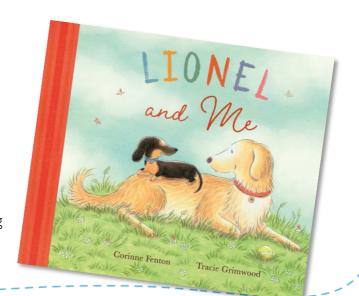
# Teaching Notes: Lionel and Me

Written by Corinne Fenton
Illustrated by Tracie Grimwood
Published by Catch a Star, New Frontier Publishing



#### **SYNOPSIS**

When Lionel arrives, Maverick is unimpressed. Is there enough love to go round for the two of them? A delightful book that celebrates inclusion and friendship.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Award-winning Corinne Fenton is a writer with a passion for picture books that warm the heart. To date, all her picture books have featured an animal hero. For those who know Corinne, her affinity with animal characters is no random choice. Corinne has rescued so many strays over the years that she now never leaves the house without a pet lead. When Corinne is not wearing her author hat, she has spent time as the Assistant Advisor for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in Australia and as a judge for the Dorothea Mackellar poetry competition. But it's writing that is her passion.

#### HOW THE BOOK ENHANCES LEARNING

Tracie is an illustrator/artist working in Melbourne, Australia. She graduated from Swinburne University with a degree in graphic design and has worked as an illustrator ever since. She has produced illustrations for a wide range of clients, both in Australia and overseas, and has exhibited her work in a number of group shows. When she is not painting, she likes to read and write interesting words, watch well-made films and mess about with horses.





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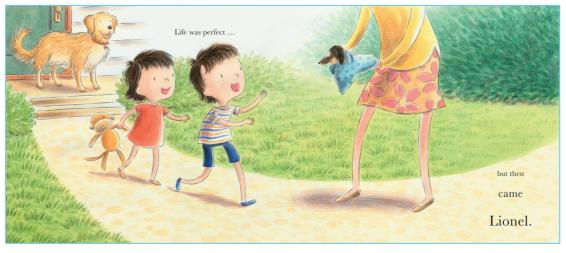
#### **EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY**

Lionel and Me is a delightful tale about a new dog, Lionel, joining a family that already has a dog, Maverick. Told from the older dog's point of view, we see how initial jealousy can blossom into genuine friendship and love. All children have jealous feelings at some point and, in this book, it shows that they can be overcome and turned into something positive. Other key themes are family life and pets.

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Before reading the book:

- 1. Introduce Lionel and Me to the children and ask them what they think the story might be about.
- 2. Ask if anybody has a dog. Ask if anyone has two dogs! How do the two dogs get along with each other? Are they the best of friends or is there some friction?
- 3. How does Maverick feel when Lionel first comes along? How do his feelings change?
- 4. Talk about jealousy. What does it mean when we feel jealous? Some children might feel jealous when a new sibling comes or when an older sibling is getting more attention than them.
- 5. Is jealousy a positive or negative feeling? How can we stop feeling jealous?
- 6. What happens so that Maverick changes his mind and decides that he will be friends with Lionel after all?
- 7. After reading the book, ask them what they thought of the story. Which was their favourite part and why?





# EUR HINTY

### MEMORY GAME

How well do you remember what happened in the story? Below are six pictures from the story but they are jumbled up. Carefully cut them out (ask an adult to help you!) and arrange them in the correct order. Try to retell the story in your own words. Maybe you can tell it to your favourite bedtime cuddly toy!

















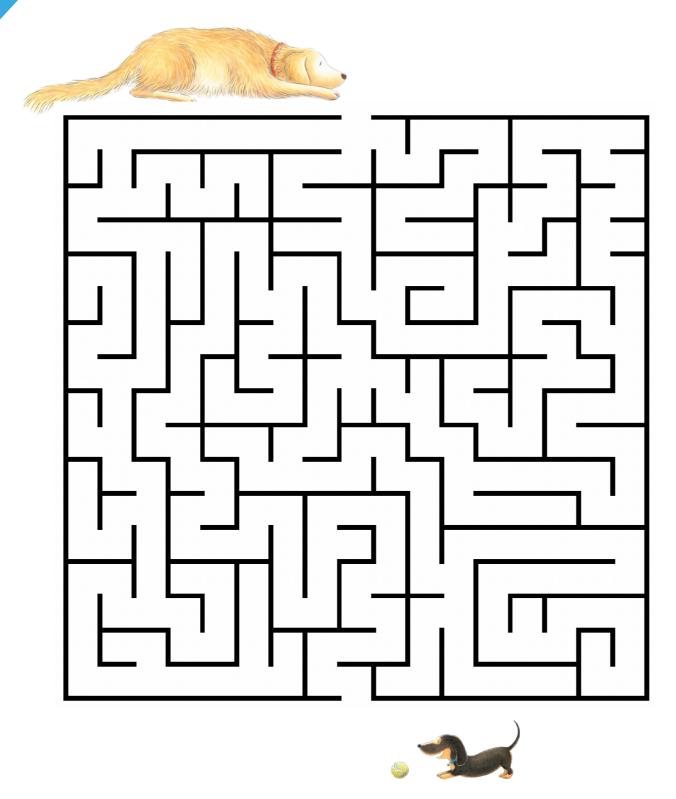
## DRAWING ACTIVITY

Draw a picture of Maverick and Lionel. What are they getting up to?



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## A-MAZE-ING LIONEL SOLUTION

