

Gaspard the fox



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Foxy Facts 🐾

Here are some foxy facts to impress your friends:

- There are 37 species of foxes in the world. The fox in the UK is the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)
- Red foxes are part of the dog family, and are distant relatives of wolves
- Foxes are one of the most well known wild animals in the UK
- It is thought that, in London, there are as many as 18 foxes in every square kilometre
- Foxes are mostly active at night
- A female fox is called a *vixen*
- A male fox is called a *dog*
- A baby fox is called a *cub* or *kit*
- A group of foxes is called a *skulk* or *leash*
- Foxes are omnivorous which means they eat almost anything; their usual diet is birds, worms, insects, fruit and small mammals such as mice and rats. In city areas, the food we throw away can make up more than half a fox's diet
- A fox's home is called a *den* or *earth*. Vixens dig their dens under tree roots or garden sheds, or enlarge other holes such as old rabbit burrows
- Foxes hide or bury spare food to eat later, although another fox may find it first
- Foxes communicate with each other using at least 20 different types of sounds
- A fox can run 30 miles per hour
- A fox's tail is called a *brush*
- A fox's eyes are similar to a cat's with narrow, vertical pupils. This helps them to see at night

- Foxes have amazing hearing, it is said they can hear a watch ticking nearly 40 metres away!

- Foxes have been spotted riding on the lifts and carriages of the London Underground.

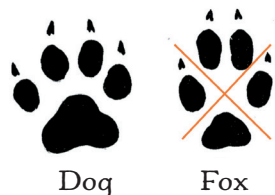
Learn more about foxes and see photos of the real Gaspard at www.gaspardthefox.com

How to spot a fox track:



Fox footprints are very similar to dog footprints: four toes, a central pad and claw marks.

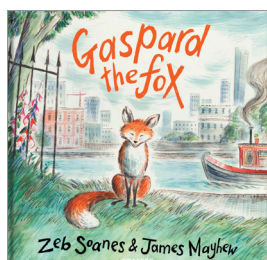
The key difference is that the pads and toes of a fox print are more spread out; meaning a diagonal cross can be drawn through a fox print and not through a dog print.



Mammal Mapper:



You can help the Mammal Society monitor our friendly foxes by logging sightings of foxes with their new Mammal Mapper app: www.mammal.org.uk/volunteering/mammal-mapper/



Buy books in the Gaspard the Fox series, available in bookshops and online at www.graffeg.com