ANIMAL LEARNING CENTER · NOT CURRENTLY AT THE ZOO

SILVER FOX

Vulpes vulpes (red fox)

GRADES K–2

Teacher & Student Fact Sheet · © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

Teachers: read this page aloud, one part at a time (about 5 minutes). Children follow along and say the bold words.



A silver fox up close.

Its body

A silver fox is *a* red fox.
Its fur is dark *and* silver.
Its tail often has *a* white tip.

Its home (habitat)

Foxes live in many places.
They live in forests *and* fields.
They *can* live in towns too.



Lives in parts of this area ★ Plumpton Park Zoo, Rising Sun, MD

Its food

It eats mice *and* rabbits.
It eats birds, bugs *and* berries.

Its babies (life cycle)

A baby fox is *a* **pup**.
Pups stay in *a* **den**.
They leave it *at* 4 or 5 weeks.
The father brings food.

Fun facts

Red *and* silver pups *can* be born together!
A red fox is not *a* tree climber.

Words to know

den: *a* safe place where pups grow
pup: *a* baby fox

Talk about it

1. How is *a* silver fox like *a* red fox?
2. Who brings food for the mother?
3. When do pups leave the den?

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/silver-fox/ · **Sources:** Animal Diversity Web (University of Michigan); Maryland DNR; OMIA; Kukekova Lab (University of Illinois); Science History Institute
Supports Maryland and Delaware (NGSS) and Pennsylvania (STEELS) standards: K-LS1-1 (3.1.K.A) · 1-LS1-2 (3.1.1.B)
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo

SILVER FOX

Before and after you read

 © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

PLUMPTON PARK ZOO

GRADES K–2

Name _____ **Date** _____

Before you read · 5 minutes

What do you think? Circle **YES** or **NO**.

1. A silver fox is a red fox. **YES** **NO**
2. Red foxes climb trees. **YES** **NO**
3. A baby fox is a pup. **YES** **NO**
4. Foxes eat only grass. **YES** **NO**

Look closely · with a partner

Look at the photo on page 1. Check each one you see.

- ☐ eyes
- ☐ nose
- ☐ silver fur
- ☐ black fur

Where does it live? Find the dark part of the map, then circle.

North America South America

After you read · 10 minutes

Draw a silver fox. Add a white tip on its tail.

Draw here

A silver fox has _____

I learned that _____

ADJUST IT Kindergarten: read everything aloud; children talk and draw, and an adult writes their words. **Grade 2:** children read page 1 on their own. **Grades 3–5:** use the regular silver fox sheet on Teacher Resources. **Second source:** read about this animal in your class database or a library book too, then ask what both said and what was new. **Answers:** 1 yes, 2 no, 3 yes, 4 no. Map answer: North America.

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/silver-fox/ · Page 1 of this sheet has the words and picture this page refers to.
Science, grades K–1: Maryland and Delaware (NGSS): K-LS1-1 · 1-LS1-2 · Pennsylvania (STEELS): 3.1.K.A · 3.1.1.B
Reading and writing, grade 1: Maryland and Delaware: RI.1.1 · RI.1.7 · RI.1.9 · W.1.8 · Pennsylvania: CC.1.2.1.B · CC.1.2.1.G · CC.1.2.1.I · CC.1.4.1.W
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo