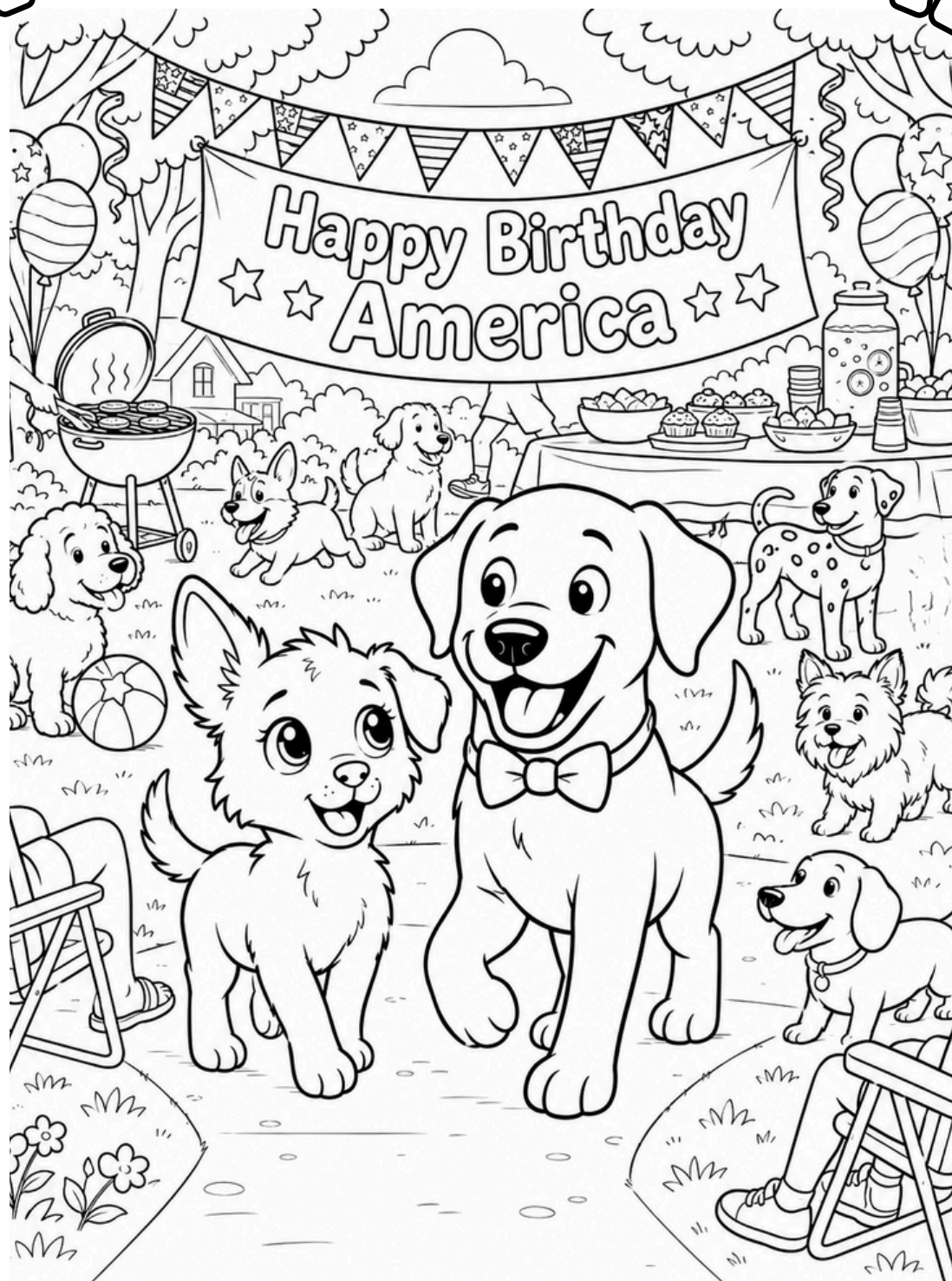


OLIVER'S SAFETY SQUAD



AMERICA 250

Summer is here, and Oliver can barely sit still! He's heading into town to pick up snacks for the big block party. The whole neighborhood is getting ready to celebrate America's birthday – and Oliver thinks this might be the best summer yet!



