



eXplore

BUDDY, RAT TERMINATOR

A Little Friend with a Big Heart

Sharlene G. Coombs

**KNOWLEDGE
BOOKS**

35

Reading Recovery Level: 18

Word Count: 1598

Content: Personal Recount, Description, Explanation

ACARA F-10 References:

Learning Areas:

English; Humanities and Social Sciences; Science; Health and Physical Education.

General Capabilities:

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

Cross Curriculum Priorities:

Sustainability

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Teacher Notes:

Terriers like Buddy make great pets, but did you know that they are also great rat terminators? Join the author as she talks about the role of different working dogs and how these fearless little terriers have kept communities safe from rodents for many years.

Discussion points for consideration:

1. Discuss all the different kinds of working dogs you can think of and what they do.
2. Discuss the meaning of humane – why is poison a crueler death for rodents?
3. More and more careers today involve working with dogs – discuss this further.

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

Tenterfield, Terrier, Jack Russell, differences, shivering, service, soldiers, dangerous, Ukraine, Russian, invasion, fearless, vermin, instinct, plague, machinery, expensive, Government, volunteer, humane, England, hygiene, conditions, disease, bacteria, infected, quarantine, rhyme, technology, Brisbane, Queensland, threatened.

Contents

1. Meet Buddy!
2. Why Tenterfield?
3. Working Dogs
4. Great Hunters!
5. Rat Invasion!
6. Call in the Rat Pack!
7. The Great Plague of London
8. Modern Day Rat Problems





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1. Meet Buddy!

This cute little dog is my best friend. His name is Buddy. He is a Tenterfield Terrier.

There are many different breeds of terriers. You may know Jack Russell or Fox Terriers. Buddy is a bit like those dogs. The main differences are his longer legs and longer snout.

Buddy is 12 years old. This is quite old for a dog. However, his age hasn't slowed him down at all!





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Buddy has always been very active. He loves chasing the ball. Sometimes I have to hide the ball to make him have a rest.

He also chases the hose and loves to swim. He jumps in my sister's pool, even in winter! He comes out shivering but still goes back in.

Buddy has also learned a new trick. He dives for rocks in the water! He can dive almost a metre under the water to find a rock. He's such a clever little dog!





2. Why Tenterfield?

Tenterfield is a small town in NSW, Australia. It is famous because of the song “The Tenterfield Saddler”.

A man called George Woolnough worked there as a saddler for many years. The song was written for George by his famous grandson, Peter Allen.

George made saddles for riding horses. He also had terriers as pets. They would go everywhere with him. This is how the Tenterfield Terrier got its name!



Tenterfield

THE BIRTHPLACE
OF OUR NATION

PARTNER
OTTOBE
HAWANGEN
GERM



3. Working Dogs

Buddy is a very smart dog. In fact, most terriers are very smart. This is why they make great working dogs.

There are many different types of working dogs today. Dogs can be very helpful to many people. Some dogs are service dogs. Labradors make good guide dogs for blind people.

Police dogs are called K-9s. They have been trained to help the police in their jobs. Can you think of any other working dogs?

