

LO: To answer comprehension questions independently.**ALL ABOUT FOXES**

Red foxes are a member of the dog family and are found throughout the United Kingdom, including Ireland but absent from most islands. They are also found in Europe, North America, Asia, and North Africa. In the mid-19th Century they were introduced to Australia and New Zealand. Though they are like dogs, they are only a little bit bigger than most cats. The male fox is called a dog and the female is called a vixen.

Did you know?

They are mammals, which means they have warm blood and fur. Even though they are nocturnal (move around and eat at night), they can be seen during the day. They like to sunbathe.

**Answer in full sentences.**

1 Foxes are only a little bit bigger than what animal?

1

2 What is a female fox called?

1

3 What does nocturnal mean?

1

4 How do we know foxes are mammals?

1

Amazing Facts

Foxes have amazing hearing. They can hear something as quiet as a watch ticking, from 30 metres away! This would be like hearing someone whisper from the other side of the playground. As well as having great hearing, they can run fast, up to 30 miles per hour.

5 How fast can foxes run?

1

6 From how far away can a fox hear a ticking watch?

1

Where do foxes live?

Foxes are found in all sorts of places, or habitats. They live with other foxes in dens in the countryside, where they will rest, groom and play together. Dens consist of a dog and a vixen, their kits and some of the previous year's litter. Foxes in the country range between 60 and 120 acres to find food.

Some foxes make their homes in towns and cities where they can eat leftovers. These foxes have a much smaller range of about 5 acres as food (leftovers) is plentiful. Urban foxes are sometimes accused of killing cats, but it is often the fox who walks away instead of getting into a fight.

This ability for a fox to live anywhere has helped to keep it as the most widespread and numerous predator in Britain.

What do foxes eat?

Foxes are solitary hunters. They are carnivores, which means they eat meat, but they will eat berries off bushes and even look in bins for leftovers. Rural foxes tend to have a diet of worms, rabbits, rodents, birds, insects, and carrion (dead animals). Foxes that live near the coast will also eat gulls' eggs and those that live in urban areas will also raid bins for leftovers.

7 Name **two** places that you might find a fox.

1

8 Name **two** things that a fox might eat.

1