

LEARNING ENGLISH WITH LAUGHTER

TRIXIE'S SECRET

Student's Storybook



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SUCCESSFUL STORYBOOKS

TRIXIE'S SECRET

**Student's Storybook
Creative Writing Workbook
Teacher's Guide**



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LEARNING ENGLISH WITH LAUGHTER LTD.

TRIXIE'S SECRET

This storybook and creative writing workbook has an interest level for students of approximately 7 years and older. This book has two parts for the students.

The storybook part is about a young girl's search for her dog Trixie. It has a vocabulary of about 415 words.

The second part is a workbook that promotes creative writing, vocabulary development and problem solving. The children will be guided as they plan their solutions to problems and learn to sequence events.



A Teacher's Guide provides answers to all the questions. It also offers suggestions for the discussions and creative writing activities. All the creative writing assignments are based on what the students would do to find Trixie.

The words they will need for spelling can be found in the story. Concerns about spelling can seriously interfere with a student's creative ideas. In the West, this problem has been addressed by encouraging the children to try to spell phonetically. Their attempts are positively received by the teachers, as the children are using the phonics they know, while having the freedom to express their own ideas.

**Their creative ideas are most important to good writing.
They will learn to spell as they progress through school.**

Each teacher responds to phonetic spelling in their own way. Some may write some of the words on the child's paper, while others will accept what has been written and include some of the more commonly used words in the weekly spelling lesson. Whatever the approach, freeing the student to express and write their creative ideas, is the most important.

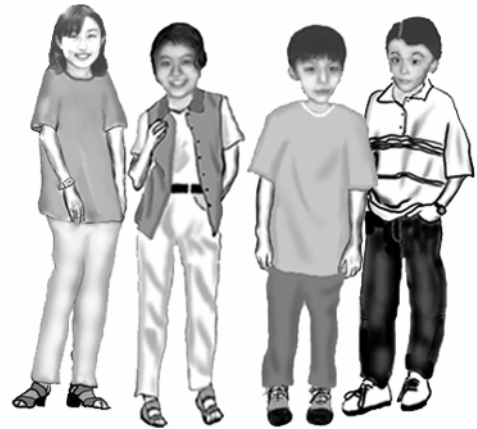
Creative thinking needs to be encouraged from an early age, before adult inhibitions set in.

We hope your students will enjoy helping Mara, Rachel, Paul and Simon solve some of their problems.

George Stocker D.D.S. Daisy Stocker B.Ed. M.Ed.



TRIXIE'S SECRET



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CHAPTER 1 A BIG CHANGE FOR MARA



Mara is eleven years old. She had lived on a farm in the country until a few months ago.

Last year, when they were living on the farm, her father became ill. The doctor said that the heavy farm work was too much for him. They had to sell their farm and their animals and move to the city.

Now they are living in a townhouse in the city of Victoria, Canada.



At first Mara's parents had said that she must sell her dog, Trixie, before they moved to the city.

When Mara begged them to let her take Trixie to the city, they finally agreed.

Trixie is a big friendly dog with soft brown fur. When Mara first moved to the city, Trixie was her only friend.

Trixie has a secret. No one knows about it, not even Mara's parents!





One day a few months after they had moved into their townhouse, Trixie disappeared. Mara searched everywhere. Trixie wasn't in their townhouse or in their courtyard outside their side door.

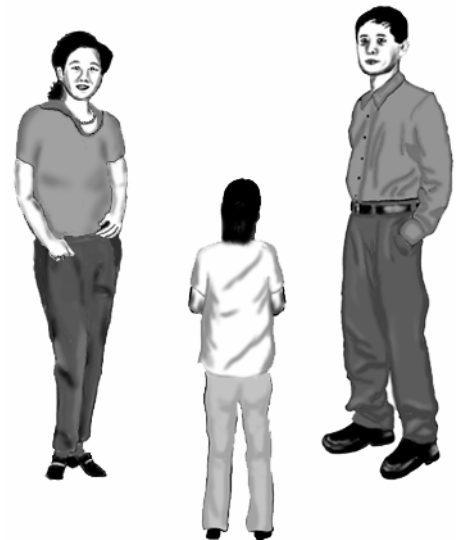
"What can I do?" Mara asked her mother and father.

"You should have sold Trixie to someone on a farm," said her father.

"The city is no place for a dog," added her mother. "It's much too crowded here."

"Perhaps Trixie has returned to our farm," suggested her father. "You could phone and ask if they have seen her."

"Oh thanks," said Mara. "Perhaps she thinks it is still her home."



As Mara dialed the number, she was very nervous. If Trixie were at the farm, would her parents let her bring Trixie back to the city?



Mara was worried as she waited for someone to answer her call.

“Hello,” said a man’s voice.

“Hello,” answered Mara. “My name is Mara. You bought your farm from my mother and father. I’ve lost my dog Trixie. Has she returned to the farm?”

“I haven’t seen her,” said the man. “Just a minute and I’ll ask my wife.”



Mara was shaking as she waited for an answer.

“Hello,” said a lady’s voice. “What does your dog look like?”

“She’s a big light brown dog.”

