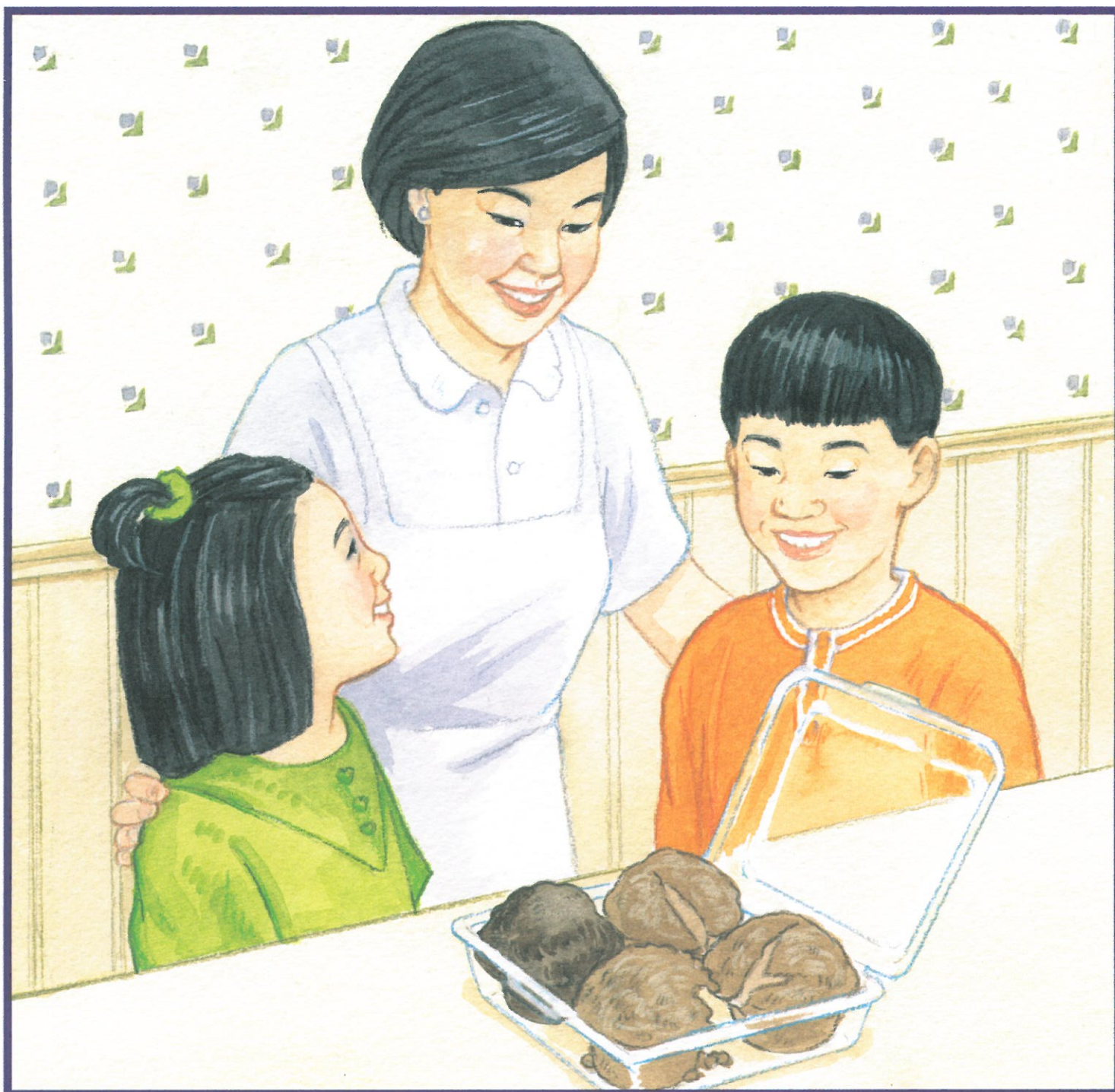
**1-800-321-3106**  
**[www.pearsonlearning.com](http://www.pearsonlearning.com)**

Once upon a time in an apartment in a big city, there lived a muffin maker named Mrs. Lee. She had two children named Nikki and Nate.

