



Just One More
By Mark Macleod and Sue deGennaro

ISBN: 9780733324734 RRP: \$24.99 Publication Date: July 2011
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About the book

With her pups on the way, Jessie the dog is full of surprises and when her family thinks they've had the last of them, there's just one more!

About the author

Mark Macleod has been involved with children's publishing for over twenty-five years, as a lecturer, publisher, freelance editor, President of the Children's Book Council, and now as an author. He lives in the Blue Mountains.

About the illustrator

Sue deGennaro studied film at university, learnt how to weld and draw at art school and moved to Sydney to become an aerialist/performance artist. She now lives in Melbourne.

Video footage of Sue deGennaro speaking at the SLV about generating ideas

<http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/node/3141>

Themes

- Dogs and puppies
- Pet care, responsibility and ownership
- Pregnancy in dogs

Key Learning Areas

- English
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Learning

Prediction before reading

Before reading the story to the children, ask them about the title, their impressions of the cover and what they think the story might be about. (They may think that the dog on the cover is heavily overweight or perhaps guess that she is pregnant.)

Elicit their responses and opinions prior to reading, then read the story aloud without pausing for questions.

Discussion questions – the story

1. How would you describe Jessie in the beginning of the story? Eg: is she stubborn, lazy, overweight?
2. Why do you think the story is called 'Just one more'?
3. Why did Jessie have trouble walking around the block?
4. Apart from being tired, what other pregnancy symptoms did Jessie display?
5. How did Sam and his mum prepare the bed for Jessie and why did she need her own special place?
6. How did Sam help Jessie through her last week and the birth of her puppies?
7. Why did Mum decide to go out before the puppies were born?
8. How did Jessie prepare her 'nest' before the puppies were born?
9. How did Sam know when Jessie's puppies were coming?
10. How many puppies did Jessie have in the end?
11. What clue about the final number of puppies had there been at the beginning of the story?

Discussion questions – the major characters and their relationships

Sam and Liane

How do Sam and Liane feel about one another? (The following examples can be used to facilitate the discussion. Liane wants to show that she knows more about pets than Sam does; she may even be jealous - she feels quite happy about telling Sam that Jessie needs to lose the hair on her beautiful tail; she rushes out to tell anyone she can find that she was right about Jessie having 4 pups; Sam finds her quite annoying. Liane says 'Told you' but Sam gets the final say - or Jessie does! - when the fifth pup is born)

Sam and his mum

How do Sam and his mum get on? (Examples for discussion facilitation might include: Mum works with Sam; she treats him as grown up - she lets him get the palings, she allows him to mind the house when she has no choice but to go to the shops; she says he can give his old t-shirts to Jessie; Sam lets his mum know that he could handle any emergency and doesn't need help from Liane's family; on the other hand, he doesn't want to let go of his old t-shirts - they are part of his growing up, even if they no longer fit; Sam trusts Jessie to know what to

do, just as his mum trusts him. But in some ways the image of the tiniest pup who will need a lot of looking after suggests that Sam still needs to be taken care of. He's not too grown up to appreciate attention.)

Activities

English

- Discuss the repetition of the words 'one more ...' and find as many examples of the phrase as possible. Write out the sentences and then make up some more of your own.
- Write your own version of the story using your pet or an imaginary one as the central character.
- Brainstorm sentences to describe ways in which Sam helped Jessie: Eg: He put the heater on. He helped make a nest.
- Using words from the story, play the game 'Hangman'.
- Refer to the worksheet at the end of these notes for English activity sheets.

Arts

- Look carefully at the illustrations in the text and discuss the style and possible method used to create them. Other books by the illustrator could be used to compare and contrast the style and method. In particular, study the images of Jessie and her extended belly and her poses and then use grey lead or charcoal to draw a range of images of Jessie in the various positions.
- Discuss the limited colour range in the story and its effectiveness.
- Research and create a project about the illustrator using a poster style presentation method.
- Paint a portrait of Jessie and her puppies.
- Build a nest like the one Sam's mum built using icy pole sticks and then make a dog and puppies using plasticine or modelling medium.
- Alternatively make a diorama and include the nest and puppies using a shoebox and other construction materials.
- Refer to the craft links at the end of these notes for a wide range of art and craft activities relevant to the themes in the story.

Mathematics

- Discuss the number of puppies Jessie had.
- Make up some number stories using the number 5. (Eg. $1+1+1+1+1=5$, $1+1+1+1+2=5$, $1 \times 5=5$ etc.)
- Make a list of all the things Sam and his mum did to help Jessie prepare for the birth of her pups. Add them up and then make up some number stories after grouping the actions using your own criteria: Eg. They made her a nest. They used old fence palings. This could be one group. Etc.

