



probe

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this Month's Letters...

THE DINGO

The Aboriginal word for the dingo is Warrigal, but it is often called the Native Dog. It is believed to have been brought to Australia by the early inhabitants many thousands of years ago and is possibly a descendant of the wolf family. Most dingoes have tawny hair, erect ears and a bushy tail. Dingoes are found all over Australia but mostly in the dry inland areas of the Australian mainland but not in Tasmania.

Thank you Marjorie
for your terrific letter

Marjorie Newman.



The dingo belongs to the family Canidae.

What other facts can you discover about the dingo?

Considered a pest, men have been paid a government bounty on every dingo they shot. Now, threatened with extinction, people are beginning to wonder whether the dingo is really an intelligent and sensitive animal capable of being domesticated and trained for man's use.

Discuss this with your friends to discover what they think about the wilful shooting of dingoes.

An Aboriginal Legend of Cape York Peninsula.

The Giant Devil-Dingo by Dick Roughsey.

Old Eelgin the grasshopper woman owned Gaiya - the giant Devil Dingo.

Gaiya had been trained to hunt and kill men for food. One day, after the Chooku-Chooku or butcher-bird brothers had visited Eelgin's camp, Gaiya followed their tracks and chased them for a long, long way.

When the brothers could run no further they decided to kill Gaiya. They hid in a big rocky pass called Bulinmore where they attacked Gaiya.

After Gaiya had been speared to death he was cut up.

Woodbarl, the medicine man, took the kidneys, head, bones and some skin. From those parts he made two small dingoes, one male and one female. He ordered them to be the friend of man and help him hunt.

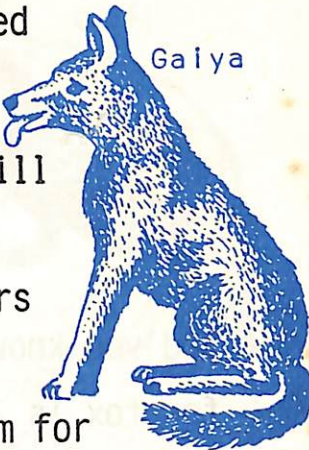
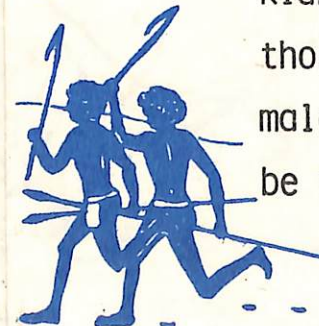
Gaiya chased the brothers.



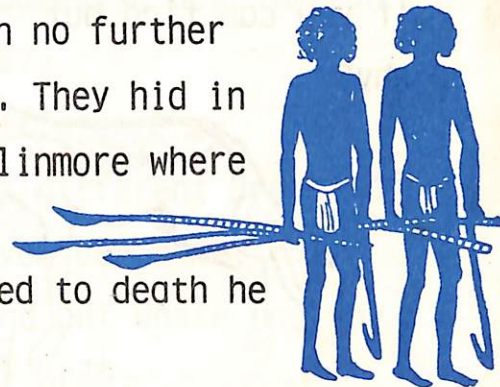
Eelgin



Woodbarl



Gaiya
Giant Devil Dingo.

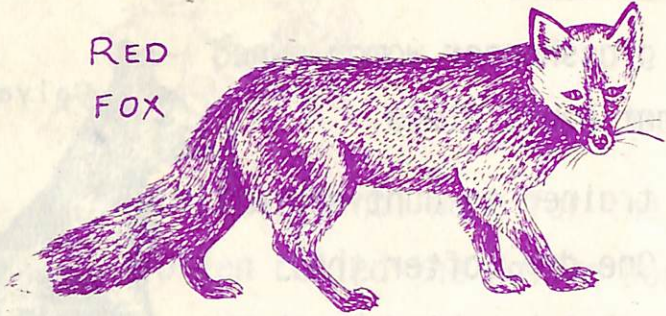


Chooku-Chooku
brothers.



Members of the Dog Family — Canidae

RED
FOX



Did you know that the Spanish word for fox is Zorro?

The Spanish Zorro is an odd brother. See if you can find out why?



