# Michael Morpurgo

- 6 Award-winning children's author, Sir Michael Morpurgo,
- 16 was born in St Albans, Hertfordshire on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1943.
- 26 As a child, Michael and his brother Pieter were evacuated
- 35 from their homes to live in Northumberland. Michael later
- 44 attended boarding school before joining the army and then
- 55 embarking on a career in teaching. It was during this time
- 66 that Michael began writing books; he has gone on to pen
- over 120 children's books, many of which include animals
- 78 as pivotal characters.
- 87 As well as writing children's books, Michael has also
- 94 penned screenplays and libretti (texts of operas).

#### Did You Know...?

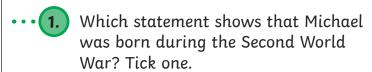
106 In 1976, Michael and his wife founded the charity

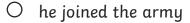
Farms for City Children; the charity's farms offer

opportunities for city children to acquire new skills

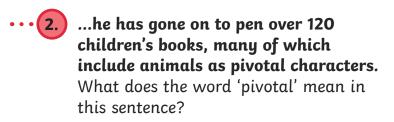
and develop their self-esteem.

### **Quick Questions**





- O he founded a charity
- O he attended boarding school
- O he was evacuated from his home







- Why do you think that the farms that Michael and his wife founded are aimed at city children?
- How does Michael remind you of someone else that you know or have heard about? Explain your answer.



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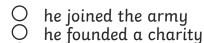
In 1976, Michael and his wife founded the charity Farms for City Children; the charity's farms offer

opportunities for city children to acquire new skills

and develop their self-esteem.

### **Answers**

Which statement shows that Michael was born during the Second World War? Tick one.



o he attended boarding school

he was evacuated from his home

...he has gone on to pen over 120 children's books, many of which include animals as pivotal characters. What does the word 'pivotal' mean in this sentence?

> Pupils' own responses, such as: The word 'pivotal' means that the animal characters played roles that were important to the story.

Why do you think that the farms that Michael and his wife founded are aimed at city children?

> Pupils' own responses, such as: I think this is because city children may not have experienced farming life so would benefit from enjoying the space in the countryside and the rural experience.

How does Michael remind you of someone else that you know or have heard about? Explain your answer.

> Accept any reasonable answer, such as: Michael reminds me of E. B. White because he wrote books that involved animals, such as 'Charlotte's Web'.



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