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# POPPY, POLICE DOG

Talented Friends When Needed

Thomas James



**KNOWLEDGE  
BOOKS**

**37**

**Reading Recovery Level:** 15

**Word Count:** 1393

**Content:** recount, descriptive report, 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.

**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.

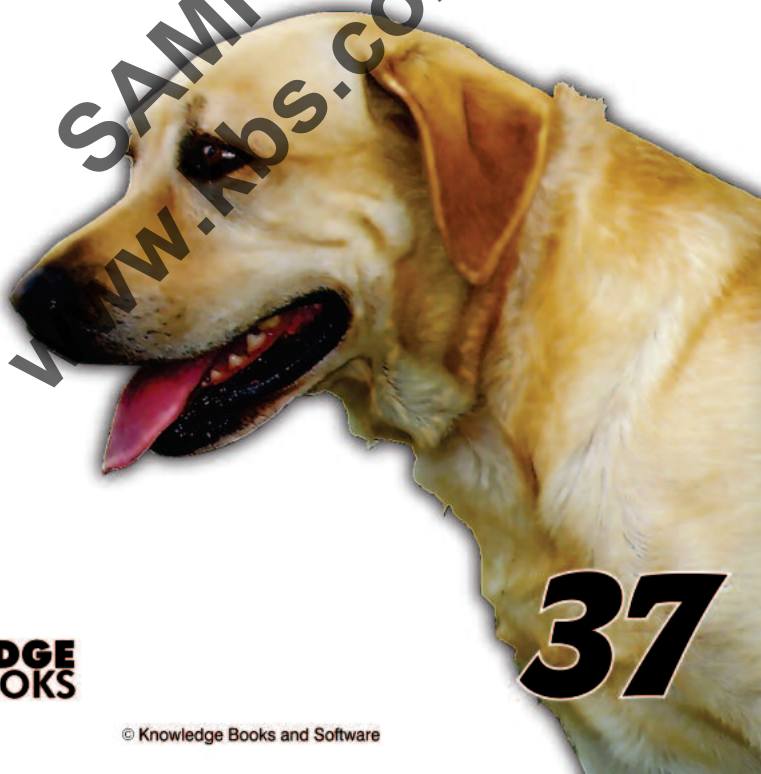
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**Teacher Notes:**

Meet Poppy, the friendly and very intelligent Labrador who started off life with a very important job. Join the author as he recounts Poppy's life sniffing out drugs for the Police Drug Squad. Learn about why he retired and how other Labradors like Poppy have become very important and helpful members of our society. No wonder we call them man's best friend!

**Discussion points for consideration:**

1. What other dog breeds are helpful to humans and why?
2. What breed of dog is your favourite and why?
3. Talk about the importance of being a responsible pet owner.

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

Labrador, retrieving, popular, dangerous, intelligent, vision, squad, underwater, rewarded, distances, cupboards, normal, retired, muzzle, naughty, neighbours, raisin, hospital, recovered, poisonous, digest, carnivores, fortnight.

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## Contents

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1. Who is Poppy and Where Did He Come From?
2. The Labrador Dog Breed
3. Labradors as Guide Dogs
4. Poppy's Job with the Police
5. Poppy's New Life and Friends
6. Poppy Loves Eating!
7. Dangerous Food for Dogs
8. Poppy's Tricks and Helpful Ways



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## **1. Who is Poppy and Where Did He Come From?**

Poppy is a big, happy, and friendly Labrador. Labradors are a breed of dog.

The Labrador breed started in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

Labradors were used for hunting and retrieving. The dogs would jump into the icy waters to retrieve ducks and seals. The dogs could handle the cold water and ice. They also loved to swim.







## 2. The Labrador Dog Breed

Labradors are a very popular dog across the world. Why are they popular? There are many reasons that people love Labradors. Here are some:

- Labradors are a medium-sized dog.
- They play happily with children.
- They are not dangerous to people or other animals.
- They are very intelligent and easy to train.
- They are very loving and playful.
- They are not fussy eaters.
- They are easy to care for.



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Is a Labrador the best dog for you?  
There are many reasons to love  
Labradors. You also need to think of  
these things before getting one:

- Labradors are big eaters and can get very fat.
- Some Labradors can have pain with their hips.
- They can shed a lot of hair when it gets warm.
- Labradors get lonely quickly.
- Some will bark all night if upset.
- Labradors can make a lot of mess when playing.





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### **3. Labradors as Guide Dogs**

Labradors are smart dogs. They are very friendly. They are the perfect dog to train for many jobs.

Some Labradors are trained to be guide dogs for people with low vision. Guide dogs are seeing eye dogs. They must keep calm and be willing to work for their owner.

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