DOG OVERBOARD

Building Anticipation - Setting the Context

Ask students how people get across rivers, lakes and other bodies of water. Talk about what a ferry is and why ferries are used. Are there different kinds of ferries? Locate ferry crossings on a map. Introduce the words *island* and *mainland.* Look for some islands on the map.

Ask children how many have of them have been on a ferry. Talk about how close you are to the water when you are on a ferry. A website about ferries is: http://www.bcferries.bc.ca/schedules/maps/index.html

Introduction

Survey the class and ask about their pets. Talk about how we can show ownership of a pet using a license, a microchip or tattoo marks. Ask students if anyone has ever lost a pet. Ask how the license helps people locate the owners of a lost pet. Talk about how they felt or would feel if they lost a pet.

Tell students they are going to read a story entitled, *Dog Overboard.* Have students write a prediction about the plot including the outcome of the story and place their predictions in box. Have them read the story to see if their predictions were right.

Discussion - Book Talk

Right there questions:
The ferry traveled between two places. What were the names of the places?
Tell how the dog looked when he was found first found?
What did the vet do to help find his owners?
On page 4 the author used the word *forlorn* to describe the dog. Read the sentence again. What do you think *forlorn* means?

Think and search questions:
Why did the narrator say the Patch was a brave dog?
How do you know Patch was a strong little dog?
Why was Patch in a cage?
What two things did Patch do to show he was happy?
How do you know that the narrator and her mother liked dogs?

On your own questions:
What do you think happened to cause Patch to fall overboard?
Do you think the owners were careless? What could they do to prevent this from happening again?
What could be another title for this story?
If the author were here today, what would you ask her?

Creative Response - Independent Practice

Look at Predictions
Pull out the predictions that were generated during the introduction to the story, one by one, and read them to the class. Ask the originator of each prediction what information made him or her predict that. Which predictions were accurate for this story?

Writing Workshop
Read some Lost and Found ads from the newspaper. Talk about what information is needed to make an effective lost and found advertisement. Have students create a lost and found ad for Patch.

For a second writing activity, imagine that Patch is the kind of dog that has a lot of adventures. Write another adventure for Patch.

Talk about the different feelings and emotions portrayed in the story. Use the reproducible master to write words describing how Patch felt.

Oral Language
Put students in pairs. Have them assume the roles of Sam and the narrator who are having a telephone conversation about finding Patch. In the conversation they must make arrangements to meet so Patch can be returned to Sam. Remind the students to include the words *ferry, island* and *mainland* in their conversation.

Read Aloud and Poetry Connection

Brenda and Edward by Maryann Kovalski, Kids Can Press, 1984.
Dog, poem in *Animal Poems A – Z,* Scholastic, 1994.
Jasper's Day by Marjorie Blain Parker, Kids Can Press, 2003.
McDuff Comes Home by Rosemary Wells. Scholastic, 1998.
My Dog in an Elephant by Remy Simard, Annick Press, 1994.
That Magnetic Dog by Bruce Whatley, Angus and Robertson, 1996.
The Perfect Pet by Carol Chattaway, Kids Can Press, 2002.

Related Websites

http://www.stonesoup.com/main2/storiesAnimal.html

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words - found, before
Interest Words - island, ferry, mainland, forlorn, shivering, tattoo, Patch
Word Families and Letter Clusters - *s* blends including: *sh:* shopping, shivering, *sm:* smiled, *sc:* scared, *sw:* swim, *st:* must, lost
- *tch* letter cluster: Patch, catch, match, watch
Structural Features of Words - *k* sound of the letter *c* - licks, clinic, cage, scared - Homonyms: fairy, ferry
Text Features - Compound Words: mainland, sometimes, outside - Quotation marks for speech

Use words to describe Patch and how he felt in the story.

Patch