

'Dog Lost'
by
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Teachers' Summary

Cash is the puppy nobody wants - a pit-bull - a throwaway dog. A shivering wet bundle, Cash arrives in the life of twelve-year-old Mackenzie. And from that moment boy and dog share a love neither has ever known before. But when Cash is kicked out by Mackenzie's father, she finds herself lost and alone in a cruel world. Will she ever find her boy again?

This book deals with prejudice, cruelty, illness and separation but in language pupils can relate to and through a tough story with a happy ending.

There are many learning opportunities throughout the novel:

- writing letters and newspaper reports
- designing posters
- listening and talking about problems in society and their own feelings about what happens in the story
- health and well-being – illness and separation
- citizenship- who were good citizens in the story and how was that demonstrated
- personal and social development – leading discussion groups; looking at how extreme opinions can influence others
- IT - using search engines to locate information
- looking at a variety of occupations and the roles they play in society
- moral education - the rights and wrongs of certain behaviour
- creative displays

There is plenty of scope for any teacher who wishes to use this book as a class study but it is a simple enough story for the pupils to read on their own in class or at home.