

Teacher's Notes and Ideas

Prepared by Wombat Books

Terry: Adventures of a Terek Sandpiper

By Anne Hamilton

Illustrated by Sandra Temple

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Recommended Age: Older children

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Wombat Books, PO Box 1519, Capalaba BC Qld 4157 www.wombatbooks.com.au/teachingnotes.html 07-32451938 info@wombatbooks.com.au

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Introduction

Each year hundreds of thousands of baby wader birds make a mammoth journey from breeding grounds inside the Arctic Circle to the beaches of Australia. Each year more are lost as their feeding grounds make way for factories.

Story Summary

This is the story of Terry, a Terek Sandpiper, as he flies halfway around the world when he is only a few weeks old. He has to endure harsh conditions before he makes it there ... and makes the difficult journey back again.

Key Learning Areas

English The environment Wildlife

Values Addressed/Themes

Caring for the environment The impact of development on our planet Survival in the natural world

About the Author



Anne Hamilton is the author of nine books, including the award-winning fantasy, *Many-Coloured Realm*. A former mathematics teacher, her work integrates text, art and number in an ancient technique known as 'numerical literary style'.

About the Illustrator



Sandra Temple has been a professional artist, illustrator and author for more than thirty years. She has travelled extensively with her art, gaining insights into her special interest, the world's endangered species, although she paints all subjects in all mediums.

The winner of many prestigious awards both in Australia and overseas, including UK Wildscape magazine Winner Wildlife Artist of the Year 2009 (professional), Runner-up Wildlife Artist of the Year 2008 (professional), a gold medal at the Wildlife Art Society UK exhibition in Bristol and People's Choice Awards in 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2000. Sandra has paintings in private, corporate and government collections nationally

and internationally. She holds classes in all mediums and is in demand as a workshop tutor in Australia and overseas.

More information can be found on Sandra's website <u>www.sandratemple.com</u>. For more information on purchasing artworks, body painting, murals and commissions contact Sandra via email: <u>sandratemple@hotmail.com</u>

TEREK find-a-word

Τ	E	R	E	K	S	S	E	Ι	S
U	М	0	В	С	A	S	S	М	Н
N	U	R	E	R	N	E	0	0	0
D	D	А	W	A	D	E	R	S	R
R	F	Ν	A	В	Р	D	М	Q	E
A	L	G	Т	S	Ι	S	Ι	U	В
E	А	E	E	R	Р	Ι	R	Ι	Ι
G	Т	Н	R	E	E	А	Р	Т	R
G	S	А	R	0	R	U	A	0	D
Y	E	L	L	0	W	S	E	A	S

Find the following words. They can fly in any direction: **north**, **south**, **east**, **west** or even **diagonally**.

Aurora, crabs, egg, mosquito, mudflats, orange, primrose, sandpipers, seeds, shorebirds, tereks, three, tundra, waders, water, Yellow Sea

Write down the leftover letters in order: _ _ _ _ _ _

The leftover letters tell you where tereks are born at the top of the world. Mark it on the map.

What colour are a baby terek's legs?

□ Yellow

□ Brown

□ Orange

□ Silvery-grey

What colour do a terek's legs turn near its 1st birthday?

□ Yellow

□ Brown

□ Orange

□ Silvery-grey

What colour are a terek's eggs?

□ Yellow

□ Brown

□ Orange

□ Silvery-grey



What kind of bill does a terek have?

□ upturned

 $\hfill\square$ downturned

□ straight

Where do tereks stop for food on their migration?

□ The Red Sea

□ The Yellow Sea

□ The White Sea

□ The Black Sea

What kind of birds are tereks?

□ sandpipers

□ shorebirds

□ waders

How long do tereks fly on their migration before they stop for food?

- □ 3 hours
- □ 3 days
- □ 3 weeks

□ 3 months

How many toes does a terek have on each leg?

- □ 3 □ 4
- **5**

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Cloze exercise

Choose from the list to fill the space below:

egg-tooth, factories, mosquitoes, seeds, silvery, three, wader, Yellow Sea

Baby tereks have _______ toes on each foot. They chip their way out of their ______-grey egg with their ______. They are ______ birds. The baby birds learn to fly after ______ weeks and leave on their great journey south after another ______ weeks. Many have been lost because the mudflats on the ______ have been reclaimed for ______. Tereks like to eat ______, wrigglers and ______.

Migration Map



Draw in the route from the breeding grounds to Australia.

True or false?

1.	Tereks are sandpipers.	[]
2.	Tereks have orange beaks	[]
3.	Tereks have upturned toes	[]
4.	Tereks have yellow eggs	[]
5.	Tereks have three legs	[]
6.	Tereks have three toes on each foot	[]
7.	Tereks eat mosquitoes	[]
8.	Mosquitoes eat tereks	[]
9.	Tereks build nests	[]
10.	Tereks keep the same mate for life	[]

Your own research

Make a poster about tereks \sim

Here are some title ideas to help you get started.

Tereks are terrific ...

Save the sandpipers! ...

Waders are wonderful ...

Ten tantalising terek facts ...

Location Map for Tereks in Australia and New Zealand



Each of the stars on the map above marks a spot where tereks are often found. Use Google and Google Earth to help you name the locations above:

Roebuck Bay, Eighty Mile Beach, Gulf of Carpentaria, Mackay, Great Sandy Strait, Northern Rivers, Hunter Valley, Miranda Coast.

Thinking Post

Terry was very lucky to have his dad with him on his first migration south. Most baby tereks have to go with their friends, but without their mum or dad or any other adult.

How would you feel if you had to fly around the world all by yourself with no one to tell you the way?



How many important threes are there in the life of a terek? See how many you can remember:



Write your own Terek story...

- Where did Pippa wind up when she got lost in the cyclone?
- What happened to Eric on the way to Alaska?
- How did Flip and Rikk Junior get on?

Choose a title for your story:

- Pippa's Australian Adventure
- Eric goes north to Alaska
- Flip's Travel Tips