

Week 2 (WC 27.04.20)

Year 3 Literacy Home Learning Activities 1,2 and 3

All activities are to be completed either on the worksheets provided or in your workbook.

If you have a version of *Fantastic Mr Fox* (book, e-book, audio book or film) it would be great for children to read, listen to or watch the rest of the book after today's session.

Activity 1

Read the extracts from *Fantastic Mr Fox*

- **Read** chapter one which introduces the three farmers, Boggis, Bunce and Bean.
- **Underline** any words in the text which describe the characters – you could use a different colour for each farmer.
- **Read** chapter two which introduces Mr Fox. **Underline** any words in the text which describe him.
- **Draw a picture** of each of the characters and **label each one** with the words and phrases which Roald Dahl uses to describe them. Or, if you prefer, label the set of character images provided.

Try the Fun-Time Extras

- If you have it, watch the rest of the *Fantastic Mr Fox* film.
- The book's name *Fantastic Mr Fox* is alliterative (uses the same letter at the beginning of the words for effect). Can you give yourself an alliterative name that describes your character? For example, Amazing Anya or Brave Bella. Try doing this for other friends and family too.

Chapter One – The Three Farmers

Down in the valley there were three farms. The owners of these farms had done well. They were rich men. They were also nasty men. All three of them were about as nasty and mean as any men you could meet. Their names were Farmer Boggis, Farmer Bunce and Farmer Bean.

Boggis was a chicken farmer. He kept thousands of chickens. He was enormously fat. This was because he ate three boiled chickens smothered with dumplings every day for breakfast, lunch and supper.

Bunce was a duck-and-geese farmer. He kept thousands of ducks and geese. He was a kind of pot-bellied dwarf. He was so short his chin would have been underwater in the shallow end of any swimmingpool in the world. His food was doughnuts and goose-livers. He mashed the livers into a disgusting paste and then stuffed the paste into the doughnuts. This diet gave him a tummy-ache and a beastly temper.

Bean was a turkey-and-apple farmer. He kept thousands of turkeys in an orchard full of apple trees. He never ate any food at all. Instead, he drank gallons of strong cider which he made from the apples in his orchard. He was as thin as a pencil and the cleverest of them all.

‘Boggis and Bunce and Bean

One fat, one short, one lean.

These horrible crooks

So different in looks

Were none the less equally mean.’

That is what the children round about used to sing when they saw them.

Chapter 2 Mr Fox

On a hill above the valley there was a wood.

In the wood there was a huge tree.

Under the tree there was a hole.

In the hole lived Mr Fox and Mrs Fox and their four Small Foxes.

Every evening as soon as it got dark, Mr Fox would say to Mrs Fox, 'Well, my darlings, what shall it be this time? A plump chicken from Boggis? A duck or a goose from Bunce? Or a nice turkey from Bean' And when Mrs Fox had told him what she wanted, Mr Fox would creep down into the valley in the darkness of the night and help himself.

Boggis and Bunce and Bean knew very well what was going on, and it made them wild with rage. They were not men who liked to give anything away. Less till did they like anything to be stolen from them. So every night each of them would take this shotgun and hide in a dark place somewhere on his own farm, hoping to catch the robber.

But Mr Fox was too clever for them. He always approached a farm with the wind blowing in his face, and this meant that if any man were lurking in the shadows ahead, the wind would carry the smell of that man to Mr Fox's nose from far away. Thus, if Mr Boggis was hiding behind his Chicken House Number One, Mr Fox would smell him out from fifty yards off and quickly change direction, heading for Chicken House Number Four at the other end of the farm.

'Dang and blast that lousy beast!' cried Boggis.

'I'd like to rip his guts out!' said Bunce.

'He must be killed!' cried Bean.

‘But how?’ said Boggis. ‘How on earth can we catch the blighter?’

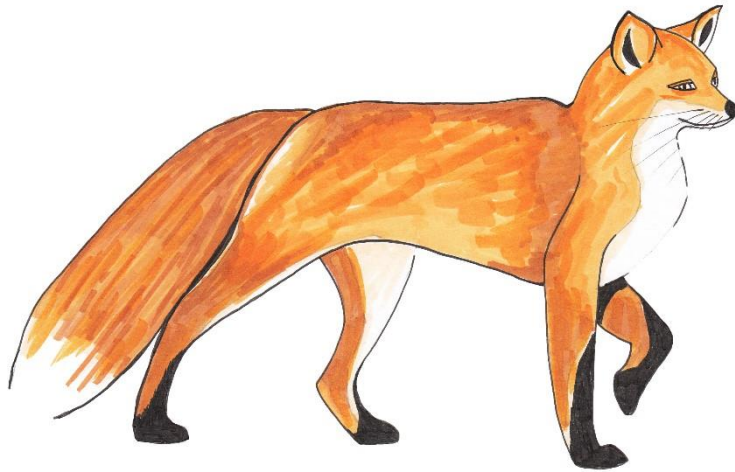
Bean picked his nose delicately with a long finger. ‘I have a plan,’ he said.

