



Red Fox

Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Instant ID

- Mammal with reddish-orange fur
- Similar in size and shape to a small dog
- Bushy tail with white tip
- Black “socks” on paws
- White chin and belly

Hijacked Habitats

- Restricted to the northern and western portions of North America prior to the 1600s
- Deforestation and crossbreeding with European red foxes helped American red foxes move to new areas
- Prefers open and lightly wooded areas
- Now found throughout most of Florida





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Favorite Foods

- Omnivore (eats plants and animals)
- Hunts animals ranging in size from insects to rabbits
- Will eat fruits, nuts and berries
- Caches (stores) extra food

Critter Characteristics

- Introduced by fox hunting groups because it cannot climb trees like the native gray fox
- Human development has helped its dispersal (spread to new habitats)
- Vector (carrier) of rabies virus

Population Prevention

- Feeding foxes is dangerous and illegal

