

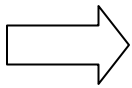
~ A Novel Study ~

Fantastic Mr. Fox



By Roald Dahl

A Novel Study
Written By Nat Reed



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Wonderfully useful and easily adaptable for any student. Provides in depth focus with meaningful activities.

This is free? It's worth \$10 if it's worth a dollar. I purchased a workbook from Amazon and this is much better. Great work, Mr. Reed. This Florida teacher thanks you...

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About the author: Nat Reed has been a member of the teaching profession for more than 30 years. He is presently a full-time instructor at Trent University in the Teacher Education Program.

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Suggestions and Expectations

This curriculum unit can be used in a variety of ways. Each chapter of the novel study focuses on two chapters of **Fantastic Mr. Fox** and is comprised of five different activities:

- Before You Read
- Vocabulary Building
- Comprehension Questions
- Language Activities
- Extension Activities

A principal expectation of the unit is that students will develop their skills in reading, writing, listening and oral communication, as well as in reasoning and critical thinking. Students will also be expected to provide clear answers to questions and well-constructed explanations. It is critical as well that students be able to relate events and the feelings of characters to their own lives and experiences and describe their own interpretation of a particular passage.

A strength of the unit is that students can work on the activities at their own pace. Every activity need not be completed by all students. A **portfolio cover** is included (p.7) so that students may organize their work and keep it all in one place. A **Student Checklist** is also included (p.6) so that a record of completed work may be recorded.

Themes which may be taught in conjunction with the novel include survival, individual perseverance when facing difficult circumstances, the lives of burrowing animals, the importance of cooperation in a crisis, and bullying.

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Chapter 1 - 2



Before you read the chapter:

Most good stories have a character or two known as the **antagonist** – someone who makes life difficult for the hero of the story. In this novel there are actually three antagonists who try to get the better of Fantastic Mr. Fox. Think of a favourite book, movie or television program which had a bad guy (antagonist) that you really didn't like. Who was this and why did you feel this way about him / her?

Write what you already know about **foxes** on the lines below.

Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list to complete each sentence.

lurk	delicate	blighter	decent	enormous
crafty	smother	beastly	dumplings	disgust

1. Looking at all the little creatures under the stone filled Judy with _____.
2. If you ask her nicely, I'm sure my aunt will cook _____ to go with the roast beef.
3. It was the most _____ toad I have ever seen.
4. She poured so much gravy on her potatoes, I thought for sure she would _____ them.



5. “Burping in public is a _____ habit,” Mrs. Braithwaite complained.
6. It is hard to make a _____ living on my salary.
7. “Be very careful,” her mother urged. “That doll is most _____.”
8. “If he was my son, I would ground the little _____ for a week,” Mr. Timmins said angrily.
9. Watch out for shadows which _____ in the dark of one’s bedroom.
10. I think Mike is too _____ to be trusted.

Questions



1. In Chapter One the author introduces us to the three farmers, **Mr. Bunce**, **Mr. Boggis** and **Mr. Bean**. Using the chart below write two things about each of these men.

Mr. Bunce	Mr. Boggis	Mr. Bean

2. Why do you suppose the author chose such unusual names for these three men?

3. Why do you suppose that Bunce kept on eating such disgusting food when it made him so sick?

4. Describe the setting of the story.

5. Why did the farmers hate Mr. Fox so much?

6. Describe how Mr. Fox would avoid being caught by Mr. Boggis when he raided his chicken house.

7. How did the three farmers plan to catch Mr. Fox at the end of Chapter Two?

Language Activity

The author seems to enjoy using **alliteration** – a literary device where the author repeats the same sound at the beginning of several words. An example from this chapter is: “**B**oggis and **B**unce and **B**ean”.

Using your imagination, create your own examples of **alliteration** from the following topics. Each example must contain a minimum of three words.

The sound a chicken makes	
The bubbling sound of something boiling on a stove	
The sound of a ghost on Halloween	

Extension Activity



Storyboard

A storyboard is a series of pictures that tell about an important event in a story. A storyboard can tell the story of only one scene – or the entire novel.

Complete the storyboard below illustrating the events described in the first two chapters of *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. You may wish to practice your drawings on a separate piece of paper.

1	2
3	4
5	6