



Torty and the Soldier

1. Where was the tortoise found?
2. What does 'on leave' mean?
3. Why had Stewart not seen a tortoise before?
4. Why was Stewart alarmed when he saw the French gun wagon coming?
5. What does 'it's a goner' mean?
6. Why do you think Stewart cared about finding and helping the tortoise? Do his actions give us a clue about what kind of person he might be?
7. What do you think 'the cost of war' means? How could something like that be measured?
8. Even though they wanted to help, how do you think Stewart and his brother were feeling about going to war?
9. What is a 'temporary base hospital'?
10. What does Stewart do to take care of the tortoise? What does he name it? What would you have named it? Why was it so important to Stewart to keep the tortoise alive?
11. What did it mean when Torty 'went into hibernation'? What might have happened to her if she hadn't gone into hibernation?
12. Stewart and Torty survived the war, but Torty had trouble keeping out of danger. What other things happened that she survived?
13. Research tortoises and create a fact file about them.
 - What is a tortoise?
 - How long do they live for?
 - What do they eat?
 - Where do they live?
 - How big can they get?
 - How many species of tortoise are there?
 - What are the differences between a tortoise and a turtle?