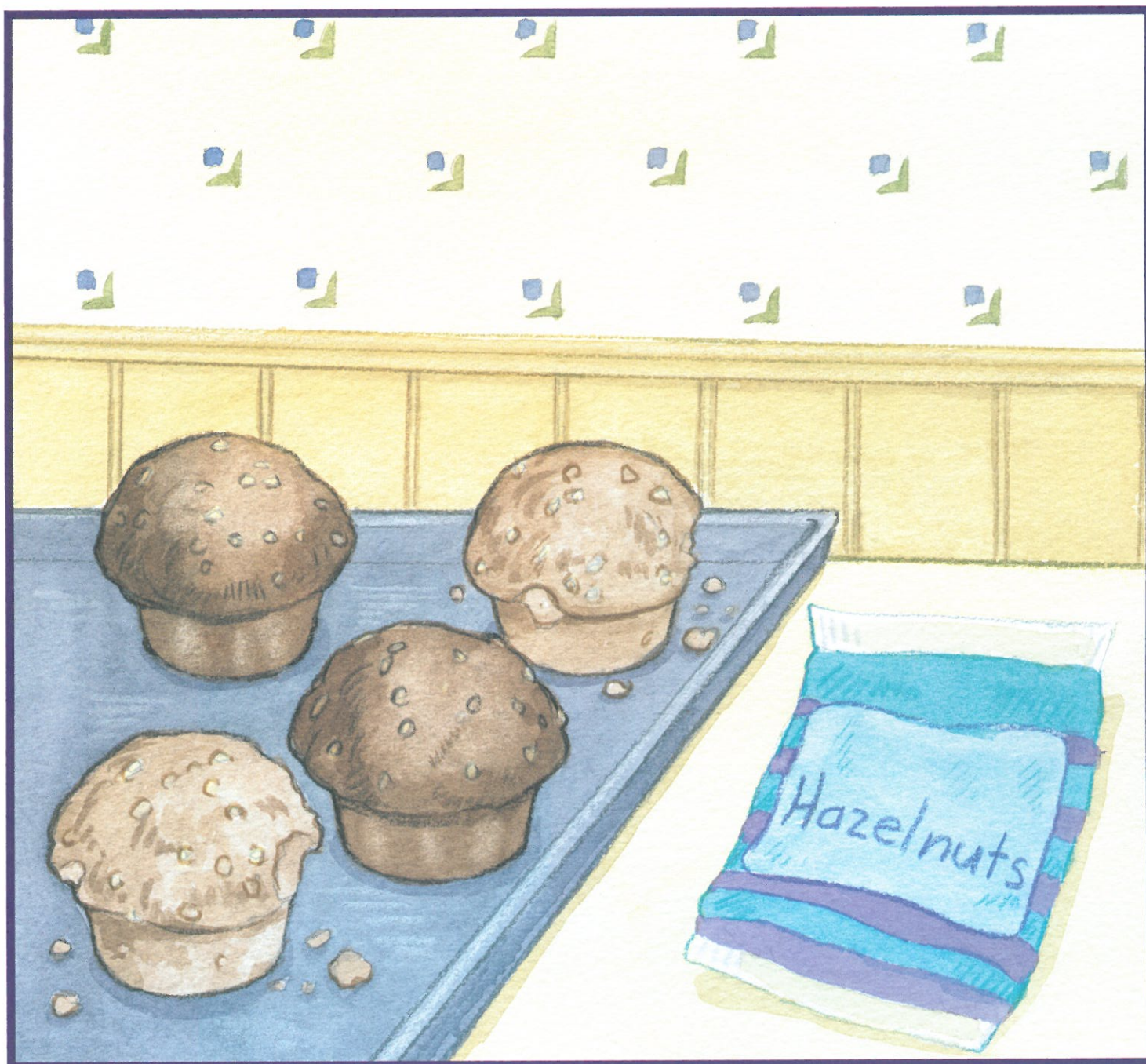
Every day Mrs. Lee baked lots of muffins in her shop. There were always some muffins that were not good enough to sell. They were a little cracked, a little burnt, or just too crumbly.