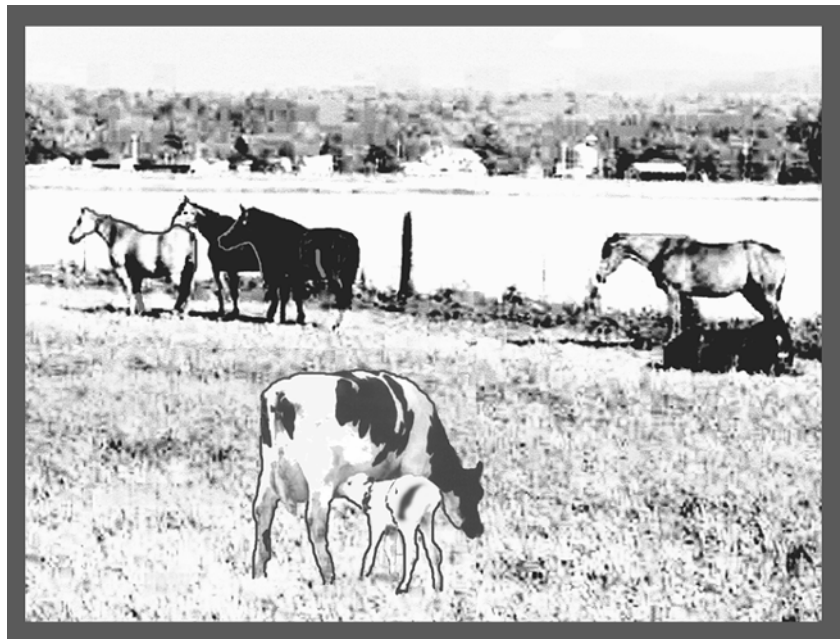
“I haven’t seen her,” said the lady. “I’ll phone you if she returns to the farm.”



“Oh thank you!” said Mara. “I’m so scared. I must find her!”

“Goodbye,” said the lady. “I hope you find her.”

“Goodbye,” said Mara.



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STUDENT'S WORKBOOK



**Daisy A. Stocker B.Ed., M.Ed.
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Objectives: To – expand vocabulary, express ideas in sentences, make comparisons

Exercise1: Discuss living in the city and country with the children. Help them to brainstorm the advantages of each. List descriptive words on the board and have them print the ones that best tell what they think.

Making choices helps them to understand the meanings of the words they choose.

Encourage the children to use some of the words that they have chosen in their sentences.

CHAPTER 1

A BIG CHANGE

EXERCISE 1:

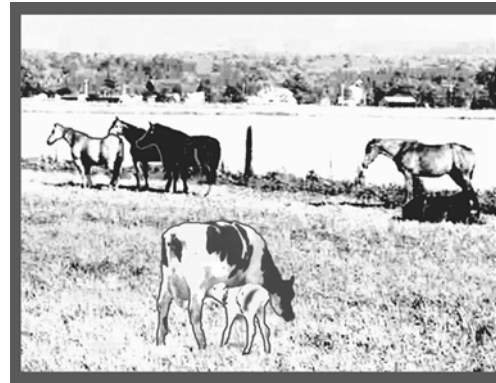
Mara's family had always lived on a farm. Last year her father became ill. Now she lives in the crowded city.

Think about where you would want to live.



In the City

What is good about living in the city?



In the Country

What is good about living in the country?

Decide where you would like to live. Write two sentences that tell why.

I would like to live in the _____.

I think that _____

Match the Meaning

EXERCISE 2:

ill

to beg

secret

crowded

nervous

to dial

to ask many times something others don't know sick worried

you push the numbers many people or animals in one place

EXERCISE 3:

Mara is phoning the people who bought her father's farm.

Complete what she says.

Illustration 1: A man says "Hello." Mara replies: "Hello, I've _____
_____.
Has she returned to the farm?"

Illustration 2: A man says "I haven't seen her. I'll ask my wife." Mara replies: "She's _____
_____."

Illustration 3: A woman says "I haven't seen her. I'll phone you if she returns." Mara replies: "Oh _____
_____."

Illustration 4: A woman says "Hello. What color is your dog?"

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CHAPTER 1

A BIG CHANGE

EXERCISE 1:

What is good about living in the city?

movies
many friends
many stores
skateboarding

What is good about living in the country?

animals
rivers for fishing
lakes for swimming
bicycles

EXERCISE 2:

ill
to beg
secret
crowded
nervous
to dial

sick
to ask many times
something others don't know
many people or animals in one place
worried
you push the numbers

EXERCISE 3:

Mara is phoning the people who bought her father's farm.

Complete what she says.

Note: Encourage the children to decide what they would say and perhaps discuss it with the whole group. Have the children refer to Page 3 of the storybook if appropriate. The responses listed below are similar to those given in the storybook.

Panel 1: A man says, "Hello."

Panel 2: Mara says, "Hello, I've *lost my dog Trixie*. Has she returned to the farm?"

Panel 3: A man says, "I haven't seen her. I'll ask my wife."

Panel 4: A woman says, "Hello. What color is your dog?"

Panel 5: Mara says, "She's *a light brown dog*."

Panel 6: A woman says, "I haven't seen her. I'll phone you if she returns."

Panel 7: Mara says, "Oh *thank you*. I *must find her*."