



wild dog

**Wild Dog Books  
Teachers' Notes**

Going To The Grasslands

## Synopsis

Grasslands grow where it is too wet for a desert and too dry for a forest. Grasslands cover around a quarter of the world's land surface, and grasslands are found on every continent except Antarctica. Some of the richest areas of grasslands are those found in Africa, and there is a rich array of animals living there. Grasslands are also found in North America and in Australia and in Mongolia among other places. As grasslands are very open, many animals have evolved to run (or hop) very fast to escape predators and predators have evolved to run fast to catch them. Migration is also an important feature of grasslands. People depend on grasslands for their living as well.

## Writing style

The *Going To* series has been designed for very early readers and reluctant readers. Text is succinct and simple, with no more than a few sentences on a page. The large format images relate directly to the text, so young readers have multiple entry points to engaging with the information.

## Study notes

Students should find a map of the world and then research where grasslands can be found. What patterns can they see? Students should research grassland to see why grasslands grow in certain latitudes.

Students should make a list of all of the animals featured in *Going To The Grasslands*. Next to each animal, write one adaptation that helps the animal survive in grasslands. Students may need to research the meaning of the word 'adaptation'. They may also need to extend their research beyond the text of the book. This project can be done as a visual poster or chart, and can be displayed or discussed with the class.

Rhinoceroses are one of the animals featured in *Going To The Grasslands* that live in Africa. Students should find Africa on the map and then research where Rhinoceroses live, and mark those areas on a copy of the map. Rhinoceroses are endangered. Students should research why they are endangered and make a poster to encourage people protect and value rhinoceroses

Students should research the meaning of the following words:

- Horn
- Migration
- Herder
- Rancher

Students should choose one grassland from a country or continent, and research an animal that is found in this environment. What adaptations does this animal have that help them survive in their own grassland environment? This can be presented as a chart or visual poster.

Develop a crossword puzzle with the names of the grassland animals featured in the book. Use the facts about them as clues.

Play a game of 'celebrity head', labeling students as the grassland animals without their knowledge. They need to try and guess which animal they are by asking questions, for example, do I burrow?

Cheetahs are considered an apex predator. Students should research the meaning of the word 'apex predator.' Students should research and write a report on cheetahs.

## **Marketing and promotion**

*Going To The Grassland* is part of the *Going To* series. Other titles include *Going To The Rainforest*, *Going To The Outback*, *Going To The Ocean*, *Going To The Poles*, *Going to Antarctica* and *Going To The Desert*.