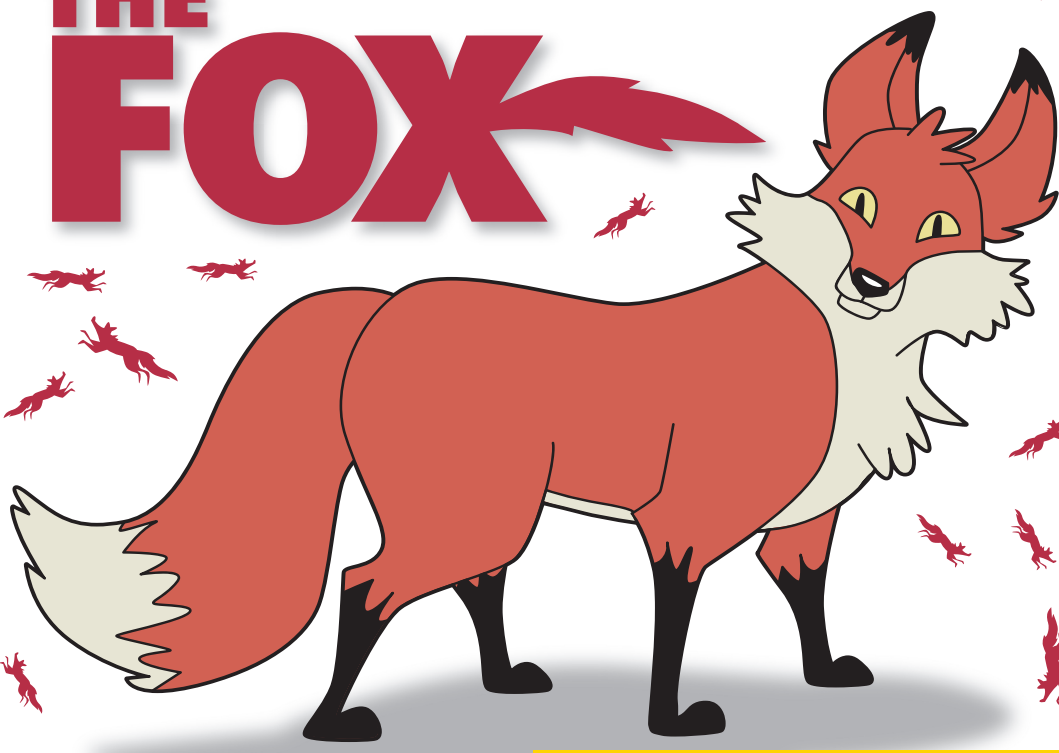


THE FOX



Is it a dog or a cat?

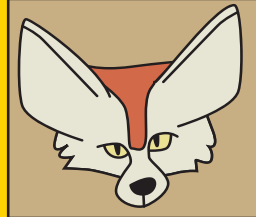
Look at the fox. Do you think it is part of the dog family or the cat family? Write your guess here.

How does the fox look like a cat?

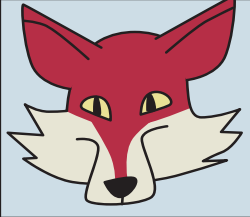
How does it look like a dog?

Where do foxes live?

Foxes are found all over the world except in Antarctica. Even in deserts and in the Arctic! They also adapt well to human environments such as farms, suburban areas, and even large communities.



The **fennec fox** is the smallest of the foxes. It has enormous ears, measuring 6 inches (15 cm). They live in desert zones of North Africa and the Sinai and Arabian peninsulas.



The **red fox** can be found in North and Central America, Northern Africa, Asia and Australia. It is at home in the wild and in urban areas.



The **Arctic fox** is found in Canada, Alaska, Russia, Greenland, and Scandinavia. The Arctic fox is the only native land mammal found in Iceland.



Gray foxes live in forests and woodland areas of North and Central America. Gray foxes are the only members of the dog family that can climb trees.

How many foxes?

Add up the numbers next to the foxes that look exactly alike to discover how many different kind of foxes there are in the world.



ANSWER:

A Fox by Another Name

Do the math to fill in the blanks.

