



Extension Activities

For 5-11 years olds

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1. Introduction and activities
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Designed for Key Stage 1&2 pupils, our new Dogs Trust activities are based around a 3-4 minute story that focuses on the arrival of a new dog to one of our Rehoming Centres. Use the story with pupils in either a class or assembly setting to find out which Canine Gang member is arriving at the Centre and why.

Story Activity

Paws for Reflection

Reflection points are placed throughout the story (marked with a 🐾). Use these natural breaks to encourage pupils to think about what is happening and why.

Discussion points

Share Digger's story with pupils and encourage them to reflect upon it, considering their own feelings and responses and comparing similar instances from experience.

Themes to consider include:

- **Caring for others**
- **Responsibility** - (Links to QCA Citizenship units 01 Taking Part, 03 Animals and us, 07 Children's rights - Human rights)
- **Difference** - (Links to QCA Citizenship unit 05 Living in a diverse world and Art & Design unit 1A Self portrait – exploring difference through self identity PSHE)
- **Change** - (Links to QCA unit 12 Moving on)

Story Activity Curriculum Links

These discussion points address the following aspects of the non-statutory framework for PSHE and Citizenship at Key Stages 1 and 2 in England:

KS1: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 2a, 2b, 2e, 4, 5a, 5c, 5g

• KS2: 1, 2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 4 & 5

Scotland - Curriculum Links

Curriculum for Excellence

Health and Wellbeing:

Mental and emotional wellbeing

- I am aware of and able to express my feelings and am developing the ability to talk about them. HWB 0-01a / HWB 1-01a / HWB 2-01a / HWB 3-01a / HWB 4-01a
- I understand that my feelings and reactions can change depending upon what is happening within and around me. This helps me to understand my own behaviour and the way others behave. HWB 0-04a / HWB 1-04a / HWB 2-04a / HWB 3-04a / HWB 4-04a
- I know that friendship, caring, sharing, fairness, equality and love are important in building positive relationships. As I develop and value relationships, I care and show respect for myself and others. HWB 0-05a / HWB 1-05a / HWB 2-05a / HWB 3-05a / HWB 4-05a
- I understand that people can feel alone and can be misunderstood and left out by others. I am learning how to give appropriate support. HWB 0-08a / HWB 1-08a / HWB 2-08a / HWB 3-08a / HWB 4-08a

Social Wellbeing

- As I explore the rights to which I and others are entitled, I am able to exercise these rights appropriately and accept the responsibilities that go with them. I show respect for the rights of others. HWB 0-09a / HWB 1-09a / HWB 2-09a / HWB 3-09a / HWB 4-09a
- I value the opportunities I am given to make friends and be part of a group in a range of situations. HWB 0-14a / HWB 1-14a / HWB 2-14a / HWB 3-14a / HWB 4-14a

Northern Ireland - Curriculum Links

Education for Mutual Understanding

- Take responsibility for their actions

- Make choices based on humanitarian values
- Appreciate the interdependence within and between communities regarding animal welfare and its effects

Wales - Curriculum Links

Foundation Phase

Personal and Social Development, Well-being and Cultural Diversity

Skills: Social Development

- Be aware of and respect the needs of others
- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Consider the consequences of words and actions for themselves and others
- Develop an understanding of what is fair and unfair and to be willing to compromise
- Appreciate what makes a good friend

Range: Wellbeing

- Value and contribute to their own wellbeing and to the well-being of others
- Understand the relationship between feelings and actions and that other people have feelings
- Demonstrate care, respect and affection for other children, adults and their environment
- Ask for assistance when needed

KS2

Personal and Social Education

Skills: Developing thinking; Developing communication

Range: Active citizenship

- Develop respect for themselves and others
- Value families and friends as a source of mutual support
- Value diversity and recognise the importance of equality of opportunity
- Situations which produce conflict and the nature of bullying

Health and emotional wellbeing

- Feel positive about themselves and be sensitive towards the feelings of others
- The range of their own and others' feelings and emotions

Extension Activities

Data collection and Representation

Compare similarities and differences by collecting simple class data; eye colour, hair colour, shoe size, height, favourite colour or snack and charting. (KS1 Ma2.5 - NNS p90-93 ; KS2 Ma4.2 - NNS p114-117)

Role plays

Use Digger and the other dog tales (from Assembly and the Literacy resources) to create role play scenarios of situations to which pupils need to respond with sympathy, empathy, compassion or friendship. (En1 & NLS Yr3(1) T4, T14; Yr4(1) T6, T13, Yr5(1) T18 PSHE & Citizenship). Discuss how each character feels and ways in which the problem could be resolved or avoided.

Stories

Pupils can write their own dog tale about Digger and her new friends in the Rehoming Centre. (En2 & NLS Yr3(1) T11, (3) T2,T3,T4, T10, Yr4(1) T10, T13, (3) T8, Yr6(1) T15, T16, T18 (ICT), T11, (3) T14)

Display

Using what they have learnt, pupils can create a school or class display. You can find more information about Dogs Trust by visiting www.dogstrust.org.uk (Links PSHE, Citizenship, ICT, Art & Design, En1, Ma2, Ma4).

Think about the themes that you can use for your display, for example:

- How to be a responsible dog owner
- The things involved in looking after and caring for a dog
- How Digger is feeling about being at a Rehoming Centre
- The stories of the Canine Gang

Poems

Pupils can design their own mnemonic or acrostic poetry to help them remember a dog's needs e.g.

