Don’t Stay Under The Couch!
Starbuck and the Bully

Kevin Honeycutt
Starbuck was living in a house with lots of other dogs.
He was an “under the couch” dog.
Why?
There were many nice dogs where Starbuck lived.
...but one dog, Hector, was a bully
Starbuck tried to be brave but Hector picked on him every day.
And Hector had something that Starbuck didn’t have...
Hector had henchmen!
Some dogs wanted to help.
But they were afraid
Why?
They were afraid Hector would be mean to them next!
Starbuck was sad and he wasn’t learning tricks like the other dogs.
Why?
In Starbuck’s brain...

This outer part is the part he learns with.
In Starbuck’s brain...

This little area is the part he uses when he’s scared.
In Starbuck’s brain...

When this part is working, the learning part doesn’t!
Can Starbuck learn when he’s scared?
So what is Hector stealing from Starbuck every time he bullies him?
His chance to learn!
Every night Hector went home and had a normal evening.
Every night Starbuck went home and thought about what Hector and his henchmen did and what they would do next.
In his mind, Hector was so big!
The truth is, Starbuck is just as big as Hector!
But he felt very small!
Why?
When you get picked on every day, it’s hard to feel good about yourself.
While all the other dogs were warm and cozy on top of the couch.....
Starbuck was cold and alone “under” the couch.
Would you do that to Starbuck?
What if he wasn’t so Cute?

Soft?
Cuddly?
Sweet?

What if he smelled like feet?
One day a man named Kevin came to take Starbuck away.
And even though he was safe from bullies like Hector at his house...
...he still stayed under the couch for a long time.
Why?
Starbuck was hurt in a place where you can’t put a bandaid...in his heart.

How long will it take that hurt to heal?
Can kids be mean like Hector and his henchmen?
Who do you want to be?
Will you be one of Hector’s henchmen?
Or will you be a H.E.R.O.?
You don’t have to be BIG.
Starbuck’s four secrets to stopping bullying...
Starbuck’s four secrets to stopping bullying...

H

Help rescue the victim
Starbuck’s four secrets to stopping bullying...

H
Help rescue the victim

E
Educate others

4
Starbuck’s four secrets to stopping bullying...

H Help rescue the victim
E Educate others
R Report it to an adult

4
Starbuck’s four secrets to stopping bullying...

- **H**elp rescue the victim
- **E**ducate others
- **R**eport it to an adult
- **O**ffer friendship

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Starbuck doesn’t want any kid to stay under the couch!
The End