



## Hunter Dan - a Unique Teaching Resource

First there were Barbie and Ken, then G.I. Joe. Now there is Hunter Dan. This 8" action figure has tremendous possibilities as a hunter education teaching resource. There are five models—Rifle Hunter, Bow Hunter, Turkey Hunter, Duck Hunter and Goose Hunter. The figures can be manipulated at the wrist, elbows, shoulders, waist, hips, knees, thighs, and ankles to create a variety of positions great for demonstrating proper carry positions for firearms, zones of fire, crossing obstacles, and proper shooting positions.

Rifle Hunter comes with hunter orange vest and cap, tree stand, full-body harness and binoculars, and a scoped rifle with sling. Turkey Hunter comes in Mossy Oak camo with a shotgun, binoculars, box call, three turkey decoys and a decoy bag. Bow Hunter is also dressed in Mossy Oak camo but carries a compound bow with arrows, and includes a treestand, and binoculars. Duck Hunter wears Mossy Oak waders and hat, carries a shotgun and duck call, and includes 4 decoys. Last but not least, Goose Hunter

wears a white-hided jacket and pants, and carries a shot gun and a goose call. Accessories include a Labrador retriever, retriever with mallard, a 5-point (western count) buck, and a boss turkey. There is no end to teaching possibilities. Everyone we showed the figures to found something different they could do with them to illustrate hunter education principles—that is if you can quit playing with them long enough!



Hunter Dan is offering all Hunter Dan products at wholesale price to Hunter Education Instructors and staff. Contact the company by calling 1-888-241-4868, or sending a fax to 1-765-361-2604. As with all discount purchase opportunities, to be eligible you must provide your instructor ID number or a current copy of your instructor card.

**Order Information:** Hunter Dan Products may be viewed on their web site [www.hunterdan.com](http://www.hunterdan.com).

## Pre-openers

Do you ever have classes where a number of students arrive early and start peppering you with questions as you are trying to set up to the evening's lesson? Some say to keep the doors locked until class is ready to begin. You can't very well do that when it is J30 below outside, raining cats and dogs, or the neighborhood is simply not safe for students to hang around in the dark. Regardless, locking the students out does not send a very good message of welcome.

So how do you keep early arrivals occupied until you are ready? Most educators will use "pre-openers." A pre-opener consist of a variety of activities related to the lesson topic that can occupy the student's time constructively while they are waiting for class to begin. One type of pre-opener is the worksheet. The objective is to keep students occupied while you go about class preparations, and worksheets can help meet that objective. The sheets can be placed on the desks in advance or placed in a location near the entrance so students may pick them up as they enter.

Consider these examples of pre-opener worksheets:

• **Self-Evaluation Worksheet** — This activity allows a student to assess how much she/he knows about a given topic or areas of knowledge in which they are weak or strong. There are generally

'Yes/No' questions. For example, the evening topic may be on hunter ethics. The work sheet could consist of questions focusing on personal behavior such as, 'Do I pick up trash in the field even if it is not mine?', 'Do I close all gates behind me that I open?', 'Do I respect the landowners property?' and so forth.

• **Matching Worksheet** — If the upcoming lesson is on the parts of a firearm, the worksheet could consist of a traced or photocopied drawing of a rifle or shotgun with names of component parts in a column under the drawing. Students would be instructed to draw a line from the component name to the appropriate component part on the illustration. This activity is readily applicable to parts of a rifle or shotgun, long gun actions, ammunition components, and wildlife identification.

• **Fill-in-the-Blanks-Worksheet** — Simply provide sentences with some words missing and ask the students to fill in the correct words. For example, the Ten Commandments (Twelve for Canada) are written out as follows: 1. Always keep the \_\_\_\_\_ pointed in a \_\_\_\_\_ direction. 2. Treat every \_\_\_\_\_ as if it were \_\_\_\_\_. And so on.

• **Word Scramble Worksheet** — Scramble the letters in appropriate vocabulary words such as these conservation terms: 1. bathait (Habitat);

2. odfo (Food); 2. tewar (Water); 3.vceor (Cover); 3. secap (Space).

• **Computer-generated Word-Finds and Crossword Puzzles** — There are a number of inexpensive and simple computer programs that allow you to create puzzles such as word-finds and crossword. Word-finds are a series of letters running vertically, horizontally and crisscross with words hidden in them. Type in the words you want to use and the program will scramble and hide them in the mass of letters. Crossword puzzles are just like those you see in the daily paper, only you can create your own by developing a clue for each word and entering both when prompted. Just enter the data and the program does the rest.

Pre-openers do not have to tie in directly with the lesson. They can also be used to help the students get to know each other. For example, for a new course prepare a sheet of 12 or so questions which students must ask other students. Examples are: 'Find someone who has hunted squirrel'; 'Find someone who prefers to hunt waterfowl'; or even, 'Find the individual who traveled the greatest distance to attend this course.' The responding student then initials the statement.

Check out the IHEA Web Site at [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com) under the instructor site to download some pre-opener activities.