



Using *An Anty-War Story* by Tony Ross and *Stubby: A True Story of Friendship* by Michael Foreman as comparative texts in the classroom

Including lesson ideas for Key Stages 1 - 2

Years 1-2

- Teacher will encourage the children to compare the two stories:

What are both books about? Which book did you prefer reading? Why did you choose that story? Do you think Douglas and Stubby are both trying to 'fit in' with everyone?

As Douglas got bigger, nobody asked him to do anything at all. How do you think this made Douglas feel?

Stubby was asked to do lots of things; he helped the soldiers fight the war. How do you think this made him feel?

Do you think Douglas and Stubby would make good friends? Why do you think that?

Years 3-4

- Teacher will encourage the children to compare the two stories:

What are both books about? Which book did you prefer reading? Why did you choose that story? Do you think Douglas and Stubby are both trying to 'fit in' with everyone?

Douglas felt proud and special to be a soldier. Why do you think he felt this way? How do you think Stubby would have felt to be a soldier's dog?

- Children will write a dialogue of conversation between Douglas and Stubby discussing war and their own experiences of it.

Years 5-6

- Teacher will encourage the children to compare the two stories:

How do you think both authors portray the topic of war? Is it similar or different? Which book do you think succeeds more, in conveying life on the frontline? Why do you think that?

Both authors portray characters (Douglas and Stubby); who are seeking to belong. From your point of view, do you think the characters Douglas and Stubby succeed in their quest to 'fit in'?

- Children will choose two images (one from each story) and will compare their message in portraying the concept of war.