



Sitting on the banks of the Pamlico River was a cute, little red cottage. Behind the cottage was a doghouse with a hound dog, named Herba, lying at the entrance. Herba had a happy face, black nose, and large, floppy ears. He liked to lie in his doghouse and dream of playing with his friends at the local trash dump, where there were so many fun things to explore. When Herba woke up, he stood, stretched, and looked around the yard and the river to see if any humans were swimming or sailing their boats. He also looked to see if any of his animal friends, the butterflies or squirrels, were out playing.

Herba loved to run and play along the riverbank. Sometimes he ran out to the end of the family's pier and jumped into the river. He ran as fast as he could to see how far off the end of the pier he could jump, before he belly flopped into the water. After he landed in the water, Herba would start paddling with his front paws and swim back to the shore. When he got out of the water, Herba would shake his body from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail. He would run and jump off the end of the pier many times during the day. It was great fun to play in the river!