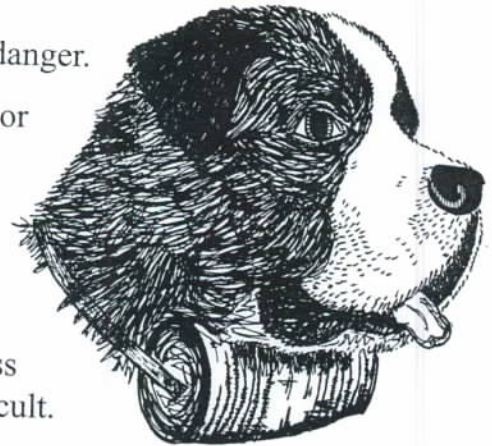


Saint Bernards

Review Key Words⁶

- rescuing** Rescuing means saving someone from danger.
- alert** Alert means to cause someone to know or be aware of something.
- avalanches** Avalanches are large amounts of ice and snow or dirt and rock that fall down the side of a mountain.
- determination** Determination is strength and willingness to finish something even when it is difficult.



Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

In the 1700s, some **monks** lived in the Alps Mountains. They kept a special kind of dog. These dogs had a great **sense of direction**. They helped the monks find people who got lost, and they **guided** travelers in the mountains. The dogs worked together and helped bring people back to safety—even during bad snowstorms. The monks lived at the Great Saint Bernard Hospice. So these dogs came to be called Saint Bernards.

These Saint Bernards were well suited to work as rescue dogs in the mountain **climate**. Their bodies were very large and strong. They could **withstand** cold weather. The dogs could travel easily in the mountains

because they were **sure-footed**. They even seemed to be able to sense when **avalanches** or snowstorms were coming.

The Saint Bernards had an excellent sense of smell too. Their sense of smell helped them find people buried in the snow. When the dogs found someone, they **provided** warmth by lying on top of the person. **Meanwhile**, one dog went back to **alert** the monks. The monks could then bring the person to safety.

Saint Bernards showed great **courage** and **determination** in **rescuing** people. They helped save thousands of lives during the 200 years they worked as rescue dogs.

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
- number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Saint Bernards

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Saint Bernards could withstand cold weather.
 - b. Saint Bernards helped monks rescue people in the mountains.
 - c. Saint Bernards lived in the mountains with monks.
2. Why could Saint Bernards find people buried in the snow?
 - a. They could sense snowstorms.
 - b. They were large and sure-footed.
 - c. They had a good sense of smell.
3. What do the words **sense of direction** mean in this story?
 - a. the ability to find one's way
 - b. the ability to pull heavy things
 - c. the ability to smell things
4. What did the Saint Bernards do that took courage and determination?
 - a. They rescued thousands of people.
 - b. They worked together.
 - c. They traveled easily in snowstorms.
5. List several ways a Saint Bernard might help you on a mountain camping trip.

6. A synonym is a word that has the same meaning as another word. Match each word with its synonym.

1. provided	a. ___ saving
2. withstand	b. ___ supplied
3. rescuing	c. ___ steady
4. sure-footed	d. ___ endure

Parent Tips

It is important that students recognize that reading fluently sounds like speaking... Although speed is important, it is equally important not to turn fluency into an exercise in which your students' goal is to read with ever increasing speed.

-- Melanie R. Kuhn and Paula J. Schwanenflugel, *Fluency in the Classroom*, p. 31