The Boy and the Big Hill

LITTLE READERS



Ben stands at the bottom
of a big green hill.
His puppy is beside him.



A little path winds
all the way up the hill.
Ben looks toward the top.



“That hill is very big,”
Ben says. The puppy
wags his tail.



“Let us take our time,”
Ben tells him. Together,
they take the first step.



Ben walks slowly
up the little path.
The puppy follows him.



Soon the path grows steep.
Ben takes another step,
then stops.



“I feel tired,”
Ben says. He sees a bench
beside the path.



Ben sits on the bench.

The puppy sits beside him.

They take a little rest.



Ben takes a drink
from his water bottle.
The water is cool.



He pours some water
for his puppy, too.
The puppy drinks it up.



Ben looks at the top.

It still looks far away.

He takes a deep breath.



"We can try again,"
he says. The puppy
gets up with him.



Ben takes small steps.

One step, then another.

The puppy walks close by.



They pass yellow flowers
growing by the path.
Ben stops to look.



A little bee visits
one of the flowers.
Ben watches it fly away.



“There is so much to see,”
he says. Then he and
the puppy walk on.



Soon the path divides
into two little paths.
Ben stops at a sign.



He looks at the arrows.
One path goes up the hill.
The other goes down.



"We want to go up,"
Ben says. He chooses
the path to the top.



The puppy follows him.
They stay together
on the little path.



A small stream runs
across the path.
Ben hears the water.



He sees stepping stones
set in the stream.
They make a little bridge.



Ben steps carefully
from stone to stone.
The puppy follows him.



Soon they are both
across the little stream.
“We did it!” says Ben.



They reach a shady tree.
Ben sits beneath it
and gives the puppy water.



The cool shade feels nice.
Ben looks back
at the path below.



“We have come a long way,”
he tells the puppy.
The puppy wags his tail.



After their rest,
Ben stands up again.
“Are you ready?” he asks.



The top of the hill
is much closer now.
Ben smiles.



He takes one small step,
and then another.
The puppy walks beside him.



“Come on, little friend,”
Ben says. Together,
they climb the last part.



At last, Ben reaches
the top of the hill.
The puppy is there, too!



Ben looks around.
He sees trees and fields
far below.



“Look how far we came!”
he says. The puppy
gives a happy wag.



Ben sits in the grass.
He watches a cloud
move across the sky.



The breeze feels cool.
Ben is glad he took
his time on the hill.



Soon it is time to go home.
Ben and his puppy
walk down the safe path.



Ben turns and waves.

"Goodbye, big hill!"

he says.



At home, Ben tells Mom
about the flowers, the stream,
and the view from the top.



"I took small steps,"
Ben says with a smile.
"And I made it!"



Where does Ben want to go? Who goes with him?



What does Ben do
when he feels tired?
Why does he rest?



What does Ben see
beside the path?
Name two things.



How does Ben choose
which path to take?
Look at the picture.



How do Ben and his puppy
get across the stream?
Tell a friend.



What can Ben see
from the top of the hill?
How does he feel?



Why are small steps
helpful for Ben?
What would you say to him?



What happens first, next,

and at the end?

Tell the story in order.



The End

