

Buddy Unchained

Written by Daisy Bix, Illustrated by Joe Hyatt



RedRover Readers Program Objective 1: Lesson 1B

Goals and Objectives: Observe animal behavior and use prior knowledge and experience, as well as evidence in a narrative to provide support for how an animal may be feeling; explore a variety of emotions and mixed emotions animals have, as well as emotions they may not have or may not be observable, such as pride, guilt and judgement.

Time: 35 minutes (15 reading and discussion, 10 activity)

Materials: Anchor text (“Buddy Unchained”), white board or chart paper

1. Before Reading: As a class, discuss the following topics:

- Have you ever *seen* a dog? What is “body language”? What is an “emotion”? What emotions do you think dogs experience?

2. During Reading: Read the book to the class. Pause on different pages and discuss the story.

- On the page where kids are throwing things at Buddy ask, “What do you think is going on in this picture?” “How do you think Buddy feels about this?” “What about his body language tells you that?”
- On the page where the man in uniform is taking Buddy off of the chain ask, “What emotion(s) do you think Buddy is experiencing in this picture?”

3. After Reading: Review the story’s illustrations with students and ask to reinforce and extend their understanding of the text:

- What do dogs need to be healthy, happy and safe?
- What does Buddy have when he is chosen by the family to live in a home that he didn’t have on the chain outside?
- Ask “What emotions did Buddy experience throughout this story?” “How did you feel reading through it?” “How do you think your friends in this class felt as they read through the book and heard Buddy’s story?”

4. Compare and Contrast Activity:

Show students the illustrations on the page that reads “They take me for walks,” and the page where kids are throwing things at Buddy. Compare these two images. Ask, “What do you notice about Buddy’s body language when he is taking a walk?” “How do you think he feels in this picture?” “How is this different than how he looks in the other image?” You may wish to make a chart on whiteboard to compare Buddy’s eyes, ears, tail and body in these two images.



5. At the End of the Lesson: Ask students to reflect on these questions. Try this with the whole group, in a sharing circle or ask students to fill out index cards.

- How did you feel about today's book and discussion?
- Did today's book and discussion change how you think about anything in your life?
- What did you learn from today's book and discussion that you didn't know before?

6. Report about your reading: Please share your students' response in your online report by going to: RedRover.org/teach, and click on the link near top of the page that reads [\[Report about your reading\]](#)

