

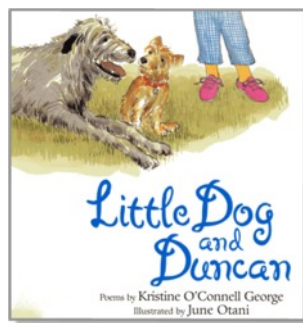
Little Dog Poems and Little Dog and Duncan

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Clarion Books Ages 3 to 8

TEACHER'S GUIDE



PREDICTION

Little Dog Poems

Do you have a pet? What is special about having one? What types of funny things does your pet do? What do you think this dog will do?

Little Dog and Duncan

Who do you think Duncan is? Is he coming to live with Little Dog? Will Little Dog like Duncan? What makes you think this?

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Little Dog Poems

1. What does Little Dog see in the mirror?
2. What is an enemy? Does Little Dog think the vacuum is alive?
3. What do you think supervise means from reading this poem? Can you think of someone who supervises you?
4. What might your own little dog see out your front window in the morning?
5. Why does Little Dog curl in a tight ball?
6. Does Little Dog think he can chase planes and cars? How do you know?
7. Why is Little Dog digging so much?
8. Would YOU bake liver cookies?
9. What things mean hello to you at your house? What things mean goodbye?
10. Why does she have accidents with popcorn?

Little Dog and Duncan

1. Have you ever spent the night at someone's house? What was it like?
2. Why is Duncan's bag bigger than Little Dog's bag?
3. What is fair?
4. Why do Little Dog and Duncan both get put outside?
5. What do you think "miffed" means by the way it is used in the poem?
6. Why has the juniper bush grown a tail?
7. Is Little Dog sharing? Is it hard to share?
8. Little Dog is jealous when his girl pays too much attention to Duncan. Have you ever felt this way? When?
9. Do you think Duncan will come over again? Why?
10. Is Little Dog sad or happy to see Duncan go? What clues make you think so?

Little Dog Poems & Little Dog and Duncan

ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Language Arts

- Write dog poems. Take (or draw) pictures of your favorite dogs then write a poem about what they are doing in the picture. Use as few words as you can to tell the "story."
- Create a doggie dictionary for your pet! Describe what he does or "says" when he wants certain things. Some dogs tilt his nose in the air and say "ahrooooo" when they want a treat. Maybe your dog fetches your shoes to get you to go inside with him. Share your dictionary with anyone who cares for your pet!

Helping Others

- Visit your local shelter just to visit the homeless dogs. Take them for a walk if you can or just shower them with some extra attention. Call ahead and see if you can bring them a special treat! Shelters also welcome donations of towels and blankets.
- Volunteer to help an older person in your neighborhood care for his or her pet.

Social Studies

- Little Dog is a terrier and Duncan is an Irish wolfhound. Check with your local library to see what you can learn about the history of these two breeds.

Art and Music

- Read the poems aloud and invite students to draw their own illustrations before seeing the ones in the book. Were their pictures the same? Different? Discuss what an illustrator does.
- Dog prints: Stamp your pet's paw in an almost dry patch of paint and make a print of it on a clean piece of paper. You might add your own handprint and a date of your creation.
- Sing these dog songs:
"BINGO" (but change it to your own pet's name, or a dream pet's name)
"Doggie in the Window."
- Write your own song about dogs to a familiar tunes such as "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Here's an example:

*Abbie had a little dog
little dog
little dog
Abbie had a little dog
who liked to bark at cars!*



Little Dog is digging in the garden. Again!