



Buddy's Tail

Discussion Questions

1. Does Buddy have a right to be mad at the Swindells for the kind of care he is getting, as Javier suggests?
2. Why does MacKenzie think she has to take care of everybody and right all the wrongs in her community?
3. If your family adopts a dog and he has a bad habit like barking or jumping up on people what should you do?
4. Can you give some examples of dogs in the story who are working dogs? Name at least three.
5. Although Javier often escapes from their home, the Borregos are responsible pet owners. How do we know that from the story?
6. Leroy was abandoned in the desert, and Buddy and Skootch rescued him. What does abandoned mean?
7. When Buddy discovers Roxanne on the lot next to his new home, she is running away from her owner because he abused her. What does that mean?
8. If you find a stray dog on your street what should you do?
9. In order to turn in the evil Hummer driver, Javier has to be very brave, but he also has to overcome something. What is it?

10. When Buddy is brought back to life by Sonny, he is discovered by a workman who turns Buddy's owners in to the authorities. What are the Swindells guilty of?
11. The Hummer driver is a hit-and-run driver. What does that mean? What is a driver supposed to do if he hits a dog like Howie or MacKenzie, or a little girl like Juanita?
12. Badge is not only brave, but loyal. How do we know this from the story?
13. Badge and Javier are heroes. Why do heroes do what they do?
14. Being someone's guide is a very important role. Howie, MacKenzie, Jean and Buddy all take their assignments very seriously, and try hard to make the dogs they are bringing to Haven have a gentle transition. Think of people who have served as guides for you in your life. What made them special?
15. The first time Buddy broke the Rule of Equi did he deserve to be punished? What about the second time?
16. What is free will and why is it a good thing?
17. Buddy gets into trouble when he tries to do something good. Has this ever happened to you?
18. If you were one of Buddy's judges, what would have been your decision and why?
19. Is Haven a better heaven because of what Buddy did?
20. Why do dogs love humans? Why do we love dogs?