

Why Dogs Chase Cats

Story Origin: African-American

Dog and Cat used to live right next door to each other. They were very good friends. Their favourite thing was to eat and their favorite food was ham. They both loved ham. Whenever they had any extra money, they'd both buy a slice of ham.

One day Dog said, "Cat, we've both got a bit of money, but not enough to buy a whole ham. If we put out money together, we could get a nice, big, juicy ham to share." Cat liked this idea, so they set off to town at once. They bought a huge ham. It was so heavy they had to take turns carrying it home.

As Dog carried the meat, he sang, "Our ham, our ham, our ham."

Then it was Cat's turn. When she smelled the delicious ham, she thought, "I sure would like to eat the whole ham all by myself." So without thinking, she sang, "My ham, my ham, my ham."

Dog was suspicious about Cat's song, but he didn't say anything. When he carried it again, he sang, "Our ham, our ham our ham."

As they got near their homes, Cat was carrying the ham, singing, "My ham, my ham, my ham." Suddenly, she sprang up a tree and began to gobble down the ham.

Since Dog couldn't climb the tree, all he could do was sit there and watch Cat stuff down the whole ham. Dog got madder and madder. He barked louder and louder. When Cat finished, she just smacked her lips and rubbed her stomach.

Dog yelled up at her, "Cat when you get hungry again and come down for your supper, I'm gonna eat you for my supper!"

Cat finally did get hungry. And ever since she came down from the tree, Dog's been chasing her. He still hasn't forgiven her for eating the whole ham.