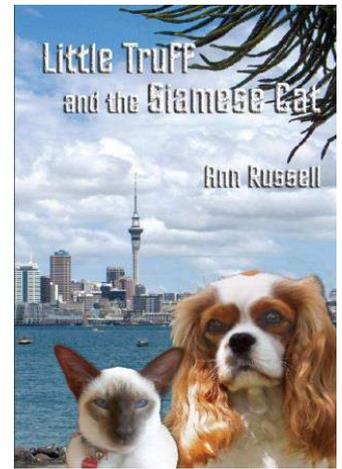


# Little Truff and the Siamese Cat

## RESEARCH PROJECT – COMMERCIAL ANIMAL CRUELTY

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The perennial favourite horse story, *Black Beauty*, by Anna Sewell, was written over 130 years ago about the life of a gentle horse who worked at pulling carriages in Victorian England. It was instrumental in abolishing the cruel practice of using the bearing rein. A strap used to keep horses' heads fashionably high, it was excruciatingly painful and damaging to a horse's neck.



*Little Truff and the Siamese Cat* by Ann Russell is also about commercial animal cruelty in the twenty-first century, namely the practice of vivisection on cats, dogs, rabbit, mice, rats and guinea pigs. The following topics make excellent research subjects: burn testing, LD50 testing, Draize testing, NOAEL testing, asbestos testing, testing for Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis. The effect of research products like eraldin, thalidomide, & the NZ government's proposed tests on party pills.

Note: Other examples of commercial animal cruelty are given below but others could be discussed and included.

### Other Examples of Commercial Animal Cruelty

Performing bears	Tigers hunting for their skin/medicine	Fur trade
Docking farm animals' tails	Ear cropping farm animals	Rodeo sports
Hunting for elephants' tusks	Hunting for gorillas' paws	Bullfighting
Battery laying hens	Dolphin & whale slaughter	Dog fighting
Greyhound racing	Crating animals for transport	Whale hunting
Siamese fighting fish	Pedigree breeding	Cock fighting
Animals in zoos	Animals in film making	Fox hunting

### The Research Project

Title: Commercial Animal Cruelty Practised on ----*your choice* -----

- Choose a topic to research or find another suitable example.
- Cross off each activity as you complete them so you'll know what you have done & yet to complete.
- Ask 5 key questions about your chosen topic.
- Research for answers and keep a bibliography of the sources you've used eg. book, website, video
- Copy a picture of the animal you're studying.
- Present all the information you have gathered on an A3 blank page in an imaginative way.
- This must include a border, a title, a picture, the questions you asked with the answers you found underneath, and a bibliography.
- Include a couple of thoughtful sentences about your findings under the heading, *My Opinion*.
- In schools, this research project is often used as the basis for an oral presentation to the class.

**Bibliography:** research showing the use of a variety of sources - books, encyclopaedias, magazines, computer, interviews, letters/emails

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