

Pinkerton, Behave!

Steven Kellogg

TEACHER GUIDE

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Skills and Strategies

Thinking

Brainstorming, classifying
and categorizing, comparing
and contrasting, evaluating,
analyzing details, making
judgments, making
generalizations

Vocabulary

Words in context

Literary Elements

Characterization, setting,
plot development, conflict

Listening/Speaking

Participation in discussion,
participation in dramatic
activities

Comprehension

Predicting, sequencing,
cause/effect, inference,
story mapping

Writing

Survey, dog report card,
invitation

Summary

Pinkerton, a Great Dane puppy new to the household, is taken to the Canine University, with disastrous results! However, all ends well when Pinkerton saves the family from a burglar by responding to commands in his own way.

About the Author

Steven Kellogg was born in Norwalk, Connecticut, October 26, 1941. He attended the Rhode Island School of Design, and did graduate work at the American University.

He is an artist as well as an author and illustrator of children's books. He has taught etching, print making, and painting at the American University.

Kellogg enjoys illustrating his own books and loves the challenge of devising the right visual accompaniment for the manuscripts of other authors. He employs a wide variety of materials and variations in style in an effort to bring the unique character of each picture to the point of highest intensity.

He intends for all to enjoy his illustrations, but realizes that people have individual tastes, and he may not be able to interest everyone. He believes, with the use of a wide range of materials and techniques, that he has done something for most to enjoy.

Pinkerton, Behave! is dedicated to his wife, Helen, who "chose the Great Pinkerton."

Introductory Activities and Information

Initiating Activities:

You may choose to do one of these activities before reading the story and the other activities after reading the story. However, they are appropriate at any time.

1. **Pets:** Have displayed pictures of various kinds of animals that are usually owned by people as pets. If you have a pet of your own, bring in some snapshots to share. You may anticipate this discussion and ask the children to bring in pictures of their pets, too, if they are available.

Discuss the kinds of pets that the children have. Put the pets into categories of dogs, cats, fish, etc. Make a chart on a large piece of butcher paper, and place a tally mark for each category. (You'll be making a graph later.)

For example:

cat dog fish hamster gerbil pig bird _____ none

Total the tally marks for each category.

Compare each category with another.

More? Less? Equal? How many more?

How many more or less needed to make them equal?

2. **Make a Human Graph:** Make a line with masking tape on the floor. This will be the baseline of the graph.

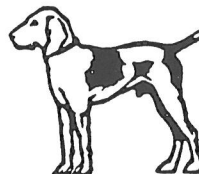
Ask the children who have dogs as pets to make a straight line, the first person starting at the tape baseline. Do each category in the same way, each line standing beside the other.

Have the children make comparisons as they stand, making a human graph.

3. **Dogs:** Have pictures and non-fiction books of dogs displayed in the room. Be sure that you have one of a Great Dane!

Play the record or tape of the song, "How Much Is That Doggie In The Window?" or something similar. Sing along, if you'd like, and learn the song.

Show the children the pictures of some different breeds of dogs. Can the dogs be identified? Make identification labels for the pictures, as they are discussed.



Center Activities

Pinkerton's List of Words

PINKERTON
COME
FETCH
GET
THE

BURGLAR
GREAT
DANE
BIG
SCHOOL

P-I-N-K-E-R-T-O-N

How many words can you make from the letters in Pinkerton's name?

Here's a start:

PINK	ON	NOTE	RENT	PINE	TOKEN
TON	NOT	PIN	PEN	PINT	TIP
NO	NONE	KNOT	TEN	RIP	PIE
TO	TONE	KIN	KNIT	RIPE	TIE
ROT	POT	TIN	TINKER	PIKE	NINE

Pinkerton's Story

Use as many of the words from the list as you can, and write a story about Pinkerton.

Pinkerton's Word Order

Put Pinkerton's list of words in alphabetical order.

Pinkerton's Friends

Pinkerton became friends with the other dogs at the Canine University.

Give names to the three dogs.

Choose one of the dogs and tell what that dog thinks about Pinkerton.

Draw a picture of the dog.

Make a "thought balloon" as Steven Kellogg has done in the illustrations.

Fill the "thought balloon" with the words that you want to use to tell of the dog's feelings about Pinkerton.



New Friends for Pinkerton

Pinkerton has some new friends. They will line up to meet the others. The first dog has spots. The dog with the fluffy hair is not second or third. The dog that is low to the ground, and wearing a collar is not second or fourth.

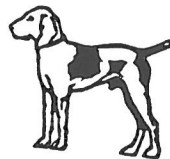
Put the dogs in order:

Which dog is first?

Which dog is second?

Which dog is third?

Which dog is fourth?



A



B



C



D

(Answer: A is first, D is second, C is third, and B is fourth.)