Each day Mrs. Lee gave the cracked, burnt, and crumbly muffins to her children. They fed the muffins to animals they met on their walks. Mrs. Lee had only one rule—the muffins had to be shared equally so that each animal got the same number of muffins.



One rainy Monday morning, Mrs. Lee made some crunchy hazelnut muffins. Four weren't good enough to sell. Two were crumbly and two were a little burnt. So Mrs. Lee gave the four muffins to Nikki and Nate.



Mrs. Lee and her children went to the park. As soon as they sat down on a bench, four bright-eyed squirrels scampered up to them.

“Hmm . . .,” said Nate. “Four squirrels and four muffins. How can we give each squirrel the same number of muffins?”



They gave a crumbly muffin to the first squirrel, a crumbly muffin to the second squirrel, a slightly burnt muffin to the third squirrel, and the other burnt muffin to the fourth squirrel.

“Each squirrel has one muffin,” said Nikki.

“Perfect,” said Nate.

“Delicious,” thought the squirrels.



The next day was a sunny Tuesday. Mrs. Lee made corn muffins. This time a half dozen, or six muffins, weren't good enough to sell. Two were too crumbly, two were cracked, and two were a little burnt. So Mrs. Lee gave the six muffins to Nikki and Nate.



Mrs. Lee, Nikki, and Nate took the six muffins to the playground. Just after they arrived, three pigeons swooped down.

“Hmm . . .,” said Nikki. “Three pigeons and six muffins. How can they share the muffins equally? Let’s see. I’ll give one muffin to each pigeon.”



Nikki counted the muffins that were left. “That still leaves three muffins,” she said.

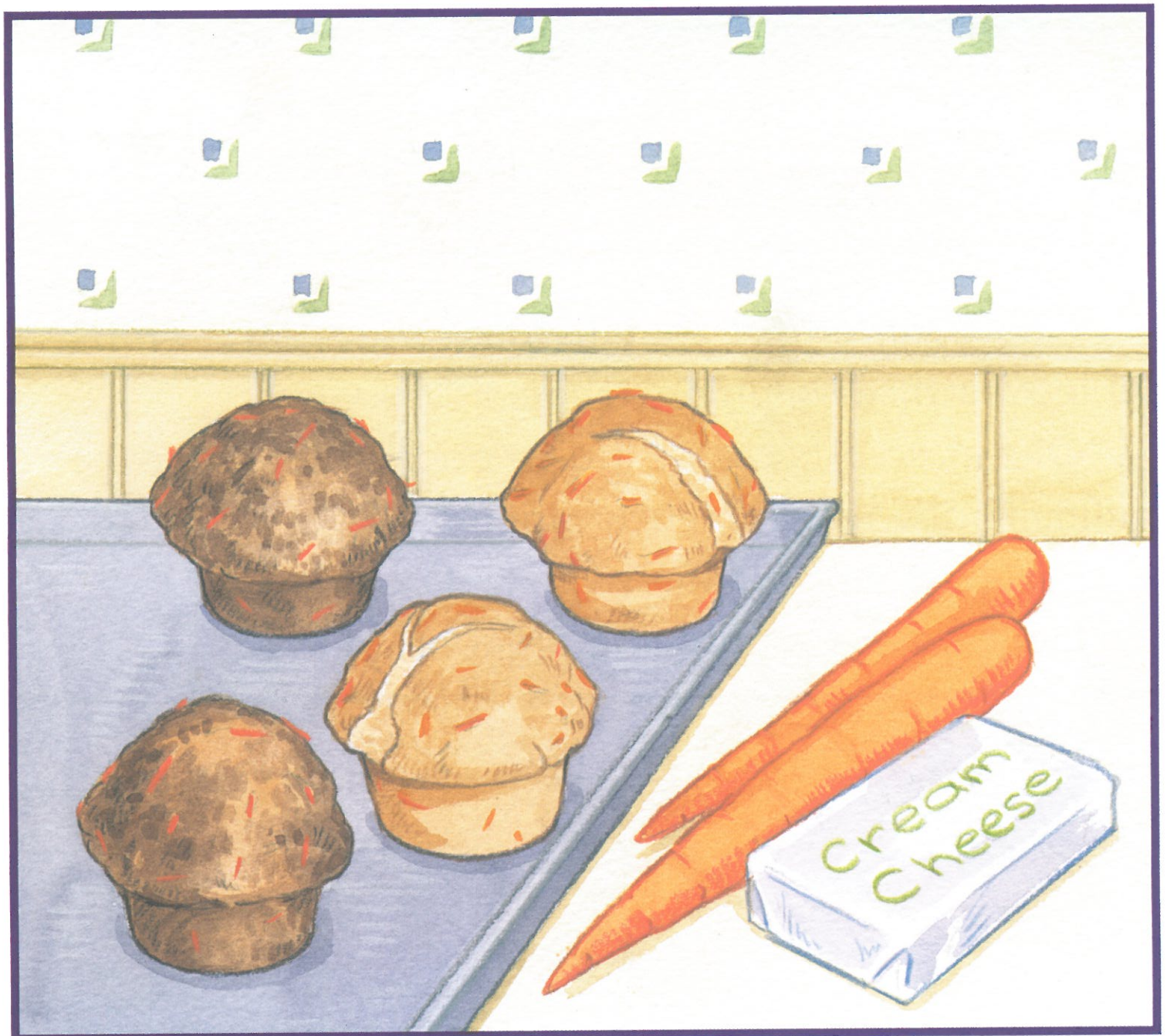
“Okay,” said Nate. “I’ll give each pigeon another muffin. That’s two for each pigeon.”

