

Ferdinand Fox's First Summer

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Nature, Wildlife, Seasons, Life Cycle, Animal Adaptations, Habitats

Book Brief: Join Ferdinand on a photographic journey as he grows and changes during his first few months

of life as a young fox.

Author and Photographer:
Mary Holland



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, make predictions: What type of habitat do you think Ferdinand lives in? What can you tell about where he lives from the picture on the cover? Do you think that Ferdinand has brothers

and sisters? Explain why or why not. What changes do you expect Ferdinand to go through during his first summer?

While reading, make connections: How do Ferdinand's first few weeks compare to those of a human baby? How do babies use their senses to

explore the world? Compare the relationship between the mother fox and her kits and the relationship between a human mother and her baby.

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ How did Ferdinand and his siblings learn important life skills through playing?
- ◆ How did Ferdinand's mother prepare him for being on his own?
- ◆ What types of prey does the red fox hunt for?
- ◆ What are some ways Ferdinand adapted, or changed, to fit his environment?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

FERDINAND FOX'S FRUIT CUP

Ferdinand might have liked squirrels and moles, but the red fox also eats wild berries! Choose your favorite berries (like blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, or strawberries) and mix them into a cup of vanilla Greek yogurt for a tasty treat! Do you think Ferdinand would like yogurt? Why or why not?

FERDINAND FOX'S SOCK PUPPET

Materials: old sock, markers, tacky glue, scrap material, scissors

Cut out fox ears, eyes, and a nose from the scrap material. Glue ears at the tip of the sock where your toes would go. Glue the eyes and nose below. Use

markers to create a mouth and whiskers. When the glue is dry, put your hand in the sock to make a puppet. Use the puppet to retell the story of Ferdinand's first summer—or add onto the story by thinking up new adventures for Ferdinand!



FERDINAND FOX'S FAVORITE SENSE

Ferdinand has a keen nose and can smell other animals and food sources. Go outside and see what your sniffer can pick up. Close your eyes and focus on what you smell. What scents do you notice? Can you tell what types of activities might be happening nearby? Do you smell any animals? Flowers?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

The Beavers' Busy Year (2014)
Animal Eyes (2014)
Naturally Curious (2010)



Reading Is Fundamental