Doggy Description

An unknown dog wanders the neighbourhood every night, scavenging in people’s garbage pails and making a mess. Four of the kids in the neighbourhood (Mathias, Li Jing, Rajiv, and Olivia) think they have each seen the guilty dog, but the culprit is hard to see clearly in the dark.

Below are their descriptions, each giving exactly four details about the dog: the dog’s colour, hair type, collar colour, and tail length.

Each witness has exactly one of the four details correct in their description. Each detail is described correctly by exactly one of the four witnesses.

1. Mathias says the dog is white, fluffy, wears a red collar, and has a long tail.
2. Li Jing says the dog is black, has short hair, wears a red collar, and has a long tail.
3. Rajiv says the dog is brown, has long hair, wears a blue collar, and has a long tail.
4. Olivia says the dog is spotted, fluffy, wears a red collar, and has a short tail.

Determine the correct description of the guilty dog.

Completing the table below may help to sort out which details are correct in the descriptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Witness</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Hair Type</th>
<th>Collar Colour</th>
<th>Tail Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathias</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li Jing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rajiv</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Hints:
1. Start by thinking about the length of the dog’s tail.
2. If more than one description says the dog is fluffy, could that be correct?

Challenge:
Work with a friend or family member to make up a different set of four witness descriptions that could also be used to determine the correct description of the dog. (Remember that each witness should have exactly one detail correct and each detail should be described correctly by exactly one witness.)

More info:
Check out the CEMC at Home webpage on Tuesday, June 16 for a solution to Doggy Description.