“Perfect,” said Nikki.

“Delicious,” thought the pigeons.



The next day was a windy Wednesday. Mrs. Lee made carrot and cream cheese muffins. This time there were four muffins to give to the animals. Two were slightly burnt and two were a little cracked. Mrs. Lee, Nikki, and Nate took the four muffins and left their apartment to walk around the block.



As Mrs. Lee and the children turned the corner, they saw their two favorite dogs.

“We’ve got muffins!” the children called.

The dogs raced over, tongues flapping. Nikki looked at the muffins.

“Four muffins and two of you,” she said to the dogs. “How can you share the muffins equally?”



“I know!” said Nate. “Each dog can get half of the muffins. That means each dog gets two.”

“Perfect,” said Nikki.

“Delicious,” thought the dogs.



Mrs. Lee didn't bake on Thursday. That was her shopping day. On Friday, Mrs. Lee baked Nate and Nikki's favorite muffins—pumpkin and chocolate chip.

This time one muffin was too crumbly, two were cracked, and two didn't have quite enough chips. Mrs. Lee and the children took the five muffins and walked to the pond.



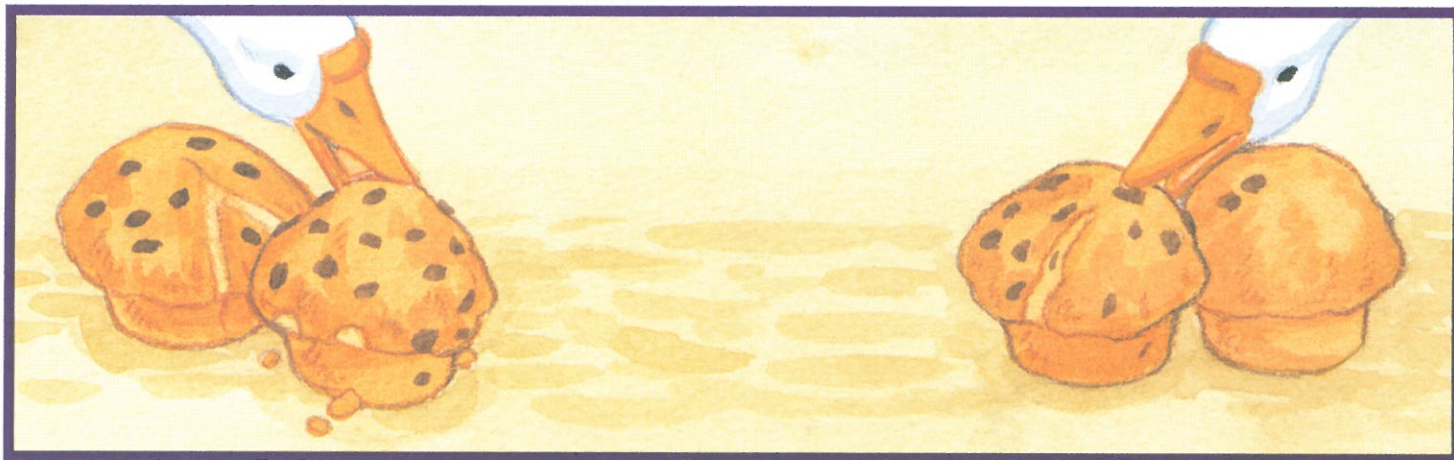
At the pond, they saw some geese.