Dinner dogs need special food and fresh water to drink.
Owners dogs need someone to take care of them.
Grooming dogs need their own brush to keep their fur nice.
Safety dogs need to be microchipped, vaccinated and neutered.

Training dogs need to learn how to behave.
Running dogs need plenty of exercise.
Understanding learn to know how your is dog feeling.
Sleep dogs need lots of sleep.
Toys dogs love to play.

(En2 & NLS Yr3(1) T6, T8, T9, T12, (2) T4, T11, T15 (3) T7, T15 Yr4(1) T7, T14, (2) T5, T7, T11; Yr5(2) T12, (3) T11; Yr6(1) T10, (3) T13)



Images of the Canine Gang are on our website www.learnwithdogs.co.uk to download for **FREE**.

Times do change

Digger was scared; an hour ago she had been with her family at home. Now she was sitting by the gates of this big building, where her family had left her. She didn't understand why. What was going on? 🐾 1

Suddenly, a strange lady picked her up and carried her into the building. Digger was so frightened that she was shaking, her ears were flat and her tail was between her legs. What was happening to her? 🐾 2

Inside lots of people smiled at her and fussed her. 'This isn't too bad' thought Digger cheering up, 'I like being stroked'. Then the lady led her into another area, Digger couldn't believe her eyes. There were lots of dogs, all different shapes and sizes, all in pens up and down the room.

Digger was put in a pen on her own; when the door closed she started to cry. 'Don't cry sweetheart', said a deep voice, 'No, don't cry' squeaked another. Digger looked down to see a little face peering up at her and a very big face looking down at her. 'My name's Rex' said the big face, 'and this little un is Zippy' he said nodding down at the tiny dog.

Digger stopped sniffing, 'What is this place?' she asked, 'Why am I here?' Rex smiled, 'Why, this is a Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre; dogs live here until we are found new owners to love and look after us'.

Digger was shocked. A Rehoming Centre? New owners? She already had a home and owners, what was going on? Later that day, Rex and Zippy introduced Digger to their friends - Muffin, Rosie and Flick. 'We've all lived here for a while' said Rosie, 'it's quite nice really'. 'But I don't understand' whimpered Digger, 'I have a home already'. 'Well your owners can't have wanted you anymore' said Flick. Muffin prodded Flick with his nose 'That's not a nice thing to say Flick', 'Well, it must be true or she wouldn't be here!' Flick barked back.

Digger lay down and put her paws over her ears. Rosie lay down next to her. 'You poor little thing' she said, 'Just remember that you are not alone, we all look different, but we're all in the same situation'. Digger looked at Rosie, 'Why are you here?' she asked. 🐾 3

Rosie sighed, 'I used to live with a lovely girl called Philippa but one day I got lost at the seaside and was brought here'. 'My owners' barked Rex 'decided they didn't want me, and left me in the middle of a park'. 'I didn't really have owners' said Zippy running up to Digger 'my mum was allowed to have puppies,

so there were too many of us to look after and they gave us away'. 'What about you two' called Digger to Flick and Muffin 'where did you come from?'

Flick looked sad, 'I don't remember' he said 'all I know is that someone found me in the road, I was badly hurt so they took me to the vet and fixed me up and then they brought me here'. Muffin gave Flick a big lick to make him feel better, 'I used to live with a family but they hurt me so I ran away!' she barked. 🐾 4

Digger smiled, 'thank you for telling me your stories' she said 'but I still don't understand why my owners have given me away'. Rex frowned 'I have an idea', he whispered 'leave it with me'.

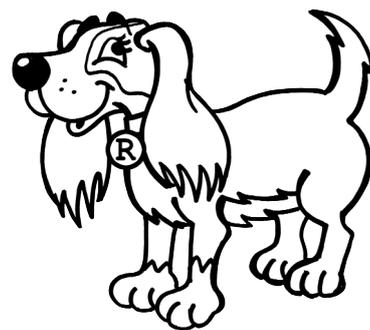
Digger was asleep when someone pawed at her.

'Wha - what?' she shouted jumping up. 'Ssshhh' said Rosie 'It's only me and Rex, we've found out about your owners'. 'How did you manage that?' quizzed Digger. 'They always talk about the new dogs in the staffroom' said Rex 'It's easy to listen in'.

Digger sat down and hung her head, 'Go on then, tell me' she whispered. 'Okay' said Rosie. 'Apparently, your owners got you when you were a puppy, and Mum and the children were at home all day. But the children are at school now and don't have time to look after you, Mum is working full time, and Dad never really wanted a dog in the first place. They decided that it wasn't fair on you and wanted you to find a home with owners that would care for you properly. 🐾 5

Digger half smiled 'Well at least they cared' she said. 'Humph' growled Rex 'They should have thought harder about getting a dog in the first place, then you wouldn't have had to go through this'. 'Rex has a point' said Rosie softly, 'some people think that owning a dog is easy, they don't realise the time or the money needed to give us a good home'. 🐾 6

'Don't worry though' said a little voice as Zippy appeared from the shadows, 'we'll look after you until you find new owners!'. 'Yes we will' agreed Flick and Muffin as they scampered over, and Digger smiled as she looked up at her five new best friends. 🐾 7



Reflection

1. Who do you think Digger is?
2. Who do you think the strange lady is and what do you think is happening to Digger?
3. How do you think Digger feels?
4. Why do you think the other dogs are sharing their stories with Digger?
5. Do you think the family has done the right thing? Why?
6. What should the family have thought about before getting Digger in the first place?
7. How do you think Digger is feeling now?