

# The mouse-man who made famous furniture

Do you know what a furniture maker does? (Yes, they...)

## Vocabulary

1. collect      2. details      3. well-made      4. oak      5. furniture      6. hidden

## True Story

Robert Thompson, also known as the Mouseman of Kilburn, was a \_\_\_\_\_ maker from England. He was born in 1876 and started a furniture-making business that became famous for its unique style. Thompson's furniture was made of \_\_\_\_\_ and had small hand-carved \_\_\_\_\_, including a mouse on each piece. The mouse was \_\_\_\_\_ in different places, like chair arms or table legs.

People liked Thompson's furniture because it was strong and \_\_\_\_\_. Thompson died in 1955, but his family still runs the business. Today, people \_\_\_\_\_ Thompson's furniture because it is special and has a mouse on it. The mouse has become a symbol of Thompson's work and is famous all over the world.

## Quiz

1. Who was Robert Thompson?
2. What was unique about Thompson's furniture?
3. Why did people like Thompson's furniture?
4. What is the mouse a symbol of?

## True or False

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Thompson's furniture was made of pine.                          | True   False |
| 2. Thompson's family still runs the business.                      | True   False |
| 3. The mouse on Thompson's furniture was always in the same place. | True   False |

## Conversation

- A: Wow, this furniture is beautiful! Who made it?  
B: That's the work of Robert Thompson, the Mouseman of Kilburn.  
A: Why is he called the Mouseman?  
B: He put a small mouse on every piece of furniture he made.  
A: Really? Where is it? (*looks carefully*) Aha! I found it!

## Discussion

1. Do you have any furniture that is special to you? Why is it special?
2. Have you ever collected anything? What did you collect and why?
3. Do you make anything? What personal touch do you add to your work?
4. If you could make something that people would collect, what would it be and why?