

Who Would Survive?

Arctic Fox vs. Red Fox



By Ms. Berg's class

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What would happen if an Arctic fox was in a Red fox's environment and a Red fox was in an Arctic fox's environment? Who do you think would survive?

MEET THE Arctic Fox

Scientific name: *Vulpes Lagopus*

There are 21 species of foxes . The most amazing is the Arctic Fox. The Arctic Fox has a white coat in the winter and a brown coat in the summer. The average Arctic Fox lives between 3-6 years in the wild. Some can even live up to 10 years!



Did you know?

The Arctic Fox is the smallest member in the canine family.



Basic facts

The Arctic fox is 26 inches long and weighs 6.5-17 pounds.

Meet the Red Fox

This canine has a reddish coat and a white tipped tail. The scientific name of the red fox is *Vulpes vulpes*. The red fox life span is 18 months to 2 years old in the wild, although some can live up to 8 years old. They can live up to 14 years old in captivity.

Basic Facts

They weigh 8.9 lbs.

They are 35 inches long and 30 inches tall.



zzz

Red foxes sleep an average of 9.8 hours a day.

Arctic Fox Habitat

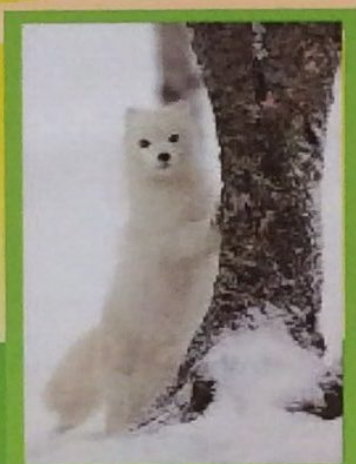
The territory of one Arctic fox can be up to 9.6 square miles.

The Arctic Fox lives in Iceland, Greenland, Northern Europe, Russia, Canada and Alaska. Their home in the summer is the tundra and in the winter is the ice caps.



FUN FACT

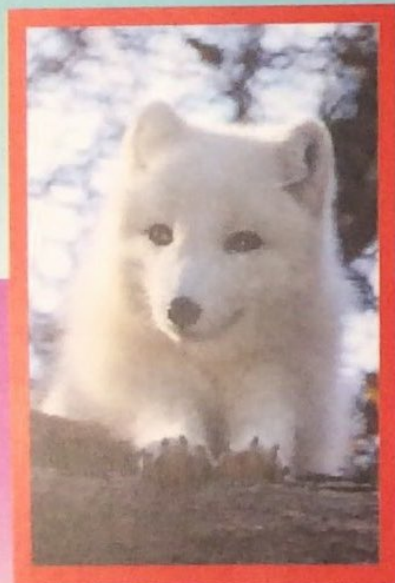
THE ARCTIC FOX IS THE ONLY NATIVE LAND MAMMAL TO ICELAND.



They build underground burrows that can have up to 100 entrances.

Did you know?

There dens can be 100 years old!!!!



The red fox is starting to take over Arctic Fox's lands due to global warming.

Habitat of the Red Fox



The red fox lives in North Africa, Asia, the Arctic circle, Iceland, and New Zealand. Red foxes live in almost all habitats- woods, farmland, coast, mountains, towns, and cities.



Red foxes build underground dens to raise their kits.



Did you know?
Red foxes dens are 23 feet long and 8 feet deep.

Arctic Fox

Life Cycle

The arctic fox life cycle is very interesting. First the kits are born in a huge underground den. They are born with brown fur and weigh 2.5 pounds. Both of the parents take care of them. Then they leave the den. Then they mate between February and June. They have babies when they are about 1 year old. Then the life cycle starts again.

Fun fact

Babies are called wolps.



