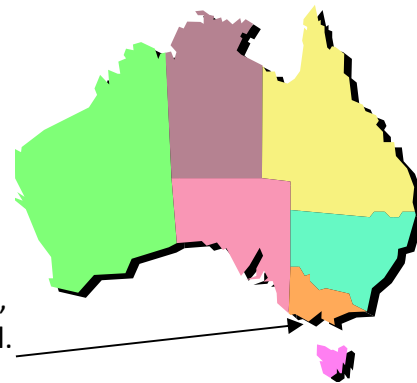


# Dogs saving penguins



Fairy Penguins



Middle Island,  
Warrnambool.

A chicken farmer called Swampy and his dog Oddball have helped to save the fairy penguins of Middle Island near Warrnambool in Victoria, Australia. Oddball is a Maremma sheepdog.



The penguins were being attacked by foxes and wild dogs. In 2006, only 10 penguins remained but Allan 'Swampy' Marsh had a plan. He has four Maremma sheepdogs to protect his chickens. Maybe a dog could also protect the penguins. His plan worked and Oddball kept the penguins and their chicks safe.

The local council was very happy and now use their own Maremma dogs to protect the penguins. Oddball has gone back home to care for the chickens. There are now over 80 adult penguins and 26 chicks.



Scientists, with the Maremma dogs, checking the penguins and their chicks on Middle Island.

Maremma dogs were first bred in Italy to care for sheep and other animals. They keep other dogs and foxes away.

As the dogs worked so well with the penguins on Middle Island, they may be used to protect other endangered species, such as other nesting water birds or even mammals such as bilbies.

# Dogs saving penguins

## Questions

1. Where is Middle Island?

.....

2. What was the problem?

.....

3. Who thought of a solution to the problem?

.....

4. Why do you think Allan Marsh was called 'Swampy'?

.....

5. What was his plan?

.....

6. How do scientists know that using Maremma dogs was a success?

.....

7. Where do Maremma sheepdogs come from?

.....

8. As Maremma dogs worked so well with the penguins, what else might they be used for?

.....

9. What does *endangered species* mean?

.....

10. Can you think of any other animals this breed of dog could guard?

.....

# Dogs saving penguins

## Crossword

1										
2										
				3						
4										
5				6						
7										

**Across**

- 2. Baby penguin
- 4. Thing that goes well
- 6. To watch over
- 7. In danger of becoming extinct

**Down**

- 1. Group of animals or plants
- 3. Flightless water bird
- 5. Italian dog breed

# Dogs saving penguins

## Wordsearch

D M A R E M M A S T  
 E A T I L E M I K N  
 C N P D D L O C W O  
 K C Z L O P I R S D  
 D E E E Y H P S N E  
 E X S U C C E S S R  
 E N D A N G E R E D  
 A Z L P E N G U I N  
 S P E C I E S E V F  
 G U A R D R O N I M

**Find the following hidden words:**

success guard chick penguin  
 endangered species maremma

## Mixed sentences

**Put these words in the correct order (and add a full stop).**

fairy penguin / an / is / The / endangered species

.....

an / The / is / Italian sheepdog / Maremma /

.....

guard / penguins / The / dogs / protect / the / and

.....

chickens / care / Oddball / of / takes / Swampy's

.....

success
guard
chick
maremma
penguin
species
endangered

# Dogs saving penguins

## Curriculum mapping

Coverage and range statements provide an indication of the type of content candidates are expected to apply in functional contexts. Relevant content can also be drawn from equivalent (school) National Curriculum levels and the Adult Literacy standards.

✓ indicates the main coverage and range skills that are (or can be) covered in this resource. However, these will vary with the student group and how the resource is used by the teacher. **Reference:** Ofqual (2009), *Functional Skills criteria for English: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, level 1 and level 2*. <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/>

### Entry Level 1 Functional Skills English

**Reading skill standard:** Read and understand short, simple texts that explain or recount information

- a) Read and understand simple regular words and sentences ✓
- b) Understand short texts on familiar topics and experiences ✓

**Writing skill standard:** Write short, simple sentences

- a) Use written words and phrases to present information ✓
- b) Construct simple sentences using full stops ✓
- c) Spell correctly some personal or very familiar words ✓

### Entry Level 2 Functional Skills English

**Reading skill standard:** Read and understand straightforward texts that explain, inform or recount information

- a) Understand the main events in chronological texts ✓
- b) Read and understand simple instructions and directions ✓
- c) Read / understand high frequency words & words with common spelling patterns ✓
- d) Use knowledge of alphabetical order to locate information

**Writing skill standard:** Write short texts with some awareness of the intended audience

- a) Use written words and phrases to record and present information ✓
- b) Construct compound sentences using common conjunctions
- c) Punctuate correctly, using upper and lower case, full stops and question marks
- d) Spell correctly all high frequency words and words with common spelling patterns ✓

### Entry Level 3 Functional Skills English

**Reading skill standard:** Read and understand the purpose and content of straightforward texts that explain, inform and recount information

- a) Understand the main points of texts ✓
- b) Obtain specific information through detailed reading ✓
- c) Use organisational features to locate information ✓
- d) Read and understand texts in different formats using strategies and techniques appropriate to task ✓

**Writing skill standard:** Write texts with some adaptation to the intended audience

- a) Plan, draft and organise writing
- b) Sequence writing logically and clearly
- c) Use basic grammar including appropriate verb-tense and subject-verb agreement
- d) Check work for accuracy, including spelling

Notes - aimed at E2-E3. E1 learners will need extra support.