A female fox is called a _____ (5 + 5 + 5)

A male fox is called a _____ (7 + 6 + 5)

A fox's home is called a _____ (8 + 6 + 5)

A baby fox is called a _____ (7 + 7) or a _____ (12 + 8)

A group of foxes is called a _____ (11 + 6)

- 15 = VIXEN
- 19 = DEN
- 20 = KIT
- 18 = DOG
- 17 = SKULK
- 14 = CUB

Amazing Hearing

A fox can hear a mouse squeak 300 feet away. That's as far as a football field!

Extra! Extra! Fox's Good Life

Look through the newspaper for pictures and words that would make a fox's life a good life. Make a collage with your selections.

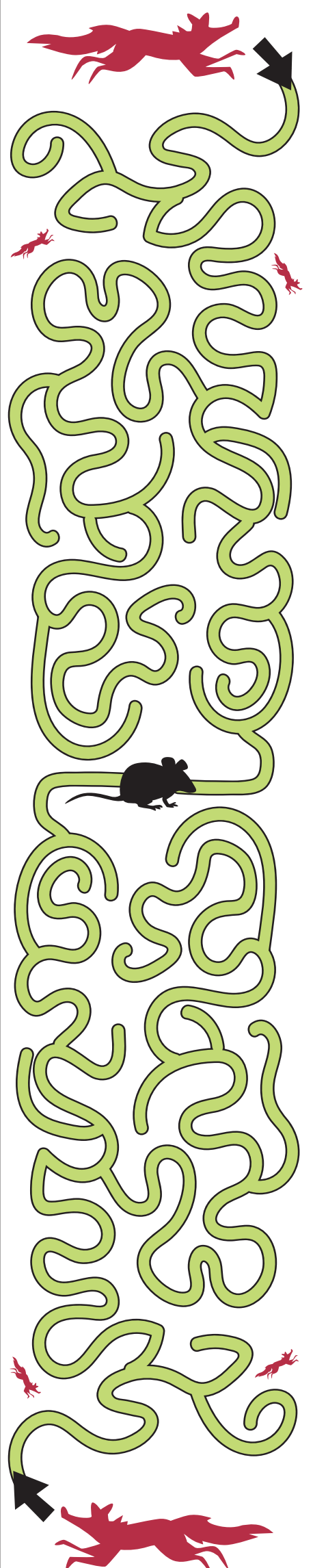
Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Clever as a Fox

Foxes are very smart and crafty in finding food, surviving in extreme weather, outsmarting predators, protecting their young and more. They're smarter than most, but not all, dog breeds. **How many foxes can you find on this page?**

Member of the Dog Family

While a fox is a member of the dog family, it has some traits that are very cat-like. Foxes are **nocturnal** (active at night). Fox eyes are like a cat with vertical pupils that allow it to see in dim light. And like the cat, the fox has sensitive whiskers and spines on its tongue. It has retractable claws, just like a cat. It walks on its toes in a graceful, cat-like tread. The gray fox can climb trees and has, on occasion, taken naps in owl and hawk nests!



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What do foxes eat? Circle all the things you think a fox eats as part of its natural diet.



ANSWER: If you circled all of these things, you are right! The fox eats a wide variety of foods. It is an omnivore and its diet includes fruits, berries and grasses. It also eats birds and small mammals like squirrels, rabbits and mice. A large part of the fox's diet is made up of invertebrates like crickets, caterpillars, grasshoppers, beetles and crayfish.

Double Double Word Search

- PREDATORS
- SURVIVING
- FENNEC
- ARCTIC
- TRAITS
- SPINES
- NATIVE
- ACTIVE
- ADAPT
- CLIMB
- URBAN
- FOXES
- GRAY
- RED

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

N A B R U G C U S P
 C I T C R A F T E R
 E B F A N E D R N E
 V M Y O N N D A I D
 I I I N X N G I P A
 T L E O F E F T S T
 A C T I V E S S O O
 N A R D N U T X E R
 S G N I V I V R U S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **URBAN**

The adjective **urban** means relating to a city.

Fox populations have grown in **urban** areas.

Use the word **urban** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Number Expansion

Find at least 10 five-digit numbers in the newspaper. Write each number in its expanded form. Example: The number 15,743 becomes fifteen thousand, seven hundred fifty three.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Write numbers in words.



ANSWER: To get to the chicken on the other side.

Write On! My Favorite Vegetable

Use at least three of your five senses to describe your favorite vegetable.

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