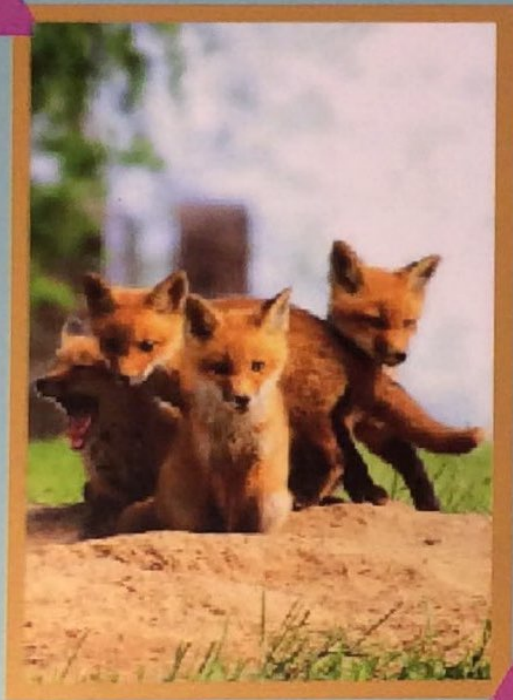
Interesting fact

Arctic foxes have 5-8 kits.



Red Fox Life Cycle

Red foxes have 4 to 9 kits at birth. They are blind and deaf. Baby kits don't go far from home.



When they are babies, they have round faces and short ears and are covered with dark chocolate brown fur.

They leave the den after 3 weeks. After 6 months, the kits are fully grown adults.



Color fact:

The color of the coat begins to change at the age of 3 weeks.

The Food of an Arctic Fox

Arctic foxes eat a lot of different food. Their main source of food are lemmings. They also will eat bird eggs, seal pups, fish, and berries.



Cool Fact....

They dig a hole in the ground or in the snow to hold food. It is like a freezer.

Definition:

Omnivore: Animal that eats both plants and animals



The food

Of

RED FOXES

Red foxes are omnivores which is an animal that eats plants and animals. How is this an omnivore you say? Well this animal eats berries and fruit which are kinds of plants. Meats they eat are worms, rabbits, birds and others.



Fun fact

Rodents could be small mammals like mice rats squirrels and Guinea pigs .

For pets safety

Protect your pets! Red foxes will eat guinea pigs sometimes even chickens. They won't fight big animals like dogs or cats.



Fun fact

Like many human children, foxes like meats and fruits, but not vegetables !



Arctic fox hunting and predators



Adult arctic foxes predators are polar bears and wolf packs. Babies are threatened by large birds like snowy owls.

Arctic foxes have many different strategies to find food. They can hear their prey from far away. They also will follow polar bears and wolves to eat their leftovers.



Food fact:
An Arctic fox family can eat several dozen lemmings a day.



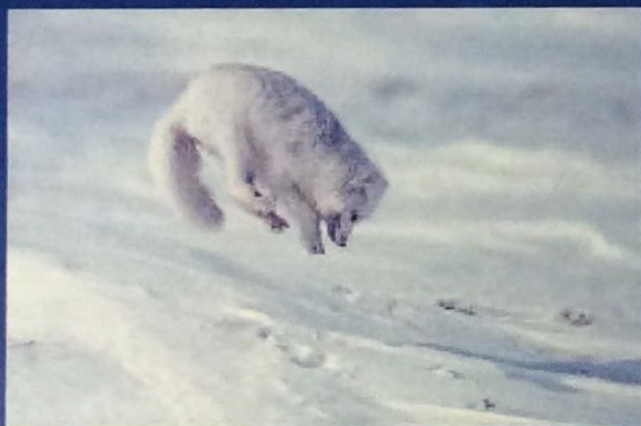
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Red Fox Hunting and Predators

Red foxes have many predators including caracals, Eurasian lynxes, Leopards, Wolves, Coyotes, and large raptors. Red fox mothers will move their kits into the den when a predator is around. At three months old, kits start learning to get food by going hunting for reptiles with their parents. The whiskers of red foxes are very sensitive so they can feel their prey move through the grass. They also sometimes hunt as a group.



Arctic Fox Fur

Arctic fox have thick white fur in the winter and they have grey-brownish fur in the summer.

Their fur is their **camouflage** so they blend in with their habitat. Their white fur makes it hard for their enemies to see them in the winter. Their thick coat of fur keeps them warm in freezing weather.