COME ON

OLIVER!

Oliver stops at the lemonade stand to cool off. The kids running it know just how he likes it – extra cold! Oliver loves his neighborhood. Everyone knows everyone, and there's always something good happening on Main Street.



When Oliver gets home, something is different. There's a big truck next door and people are carrying boxes inside. And wait – is that a new dog in the yard? Oliver's tail starts wagging before he even

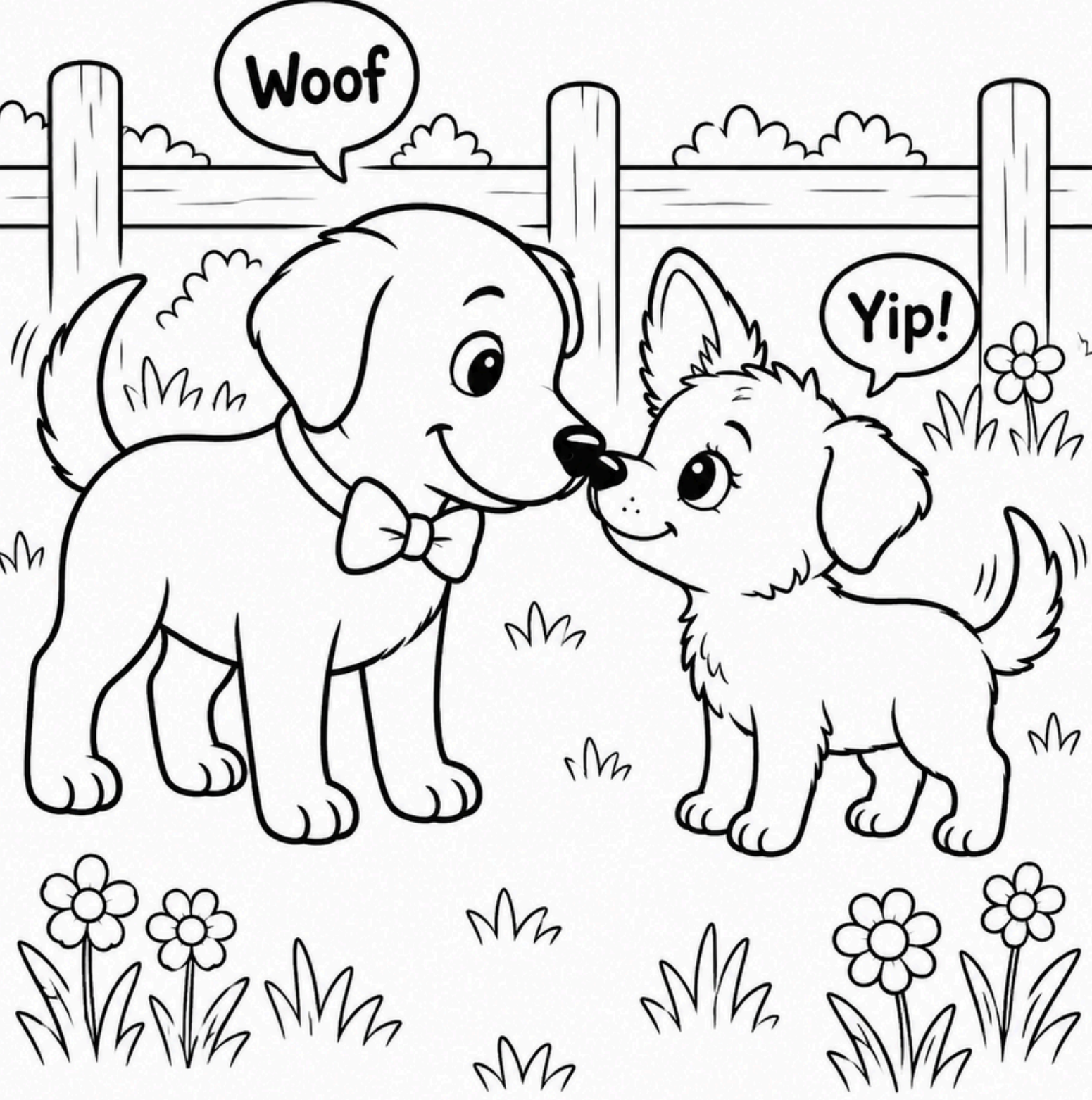
knows why.