“Geese love muffins,” said Nikki. “I hope we’ve got enough.” As she opened the muffin container, two honking geese waddled over.

“Two geese and five muffins,” said Nate. “How can the geese share the muffins equally?”



“Let’s see,” said Nikki as she handed out the muffins. “One for the first goose and one for the second goose. Then I’ll give one more muffin to each goose.”



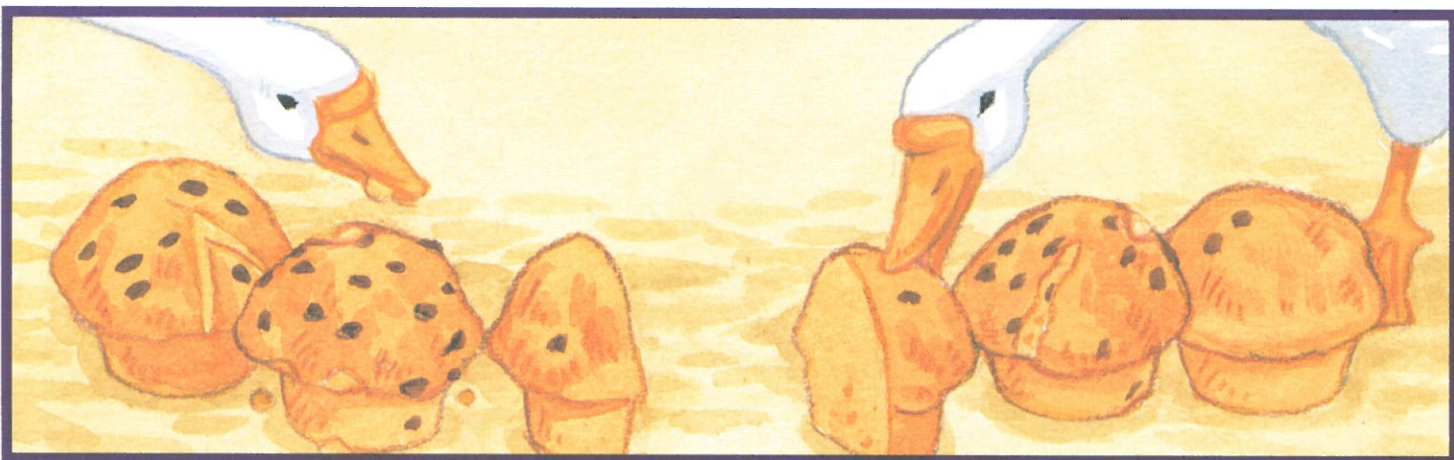
“Now each goose has two muffins,” said Nate.

“But there’s still one muffin left,” said Nikki.

“How can they share it equally? I know. Let’s cut the muffin in half.”

“Perfect,” said Nate.

“Delicious,” thought the geese.



Mrs. Lee took two muffins out of her bag.

“You have both learned so much about sharing,” she said. “Here are two special muffins for you to share!”

“Perfect,” said Nikki.

“Delicious,” said Nate.





Kindergarten

**Unit 5**  
**Working With**  
**Numbers**



1-800-321-3106  
[www.pearsonlearning.com](http://www.pearsonlearning.com)