‘You’ve never had a decent plan yet,’ said Bunce.

‘Shut up and listen,’ said Bean. ‘Tomorrow night we will all hide just outside the hold where the fox lives. We will wait there until he comes out. Then...*Bang! Bang-bang-bang.*’

‘Very clever,’ said Bunce. ‘But first we shall have to find the hole.’

‘My dear Bunce, I’ve already found it,’ said the crafty Bean. ‘It’s up in the wood on the hill. It’s under a huge tree...’



Character Images



Activity 2

Reading Fantastic Mr Fox

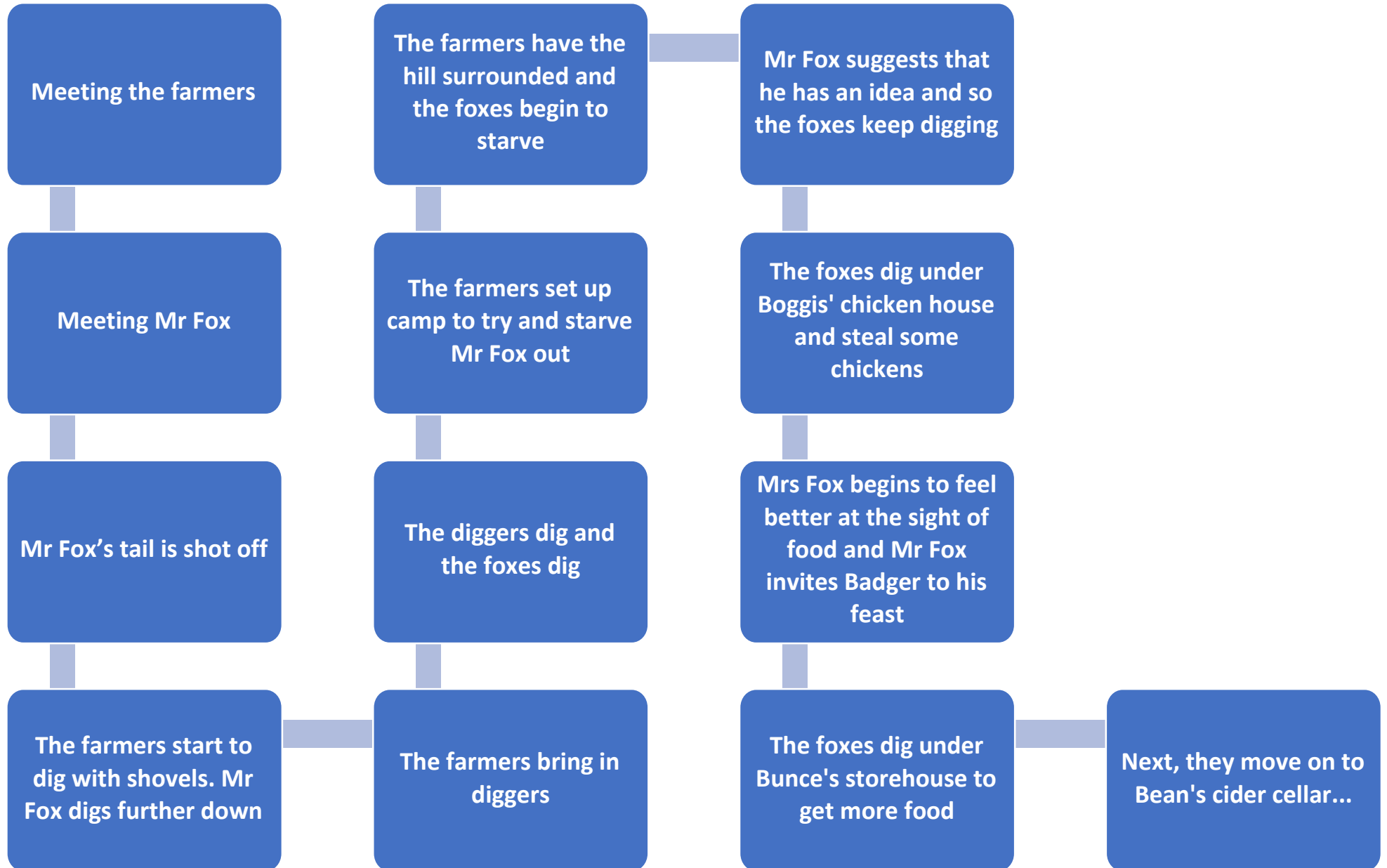
- Read the summary of events in the story so far.
- Read chapter 16 which describes what happens in Bean's cider cellar.

