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MURPHY, CARE DOG

Dogs Can Do Many Things

Thomas James

**KNOWLEDGE
BOOKS**

23

Reading Recovery Level: 14

Word Count: 1734

Content: Recount, Description, Explanation.

ACARA F-10 References:

Learning Areas:

Social Sciences; Science; Health and Physical Education.

General Capabilities:

Literacy; Critical and Creative Thinking; Personal and Social Capability.

Author Bio:

Thomas James is an accomplished young author who is writing short stories across the sciences and general information. His interest is biology, how things work and computer technology. Thomas is a graduate in computer sciences from The University of Queensland, Australia.

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Teacher Notes:

Murphy is an Australian Shepherd. He has been trained to be a care dog. Murphy visits hospitals, schools, and aged care facilities. He is trained to let people pat him and for him to not jump or get scared. This is a story about Murphy, what he likes, and some of his adventures.

Discussion points for consideration:

1. Why do we use care dogs?
2. What is special about Murphy's fur?
3. What was Murphy trained for?
4. What does Murphy do in his free time?

Difficult words to be introduced and practiced before reading this book:

Australian, Shepherd, popular, medium, protect, loyal, woolly, tumbleweed, exactly, behaving, natural, special, hospital, quickly, therapy, uniform, beautiful, tangled, exercise, energy, healthy, carnivores, vegetable, exciting.

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Contents

1. Who is Murphy?
2. What are Australian Shepherds?
3. Murphy and Friends
4. Training a Care Dog
5. Feeding and Caring for Murphy

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1. Who is Murphy?

Murphy is an Australian Shepherd.

This dog breed is very popular in

America. Their size is medium to big.

They are very smart and can run very fast.

Australian Shepherds make very good pets. They will protect their owners and are very brave and loyal.

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Murphy is a big woolly dog. He looks like a big ball of fur with legs sticking out. Or maybe a tumbleweed with a smiling face at one end!

Some people say that he looks like a little lion with his furry mane, or a tiger with strange stripes. Others ask if he wears makeup around his eyes. Murphy does not wear makeup!

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2. What Are Australian Shepherds?

Murphy is a pure-bred dog. This means he is a puppy from a pure line of Australian Shepherds. This is done to keep the puppies exactly like their parents. People buy puppies knowing that this dog will be the same as the parent dogs. The puppy will have the same looks and ways of behaving.

When Murphy was bought, his new owners were given the details of his parents and grandparents. This is to prove that he is a true Australian Shepherd.





Murphy is not shaved in summer as he has two layers of fur. This provides a layer of air between the outside and inside fur. This stops the heat and cold from getting in. You do not shave this breed of dog. It can cause them to be too hot in summer and too cold in winter.

Dogs lose their heat by panting. Panting with water in their breath is how dogs cool down. Murphy stops his body from getting too hot by panting harder. He will also lay his belly on the cold floor with his legs apart.

