



History

War and Remembrance



Animals in the War

Aim

- I can find out about the role of animals in the First World War.

Success Criteria

- I can talk about how different animals helped the Allied forces in the First World War.
- I can recall some key facts about Sergeant Stubby.
- I can create a medal to honour Sergeant Stubby's achievements in the First World War.

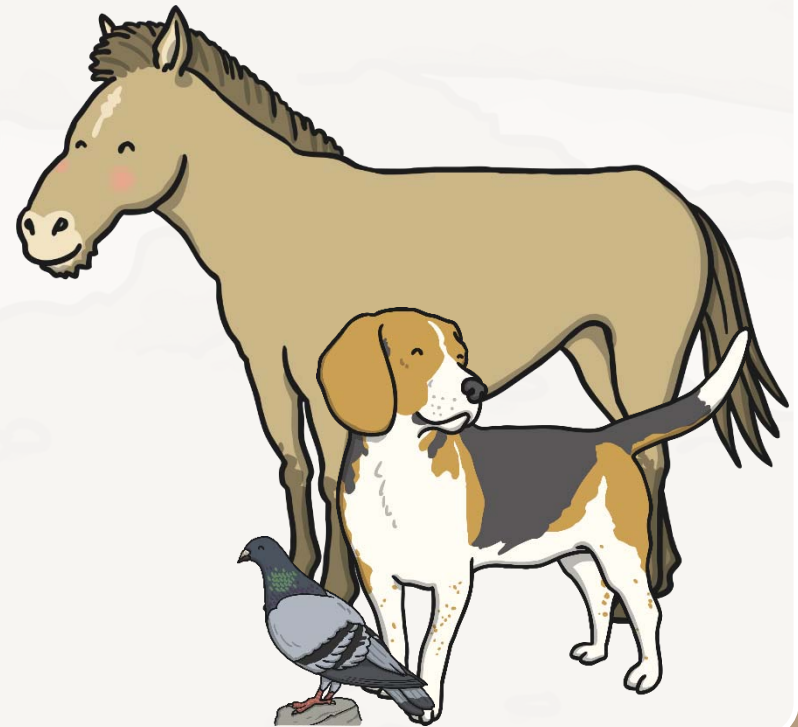
Animals in the First World War



Can you remember which animal carried a message for the soldiers?
Which other animals do you think were used to help the Allied forces during the First World War?

Video

Let's watch this BBC video about
[Animals in the War](#)



Animals at Work

War Horses

Before the First World War began in 1914, wars had been fought mostly by soldiers on horses. However, both sides soon realised that men on horses could not win the war in the trenches. The muddy ground, barbed wire and machine guns made it very difficult for horses, so they were used to carry things instead.

Cars and tanks often went wrong but horses and mules could be relied on to get food and equipment to the front line.

Ambulance horses carried wounded soldiers and artillery horses carried weapons, ammunition and other heavy loads.



Animals at Work

Hard-Working Elephants

Even elephants were taken from circuses and zoos and put to work. Photographs were taken of them pulling heavy guns. These were used to show people in Britain that even exotic animals were helping in the war effort.



Pigeons on the Front Line

100,000 carrier pigeons were used as messengers during the war. Whenever the soldiers needed to get a message back to their base, they tied it to one of the pigeons. It would fly home and deliver the message.



Pigeons used in the war delivered 95% of their messages correctly. Pigeons were kept at military bases and headquarters. Sometimes they were also kept in unusual places, like old London buses (see the photo on the left) which were brought over from England.

Pigeons on the Front Line

One pigeon, called **Cher Ami**, meaning 'Dear Friend' in French, became famous.

She was used by the American Army and Cher Ami managed to get 12 very important messages delivered through one of the battles in 1918.

She also **saved the lives of nearly 200 soldiers** during another battle.

Cher Ami received a medal from the American government for her bravery.



Dogs on the Front Line



Why do you think this dog has a red cross on his side?

Clue: Where have you seen a red cross before?



Look closely at the photo.

What is the soldier doing?

What do you think the dog will do next?

Dogs on the Front Line

Some dogs were trained as 'casualty dogs'. They could find soldiers that had been hurt and carried medical equipment for the soldier to use. They wore a jacket with a red cross on it.



Some dogs helped to get messages across the front line. They were much faster than humans and could run through difficult conditions. The soldier in the photo is writing his message whilst the dog waits.

Sergeant Stubby



America joined the war in 1917. Sergeant Stubby became a famous dog who helped the American soldiers during the First World War.

[BBC Animation: Sergeant Stubby](#)



Stubby saved his soldiers from a gas attack.

Stubby would bark to let the soldiers know if the enemy was close by.

Stubby looked for and helped soldiers that were hurt.

Stubby was injured in a battle.

Sergeant Stubby



Sergeant Stubby was rewarded for his bravery with medals.

Can you talk with your partner about the reasons why he was honoured in this way?



After the war, when Stubby returned home, he was a celebrity. He often led parades throughout the country and even met the President of the United States!

Honouring Sergeant Stubby



These are medals that were given to soldiers that fought in the First World War.

Can you design a medal for Sergeant Stubby?




Honouring Sergeant Stubby

Stubby's Fact File



Sergeant Stubby Fact File

FACTS



Skills

Moments of Bravery

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Your Medals and Facts



Sergeant S



Skills

Moments of Bravery

Cher Ami Fact File



Skills

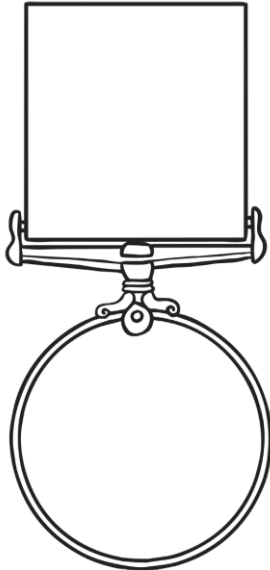
Moments of Bravery

twinkl.co.uk

FACTS

Design a Medal

Design a medal for Sergeant Stubby.



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