Social Learning

Dogs and Puppies

- Invite a speaker to come into the class to talk about pet care. You could either try a local veterinarian or organization such as the ones listed below.
- Find out how you can help the RSPCA, Lort Smith Animal Hospital or The Lost Dogs Home in your state to raise funds to help their work in animal rescue.
http://www.rspcavic.org/kids_stuff/kidsstuff_fundraising.htm

- <http://dogshome.com/>
- Attend the 'Million Paws' Walk: See website link for further information.
- http://www.rspcavic.org/events/events_million_paws_walk.htm
- VELS (Victorian Essential Learning Standards) Links from Lort Smith Animal Hospital: (This information courtesy of the weblink below.)
<http://www.lortsmith.com/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=395>

Behaviours relevant to pet ownership and/or caring for animals:

Civics and Citizenship

- Willingness to participate in society
- Social justice and equality
- How to contribute to local and global communities
- Values that are important to be an engaged citizen in society
- Investigating and participating in activities that support the future wellbeing of society

Community Engagement

- Opportunity to interact with the community and engage with organisations and groups
- Using concepts such as human rights and social justice to think critically about their own rights and responsibilities
- Apply knowledge and skills in a range of community based activities

Civics Knowledge and Understanding

- Looking at the accountability of government, social justice and respect for others

Pet Care

Discuss with the children.

1. Who has a dog?
 2. What about puppies?
 3. Who has seen puppies being born or tiny puppies?
 4. What is involved in looking after a pet dog, especially a pregnant one? What special treatment and care may be necessary?
 5. How do you care for newborn puppies?
 6. How does a mother dog care for puppies?
- Choose an animal to research and then describe in diary format, with accompanying illustrations, how you would care for the pet on a daily basis.
 - Look at some of the web blinks below and research and write an instruction booklet on how to care for your chosen pet.

Previous titles by Mark Macleod

- *Tomorrow*
- *God Is*
- *The ABC Book of Christmas*
- *Wrong Way*

Previous titles by Sue degennaro

- *The Funky Monkey*
- *The Princess and the Packet of Frozen Peas*
- *The Smartest Dog of All*
- *The Vegetable Ark*
- *The Tomorrow Book*

Picture books about dogs and general pet care

- *My Cat Maisie* by Pamela Allen
- *Black Dog* by Pamela Allen
- *Can I Pat that Dog?* by Karen Damianai and Susan McLaine
- *My Dog* by John Heffernan and Andrew McLean
- *Harry the Dirty Dog* by Margaret Bloom Graham
- *Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog* by Pamela Turner
- *Badly Drawn Dog* by Emma Dodson
- *The Pocket Dog* (series) by Margaret Wild
- *Mutt Dog* by Stephen Michael King
- *The Trouble with Dogs!* by Bob Graham
- *Herbert the Brave Sea Dog* by Robyn Belton
- *Tiny* by Steve Otton and Jennifer Castles
- *Rosie's Really a Country Dog* by Anne Carrigy

References

Dogs and puppies and pet care

- http://www.puppy-training.info/raising_obedient_puppy.php
- <http://www.loveyourdog.com/>
- <http://www.vetinfo.com/caring-pregnant-dog.html>
- <http://www.workingdogweb.com/kids&dogs.htm>
- <http://www.paw-rescue.org/info.html>
- <http://www.lortsmith.com/NetCommunity/Document.Doc?id=26>

Dog and Puppy craft

- <http://crafts.kaboose.com/animals/>
- http://familycrafts.about.com/od/dogcrafts/Dog_Craft_Projects.htm
- <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/pets-dogs.htm>
- <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/dog/>
- http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/dog_crafts.html

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Worksheet 1 (A)

Name _____

Date _____

Place the following words from the story in alphabetical order and then write a sentence using each word.

pulled	mess
just	wriggled
shivered	budge
flopped	ruffled
groaned	trembled

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

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Worksheet 2
Unscramble the following words from the story.

Name _____

Date _____

tegbiinrah	gebud	gynlfi
dalyunr	remulbde	iahsnkg
ptse	tbrdelem	hwgians

Answers

1. breathing
2. budge
3. flying
4. laundry
5. lumbered
6. shaking
7. step
8. trembled
9. washing

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Worksheet 5

Choose a word from the box below to complete each sentence.

Name _____

Date _____

1. Jessie drank her water, _____ back into the box and lay there panting.
2. The puppy was _____ and Jessie licked it all over.
3. _____ wiggled again as if she wanted to dance.
4. Jessie was trying to build a _____.
5. Sam wanted Jessie to walk around the _____.

Jessie block nest lumbered shaking
