

# Man's Best Friend



## Reading

A long time ago, in a small house in Scotland, two friends lived together. Their names were John and Bobby.

John and Bobby were not rich, but they were happy. They had a warm fire when it was cold outside. They had good food to eat when they were hungry. They were never lonely because they had each other.

John and Bobby liked to take long walks together. After their walk, John usually cooked dinner. John and Bobby ate dinner and then sat in front of the fire. They had a simple but good life.

Then, in the spring of 1858, John got sick and died. He was buried in a cemetery in Edinburgh, Scotland. After John was buried, Bobby stood at John's grave and cried. "Come on, Bobby," friends said. "It's time to go home." Bobby went home, but later he returned to the cemetery. He sat down near John's grave. He stayed there all night.

Bobby stayed at the cemetery the next day, and the next day, and the next. For the next 14 years, Bobby never left the cemetery. When the weather was cold or rainy, he slept in a small house at the cemetery. When the weather was warm, he slept on the ground near John's grave.

Finally, in 1872, Bobby died, too. Friends buried him in a little grave near John. Why was Bobby's grave little? Bobby, John's best friend, was a dog.

Source: True Stories in the News

## Vocabulary Practice

hungry  
lonely  
dinner  
front  
buried  
cemetery  
grave

## Comprehension Check

1. What are the names of the two friends who lived together?
2. Where did they live?
3. What happened to John in 1858?
4. What did Bobby do after John died?
5. For how many years did Bobby stay at the cemetery?