

Foxes

What Do Foxes Look Like?

Foxes are small mammals with a full coat of fur, pointed ears and a bushy tail, sometimes known as a brush. Foxes walk on four legs and have small heads with a long nose and sharp teeth. The most recognised foxes have orange-brown coloured fur with a few white patches under their chins and on their stomachs. Foxes have excellent hearing and a keen sense of smell.

Where Do Foxes Live?

Foxes normally sleep underground in dens. Foxes can dig their own dens but often find a den made by another animal to use instead. Foxes that live in towns or cities will make a den out of anything, including cardboard boxes. Baby foxes are called cubs. When they are born, they are unable to see, walk or hear, so the mother (the vixen) takes good care of them in the den whilst the father (the dog) goes to hunt for food for the family.

What Do Foxes Eat?

Foxes eat just about anything, including berries, worms, spiders and small animals such as mice and birds. If they live in the city, they eat rubbish that people leave out. If they have extra food, they hide it in a small hole and eat it later when they are hungry. Foxes are nocturnal animals which means that they hunt at night and sleep during the day. They are scavengers, which means they eat whatever they can find.



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Questions

1. Complete the sentence. Foxes have a bushy _____.

nose

face

tail

2. Where do foxes normally sleep? Select one.

in a den

in a tree

in a barn

3. When fox cubs are born, what are they unable to do?

4. What does the father fox do while the mother looks after the babies?

Questions

5. Name two things foxes eat.

6. Some people think foxes are a nuisance. Why do you think this is?