

# Red Foxes KS2 Answers

## Page 1

*Foxes have eyes at the front of their heads. How do you think this helps them catch their prey?*

Having both eyes at the front of your head and facing forwards allows you to judge distances very accurately. For a predator, knowing when you are close enough to successfully strike means the difference between catching your next meal or going hungry. Many animals that actively chase their prey have eyes facing forwards, including the Wolf, the Wildcat and the Owls. Another reason for having eyes in this position is when you live up in the tops or trees. In this case, animals must judge distances accurately to know how far it is from one branch to another, which is why monkeys and apes have forward facing eyes.

## Page 2

Food Chain: each gap has the right number of dashes for each word

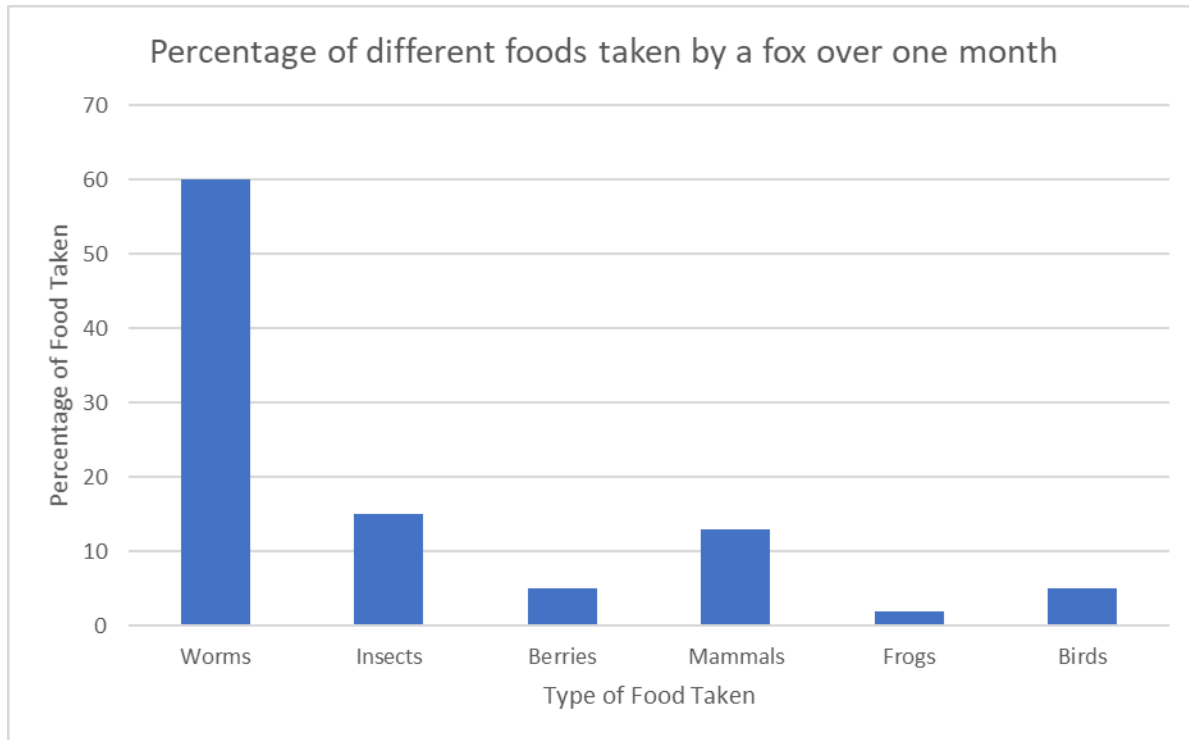
Sun      →      GRASS      →      Rabbit      →      RED FOX

Teeth: top to bottom

- Canine. Long, pointed teeth at sides.
- Carnassial. Shearing teeth behind canines
- Incisor. Small nipping teeth at front, between canines



## Page 3



## Page 4

*Can you think of another animal that scent marks its territory?*

Many mammals use scent marking such as the Badger, the Otter, the Beaver and the Wolf (all covered by KS2 Animal Packs). The Polecat, the Wildcat and the Red Deer are other examples of British mammals that mark their territories using scent. Further afield, mammals particularly well-known for their scent marking behaviour include Hyenas, Bears, Musk Deer, Meerkats, Civets and big cats such as Leopards, Jaguars and Tigers.

## Page 8

All the right answers are hidden in the text throughout the booklet

- 1) An Earth or a Den (Page 4)
- 2) Almost anything edible! Red Foxes are known to eat small mammals (such as mice), birds, frogs, insects, earthworms, fruit and berries. They will also take crabs, fish, rabbits, chickens, kitchen scraps and dropped food (Pages 3 and 6)
- 3) Canines and carnassials (Page 2)
- 4) Urban (Pages 4 and 6)
- 5) Vixens (Page 10)



## Page 10

*Why do you think the cubs stay so close to the sett at first? Why doesn't the vixen go hunting for food herself while the cubs are little?*

Fox cubs are born blind and deaf, meaning they are completely defenceless. If the mother fox left to get food, they would be easy prey for other predators such as polecats, stoats or even badgers.

## Page 11

Each gap has the right number of dashes for each word

- A female fox – VIXEN
- A baby fox – CUB
- A fox den – EARTH
- Food for foxes – RABBIT, MICE, VOLES and INSECTS
- A meat- eater – CARNIVORE
- A fox does this to catch its prey – POUNCE
- Foxes sometimes live here – TOWN
- Another word for a fox tail – BRUSH
- An area where a fox lives which it defends from other foxes – TERRITORY
- This keeps a fox warm – FUR
- A fox might leave these in mud or snow – TRACKS
- Sharp teeth used for killing prey – CANINES
- A fox foot – PAW
- What a fox does with its nose – SMELL

