

Key vocabulary and phrases

Bugle calls – a short tune announcing an event.

Calvary mount – soldiers who fight on horse back.

Colt – young male horse.

Convoy – a group of vehicles travelling together.

Copse – small group of trees.

Guineas – old coin worth about £1.

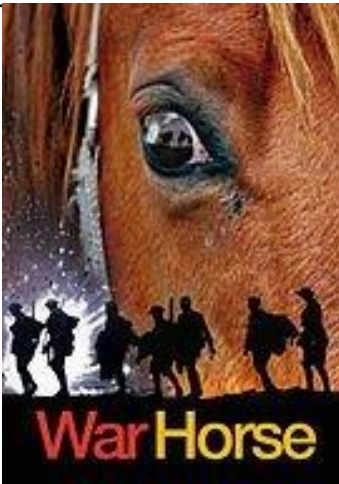
Jerry – name of the Germans in WW1.

Molly-coddled – to over protect someone.

Sentries – soldiers stationed to keep guard.

Skittish – nervous or excitable.

Trepidation – fear of something that may happen.



Year 5 & 6 Autumn 2: English Knowledge Organiser War Horse

Written by: Michale Morpurgo

Themes: Relationships, friendship, loyalty, bravery, courage.

Context

In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy, witnessing the horror of the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him.

Genre: Historical Fiction

Setting: From rural Devon to the battlefields of France.

Useful links: Find out more about World War 1. [World War One - KS2 History - BBC Bitesize](#)

Main characters

Joey - the narrator and hero of the novel. He is a beautiful red bay with a white star on his forehead and four equal-length white socks.

Albert - a gentle young man who bonds immediately with his horse, Joey. He is a hard worker and put many hours into Joey's training, placing Joey's needs squarely ahead of his own.

Zoey - a sweet older farm horse who takes Joey under her wing and helps him to learn the skills necessary for success as a farm horse.

Captain Nicholls - purchases Joey for himself from Albert's father. He captains a mounted regiment and is a strong leader; he loves his horses and protects Joey.

Tophorn - a beautiful and imposing black horse who rides alongside Joey at the front of the cavalry.

Trooper Warren - the soldier who rides Joey after Captain Nicholls.

Writing focus

Report – write a report based on the rescue of Joey.

Historical story – write a story which could fit into the story of War Horse.