Amazing Fact
Arctic foxes have fur on their feet! The fur acts like a pair of warm boots so they can walk on ice.



Some Arctic foxes have blue fur!



The Red Fox

Fur



Red foxes have a reddish coat with white underneath. They are not red all through! Some are brown, black, silver or orange.

DID YOU KNOW?...

***RED FOX TAILS ARE
1/3 THE LENGTH OF
THEIR BODIES!***

They shed their heavy coats in the summer and grow a thicker one before the winter.



ARCTIC FOX

PAWS/TRACKS

The Arctic fox gets its scientific name lagopus because the Arctic fox has furry paws like a rabbit and lagopus means rabbit. The hair on their paws help them get good traction so they don't slip on the ice. It also keeps their feet warm.



FUN FACT

Arctic foxes have the most insulative fur of any mammal.

Fur on their paws helps them stay on top of the ice, not sink into the snow.





Red Fox Paws/Tracks



They have 5 toes on their front paws and 4 toes on their back paws.



FUN FACT:
BOTH TYPES FOXES WALK
AND RUN ON THEIR TOES



They can retract their claws a little to keep them sharp.

Red foxes are quiet, swift, and agile.

They can run up to 72 miles per hour.

Arctic Fox Ears and Communication



Their ears are rounded and they can hear their prey under snow. Arctic foxes use sounds to communicate. They use a loud yowl if it's far away and a high pitched sound if there's danger.



Fun fact

Arctic foxes hear lemmings under the snow and pounce to break through the snow to get there prey.



Lemming under the snow!

Red Fox: Ears and Communication

Red foxes have pointed ears which they can use to hear.



Did you know?

They can hear a ticking watch from 40 yards away!



They can hear something really far away.



They use 28 sounds to communicate with other red foxes.



They also have scent glands to mark territory and tell if they're in someone else's territory



Arctic foxes in the cold

Arctic foxes have thick fur to keep them *warm* in the Arctic tundra. Arctic foxes have paws to grip on to the ice so they don't slip. Arctic foxes have the most rounded ears of any fox so they keep them from getting too cold. Their stubby legs are low to the ground to keep them out of the cold wind.

Snuggle fact

They cover their nose with their tail when they sleep to keep warm.



Red Foxes

Surviving in the City



They are scavengers so their food comes from garbage as well as berries and left over fruit. Their shelter is under decks, sheds, and porches. Dangers: Usually dogs, diseases, and being hit by cars are all threats to foxes in the city.

Crazy fact

A fox was once spotted on the escalator out of London's underground system.



Arctic foxes and people

Humans are putting Arctic foxes in danger. By polluting from factories, and cars, humans are starting global warming. This is causing polar ice caps to melt and destroying Arctic foxes' habitat. However they are not listed yet as endangered

Fur fact

OTHER DANGERS ARE HUNTING FOR FUR AND ALSO HUNTING BY FARMERS IN ICELAND.



Arctic fox



Factories like this one pollute our Earth and put Arctic foxes in danger.

Red Foxes in the Human World



Red foxes are opportunistic. This means they have figured out how to live in cities and find food. They can carry rabies which is dangerous to humans and pets.

Did you know?

The red fox has been placed on a list of the world's 100 worst invasive species.

WARNING FACT

Even though they are cute, you should not touch red foxes.



Arctic Fox

Red Fox

Basic Facts

Habitat

Life Cycle

Food

Hunting & Predators

Fur

Paws & Tracks

Ears & Communication

Survival Skills

Interactions with Humans

Meet The Authors

- ...Meet the Foxes
-Habitat
- ...Life Cycle
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- ...Hunting and Predators
- ...Fur
- ...Paws and Tracks
-Ears and Communication
- ...Survival Skills
-Interactions with People
-Editor

MORE WHO WOULD SURVIVE BOOKS THAT YOU CAN READ:



SNOWY OWL VS. GREAT HORNED OWL



By Ms. Belber's class

GREY WOLF VS. ARCTIC WOLF



By Ms. McAleer's class