

How Dogs Became Our Best Friends

VOCABULARY

- ***Intertwined** – two or more things are closely connected with each other in many ways
- ***A Bone of Contention** – a subject or issue over which there is continuing disagreement
- ***Canid** – any animal of the dog family
- ***Scrounge** – to obtain or seek to obtain without cost or by begging
- ***Scraps** – pieces of discarded food
- ***Compadre** – a male friend

COMPREHENSION

1. About how many dogs are there on Earth today?
2. How long have humans had relationships with dogs?
3. Where are modern dogs (*Canis lupus*) descended from?
4. Is it more likely that humans domesticated dogs or that dogs domesticated humans?
5. What does the DNA from ancient dog fossils suggest about when and where the domestication split occurred?

LET'S TALK

1. Do you have a dog/dogs? And what breed of dog do you have?
2. What other examples of animal domestication can you think of?
3. Is domestication more beneficial to humans or the animal?