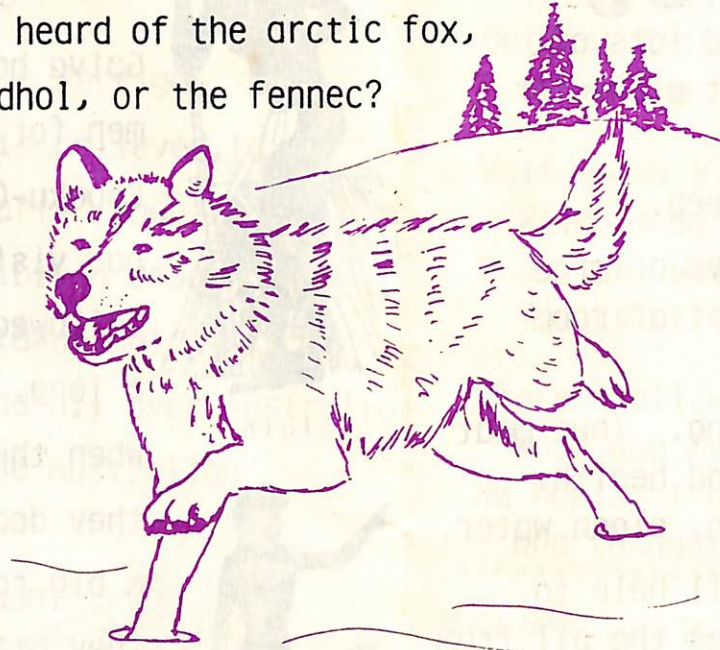
BLACK-BACKED JACKAL.

Some of these animals are nocturnal. What does that mean?

Some of these animals hunt in packs. Some hunt alone or in pairs.

These pictures show some members of the dog family.

There are other members of this family. For example, have you ever heard of the arctic fox, the dhole, or the fennec?



TIMBER WOLF or GREY WOLF.

Wolves hunt by day and lie up at night in a den.



DINGO.

In which parts of the world are you most likely to find these animals?

In what ways is the domestic dog similar to his wild relations?

In what ways is he different?

There are hundreds of different breeds of dog. See how many you can name. You might like to find out where and why these dogs were first bred.

Most dogs depend on a keen sense of smell. One group of dogs depend on a keen sense of smell. Which group is that?



COYOTE



DOMESTIC DOG

PET

PAGE



The Dog

- * Dogs suffer from loneliness and thus need lots of companionship. Your pet should not be left alone for long periods.
- * A dog needs somewhere dry and warm to sleep.
- * Exercise is important. So, unless you have a large backyard, avoid a big dog which needs a lot of room for exercise.
- * Dogs are carnivores which means meat-eating. Thus meat and bones are important for your dog's good health. Don't to forget to provide plenty of fresh, clean water.
- * Grooming. Brushing your dog every day will help to remove dirt and loose hairs. Bathing dries the oil from the skin and can be harmful if done too often.
- * Training. A disobedient dog is a nuisance and a danger, especially near a road. Patience, short, definite commands, gentle punishment for disobedience, reward for obedience are the necessary ingredients of a successful training programme.
- * Something for the 2nd week of the May holidays- at Watsonia- a course of lessons free to children with dogs by the Pet Care Information Advisory Service - contact on 63-3054.

Poet's

World

THE DINGO

Lone on the sand,
Yellow and dry,
Outcast I stand
Under the sky.

Wolf is my kind
Wild is my howl,
Moonlight will find
Tracks of the prowl.

Where shall we prowl
Wolf dog my brother,
He howls, I howl
One to another.

What does this poem tell about us
about the dingo?

What does "outcast" mean?

Do you agree that the dingo is
"tameless"?



Scent of man's gun
Poisons the plain,
Burning like sun
Stinging like pain.

Lone on the sand,
Yellow and dry,
Outcast from birth,
Tameless am I.

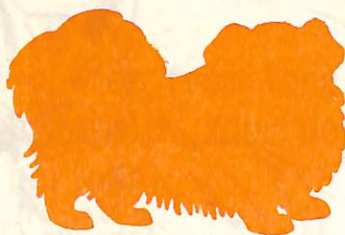
Jennifer Leech

ARTISTS FOR PROBE
W. Prohasky. S. JOWETT.

PUZZLE PAGE



Can you name each of these different breeds of dogs ?











Riddle

When is a black dog
not a black dog?

When it's a
greyhound.

Answers 'Pekingese, poodle, Welsh Corgi, Boxer, Dachshund, Terrier, Basset Hound, Cocker Spaniel.