



Bamse the Sea Dog

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Courage, Loyalty, Heroism

Book Brief: The incredible true story of Bamse, a brave dog who sailed on a ship during wartime and became a beloved hero to his crew!

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Uliana Babenko

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "What does it mean to be a hero? Can animals be heroes too?" Explain to students that this story is about real events, but it is told like a story with characters, a setting, and events in order.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about the main idea of Bamse's story. What made him a hero and what can we learn from his bravery?"

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What makes Bamse special or different from other dogs? Describe him.
- How does Bamse help the sailors on the ship?
- What brave things does Bamse do during the war?
- Why do the sailors love and depend on Bamse?



Think Aloud: "Bamse shows courage by staying with the sailors during dangerous times and helping protect them. He's loyal and brave even when things are scary. The main idea is that true heroes show courage, loyalty, and care for others, no matter how big or small they are."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What is the main idea of Bamse's story? What made him a hero and what can we learn from his courage and loyalty?"

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, "What qualities did Bamse have that made him a hero?" Connect Bamse's character traits to what defines heroism. Create a class chart listing Bamse's heroic qualities (brave, loyal, protective, kind, helpful) and have students draw or write about a time they showed one of these qualities themselves.

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- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.