Oliver runs to make a new friend! The new dog's eyes get big and her tail starts going a mile a minute. He can already tell she's a friendly pup, and he doesn't even know her name!



The new dog's name is Pip! She just moved here from far away, and Oliver is her very first friend in the neighborhood. Where Pip comes from, friends say hello with a little nose bump. Oliver thinks that might be the best greeting he's ever learned.



Oliver really wants to go see Pip's new house! But first, he checks with his people. They smile and say "let's all go together – we should welcome our new neighbors!" Oliver thinks that's even better than going alone.



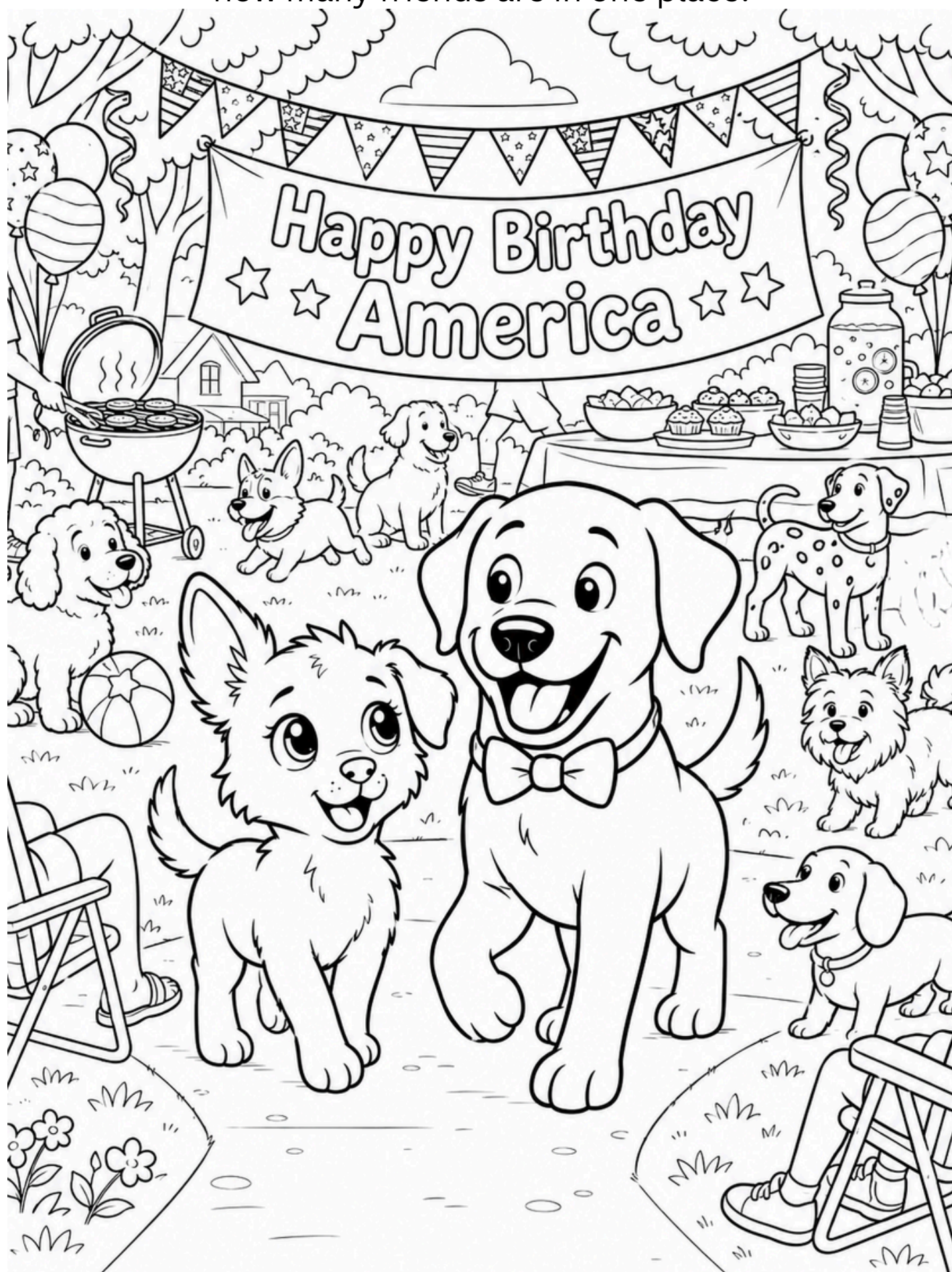
LET'S GO

OLIVER!

While Oliver and Pip play with toys on the floor, Oliver hears his people invite Pip's family to the big block party this weekend. Pip's ears perk up – a party? Oliver tells her she's going to love it. The whole neighborhood will be there!



It's block party day! Oliver stays close to make sure Pip meets everyone. There are big dogs and little dogs, old friends and new friends, and more food than Oliver has ever seen. Pip can't believe how many friends are in one place!



“Hot dogs!” someone shouts, and Pip looks at Oliver in alarm, “Hot WHAT?” Oliver grins. “No Pip, look – it's something you eat!” Pip sniffs it, takes a small bite, and her whole face changes. She LOVES

hot dogs!



Pip finds a big sparkly “250” headband and puts it right on her head. Other dogs were too shy, but Pip wears it like a crown. She watches the whole parade go by with her eyes wide and her mouth open. ”Do they do this every year?” she asks. Oliver shakes his head – this one is special. “Wow,” Pip says. “I’m so glad I got here in time for this one!”



