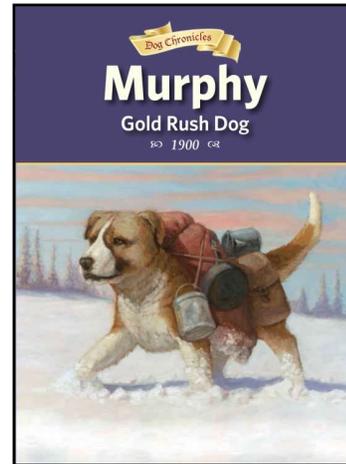


MURPHY, GOLD RUSH DOG	
Author / Illustrator:	ISBN – 13:
Alison Hart / Michael Montgomery	PB: 9781682630396
Retail Price:	Pub Date:
PB: \$7.95	04/18
BISAC Codes:	
JUV016150 JUVENILE FICTION / Historical / United States / 20th Century JUV001010 JUVENILE FICTION / Action & Adventure / Survival Stories JUV002070 JUVENILE FICTION / Animals / Dogs	
Category / Format / illustrations:	Trim size:
Illustrated Fiction	PB: 5½ x 7½
Page count:	Age Range / Grade Range:
160 pages (20 black & white illustrations)	Ages 7-10 / 2-4
Territory:	Rights:
world	All rights available



Sales Handle:

Murphy wants to help Sally and Mama build a new life in Nome, but life in the mining town is not easy. Can the three of them find a home—and maybe a fortune?

Description:

Murphy escapes a grueling life as part of a dogsled team, mercilessly driven so that their cruel owner can reach Nome before the Bering Sea thaws and word gets out to the mainland that gold has been discovered. When the first ships arrive, Murphy is taken in by two recent arrivals: Sally and her mother, who hope to make their fortune providing secretarial labor, so that they can buy their own stake, free from their wealthy but oppressive family back home in Seattle.

Sales Points:

- Action-packed story about a working dog assisting a mother and daughter in Alaska during the Gold Rush
- Perfect for readers who love dogs and history
- Fascinating details about life during the Alaskan Gold Rush
- Back matter includes information about the Alaskan Gold Rush
- The second book in a terrific new series about dogs in history, now available in paperback

Author Bio and Residence:

A former teacher, Alison Hart is the author of more than sixty books for young readers.
Author Residence: Mount Sidney, VA

Illustrator Bio and Residence:

Michael G. Montgomery has illustrated numerous children's books. He attended Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia.
Illustrator Residence: Dacula, GA

Comparison Titles:

Title	ISBN	Publisher	Pub date	Price
Bo at Ballard Creek	9780805093513	Henry Holt	3/1/2013	\$15.99
The Gold Rush Kid	9780618977307	Houghton Mifflin	6/1/2008	\$16.00
Sailing for Gold	9780689860317	Aladdin	3/1/2003	\$3.99

Author's previous books:

Title	ISBN	Publisher	Pub date	Price
Darling Mercy Dog	9781561457052	Peachtree	10/1/2013	\$12.95
Murphy Gold Rush Dog	9781561457694	Peachtree	10/1/2014	\$12.95
Darling, Mercy Dog	9781561459810	Peachtree	4/1/2017	\$7.95

Marketing and Publicity:

- Feature at trade shows: ALA etc.
- Discussion guide
- Featured title on website and Dog Chronicles page
- Feature on blog and in e-newsletter
- Advertising campaign

Preview links:

<http://peachtree-online.com/staff/seasonal/pdfs/MurphyGoldRushDog.pdf>


PEACHTREE
PUBLISHERS

Dog Chronicles

Murphy

Gold Rush Dog

1900



Murphy, Gold Rush Dog

Written by Alison Hart / Illustrated by Michael G. Montgomery

PB: \$7.95 / 9781682630396

Illustrated fiction

Territory: World

Gold strikes in Alaska brought miners, prospectors, and opportunists who used dogs for hauling supplies and mail, transportation, companionship, and protection. In 1900, at the beginning of the Nome, Alaska gold rush, Murphy is harnessed in a team traveling down the frozen Yukon River. Murphy's master, Carlick, relentlessly forces his sled driver to whip the dogs to go faster, so they can get to Nome before the Bering Sea thaws and word of the discovery reaches mainland.

Murphy was bought for his power and his speed, but the fast trip in March is exhausting and hurting him. When they arrive in Nome, Murphy is fed a meager meal and is staked outside in a storm. Murphy chews through the rope with two thoughts on his mind: surviving in this bleak environment and finding a master who loves him. Curled up in a sheltered spot on the beach, and as the wind howls, he falls into a restless sleep. The next morning the beach is quickly filling with prospectors from other gold towns who have heard of the new strike.

Over the next two weeks, Murphy barely survives in the lawless town of treasure hunters, drunks, and thieves. Weak from exposure and hunger, he narrowly escapes being recaptured by Carlick. Eventually a steamboat's whistle alerts them that the first steamboat of the year has made it through the ice-filled waters of the Bering Sea, arriving with fresh supplies and the first wave of gold hunters from Seattle.

Murphy knows he must find a true master, or he will not survive much longer. He makes his way to the beach as The *Tacoma* drops anchor miles off the coast and barges ferry the passengers to shore. He's about to give up when he hears excited chattering. A girl is being carried to shore on the shoulders of a man, as another man ferries a woman. Murphy hears weariness and love in the woman's voice.

Murphy is loved and cared for, but life in the mining town is not easy. Mama and Sally live in a canvas tent on the beach with the thousands of other arrivals who are hoping to get rich. Mama uses her writing and typing skills to find a day job in the recorder's office noting descriptions of miner's claims to be filed. At night, she types letters for the homesick prospectors. With Murphy by her side, Sally watches the miners on the beach hunt for gold and she helps her mother and earns extra money by delivering the letters to the post office. Everything she learns fuels her dreams of staying over the long winter.

When Mama begins to doubt that they have a future in Nome, Sally becomes determined to find her own claim so that they can make a permanent home in Alaska. She and Murphy head up the Snake River, where she is sure they will find gold. They find enough nuggets to buy Mama a real home, but they also encounter a blizzard... and Carlick.

Sally's grandfather, who is a judge, and Deputy Marshall arrive, and Carlick is apprehended, along with the gold. Sally's grandfather offers to buy a home in Nome and makes Sally Murphy's official, permanent owner.