

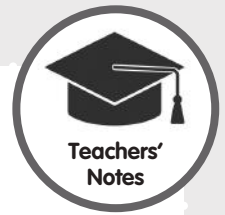


Duration: 30 minutes

A man's best friend

English

Years 4-6



Objectives:

- To write a persuasive piece of writing to say why a dog should be saved.
- To explore the use of adjectives.

Curriculum links:

ENGLISH: Spoken language years 1-6/Writing – composition

Resources:

- Bobby image for displaying on whiteboard
- A Man's Best Friend story handout
- Writing frames

Starter activity:

- Display the image of Bobby on the whiteboard.
- Read the A Man's Best Friend extract about Bobby to the class.
- Discuss the extract:
 - How did it make you feel?
 - Do you think that Bobby was treated fairly?

Main activity:

- Form students into pairs. Supply each pair with a copy of the A Man's Best Friend story on the hand-out and a set of large sticky notes.
- Ask pairs to write down adjectives on the sticky notes to describe Bobby and then to stick them next to, or around, the image of 'Bobby' on the whiteboard.
- When they have done this, write a summary list down one side of the board next to the collection of students' sticky notes.
- Discuss with the class how each of the adjectives apply to Bobby.



Animalkind Lesson Plan 17

- Examples might include:
 - devoted
 - friendly
 - obedient
 - loyal
 - loving
 - patient
 - playful
 - kind
 - enthusiastic
- Explain that when there was no one to pay Bobby's tax, the city judges had to decide whether Bobby would have to be put to sleep.
- Ask pairs, or small groups, of students to mind-map the reasons why Bobby should be allowed to live.
- Model the beginning of a piece of persuasive writing to say why Bobby should be allowed to live. Children then continue working to complete their letter.

Differentiation:

- HA use writing frame 1 working independently.
- MA use writing frame 2 working in pairs.
- LA use writing frame 3 working in a separate group with TA or CT.

Plenary:

- Read the shared writing to the class and one or two HA could read their favourite part of their writing to class.

Resources available on the Animalkind website

- **Image of Bobby** (for displaying on whiteboard)
- **A Man's Best Friend story** (one copy per pair/group)
- **Writing frame (three levels)** (one copy per student/pair)





Image of Bobby





A Man's Best Friend story



A Man's Best Friend

More than 100 years ago, a stray puppy named Bobby adopted an elderly Scottish shepherd, known to his friends as Auld Jock. The two of them went everywhere together and became the best of friends.

Sadly, when Bobby was just two years old, Auld Jock died, and for the next 14 years, the faithful, loving dog guarded his friend's grave.

Just once a day he would leave and find his way to Traill's restaurant where the kind owner fed him, but Bobby would never stay there. Instead he always took the food back to the cemetery. Sometimes local children came to see Bobby and they would play happily among the gravestones until it was time to go home and Bobby would return to Auld Jock's last resting place.

Little did Bobby know that his own life was under threat. In Victorian times, people who owned dogs had to pay a special tax or their dogs would be put to sleep. There was no one to pay Bobby's tax, and it was up to judges to decide what would happen to the little dog.

But when Bobby's tale was told in court, the judges were so impressed by his loyalty to Auld Jack that they decided that Bobby must live. Local people got together and paid the tax and even built a shelter at the graveside so that Bobby could keep warm through the cold Scottish winter. When he died of old age, Bobby was buried beside his beloved friend so the two of them could be together for ever.



Writing frame level 1

Writing frame 1



Date

L:O. To write a piece of persuasive writing to say why a dog should be saved.

Dear Judges,

I am writing to ask:

.....
.....

I know some people may argue that:

.....
.....

However:

.....
.....

I do hope that:

.....
.....

Yours sincerely,

.....



Writing frame level 2 (p1)

Writing frame 2



Date

L:O. To write a piece of persuasive writing to say why a dog should be saved.

Dear Judges,

I am writing to ask:

.....
.....
.....

This is because:

.....
.....
.....
.....

I know some people may argue that:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Writing frame level 2 (p2)

However:

.....

.....

I do hope that:

.....

.....

.....

Yours sincerely,

.....





Writing frame level 3 (p1)

Writing frame 3



Date

L:O. To write a piece of persuasive writing to say why a dog should be saved.

Dear Judges,

I am writing to ask:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Firstly, this is because:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Also:

.....
.....
.....
.....



Writing frame level 3 (p2)

I know some people may argue that:

.....

.....

.....

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However:

.....

.....

.....

.....

I do hope that:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Yours sincerely,

.....