Pip is nervous about the fireworks. She's never heard anything that loud before. Oliver and the other pups make room for her in the truck bed. "Best seats in the neighborhood," Oliver says. Pip looks around — she's surrounded by friends she didn't even have this morning. She feels less nervous now and a little bit excited.



The first boom shakes the truck and Pip almost hides. But then she looks up.



Oh, WOW!



Pip is SO happy she gave fireworks a chance! After the last one, Oliver and Pip help clean up – picking up cups, stacking chairs, and making sure the yard looks as good as it did this morning. Pip doesn't have to help, but she wants to. This is her neighborhood now too.



Oliver is so happy he met Pip. This morning she was just the new dog next door. Now she's his friend – a brave, curious, funny friend who wears sparkly headbands and asks the best questions and isn't afraid to try new things. Oliver thinks this really might be the best summer yet.



It's time for puppies to get some sleep! Pip bumps Oliver's nose goodbye. Then she grins. "That was the old way. But we need a NEW way – for new friends." She adds a little spin and bumps his nose twice. Oliver loves it. Their very own greeting, made up together under the last sparkles in the sky.



Note to Parents:

This summer, America turns 250. That's a lot of birthdays. And in all those years, the one thing that has never changed is this: new people keep showing up. New families move in. New friends arrive with different stories, different foods, different ways of saying hello. And every single time, we get to make new friends.

If your family is new here – welcome. You got here just in time.

Find more of Oliver's adventures and free coloring books at:
OliversSafetySquad.com