Verbs- Present Perfect Form

- Read through the Learning Reminder Verbs - Present Perfect Form.
- Look back at chapter 16 and find some past tense verbs (hint – look for doing words with –ed endings). Practise changing them into the present perfect form by adding has or have.
- Complete the present perfect forms activities.

Try the Fun-Time Extras -Roald Dahl had a very interesting life. Did you know he was a fighter pilot during the second world war? See if you can find out more information and create a factsheet about him.

Summary of events in Fantastic Mr Fox



Chapter 16 The Woman



‘Quick!’ said Mr Fox. ‘Hide!’ He and Badger and the Smallest Fox jumped up on to a shelf and crouched behind a big row of cider jars. Peering around the jars, they saw a huge woman coming down into the cellar. At the foot of the steps, the woman paused, looking to right and left. Then she turned and headed straight for the place where Mr Fox and Badger and the Smallest Fox were hiding. She stopped right in front of them. The only thing between her and them was a row of cider jars. She was so close, Mr Fox could hear the sound of her breathing. Peeping through the crack between two bottles, he noticed that she carried a big rolling-pin in one hand.

‘How many will he want this time, Mrs Bean?’ the woman shouted. And from the top of the steps the other voice called back, ‘Bring up two or three jars.’

‘He drank four yesterday, Mrs Bean.’

‘Yes, but he won’t want that many today because he’s not going to be up there more than a few hours longer. He says the fox is bound to make a run for it this morning. It can’t possible stay down that hole another day without food.’

The woman in the cellar reached out and lifted a jar of cider from the shelf. The jar she took was next but one to the jar behind which Mr Fox was crouching.

‘I’ll be glad when the rotten brute is killed and strung up on the front porch,’ she called out. ‘And by the way, Mrs Bean, your husband promised I could have the tail as a souvenir.’

‘The tail’s been shot to pieces,’ said the voice from upstairs. ‘Didn’t you know that?’

'You mean it's *ruined*?'

'Of course it's ruined. They shot the tail but missed the fox.'

'Oh heck!' said the big woman. 'I did so want that tail!'

'You can have the head instead, Mabel. You can get it stuffed and hang it on your bedroom wall. Hurry up now with that cider!'

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'Yes. Ma'am, I'm coming,' said the big woman, and she took down a second jar from the shelf.

If she takes one more, she'll see us, thought Mr Fox. He could feel the Smallest Fox's body pressed tightly against his own, quivering with excitement.

'Will two be enough, Mrs Bean, or shall I take three?'

'My goodness, Mabel, I don't care so long as you get a move on!'

'Then two it is,' said the huge woman, speaking to herself now. 'He drinks too much anyway.'

Carrying a jar in each hand and with the rolling-pin tucked under one arm, she walked away across the cellar. At the foot of the steps she paused and looked around, sniffing the air. 'There's rats down here again, Mrs Bean. I can smell 'em.'

'Then poison them, woman, poison them! You know where the poison's kept.'

'Yes, Ma'am,' Mabel said. She climbed slowly out of sight up the steps. The door slammed.

'Quick!' said Mr Fox. 'Grab a jar each and run for it!'

Rat stood on his high shelf and shrieked. 'What did I tell you! You nearly got nabbed, didn't you? You nearly gave the game away! You

keep out of here from now on! I don't want you around! This is my place!

'You,' said Mr Fox, 'are going to be poisoned.'

'Poppycock!' said Rat. 'I sit up here and watch her putting the stuff down. She'll never get *me*.'

Mr Fox and Badger and the Smallest Fox ran across the cellar clutching a gallon jar each. 'Goodbye, Rat!' they called out as they disappeared through the hole in the wall. 'Thanks for the lovely cider!'

'Thieves!' shrieked Rat. 'Robbers! Bandits! Burglars!'



Underline as many verbs as you can find in this chapter.

Verbs

Verbs tell us that someone or something is **doing, feeling or being**.

Usually verbs have the name of a person or thing or a pronoun in front of them.

Boggis munches.
Bunce grumbles.
Bean thinks.
They are dreadful.



Verbs have **tense**. They tell us **when** the action happened.



In the present

He is too clever.
He creeps outside.

In the past

He **was** too clever.
He **crept** outside.

Perfect form

Perfect form describes an action *completed in the past*.

It also uses the verb **has/have** in front.

They **have** **hidden** behind the jars.

It uses past form of verbs.

She **has** **taken** two jars.

The **present perfect form** of the past tense suggests that a **past action** is still affecting the present.

Simple past

Perfect form

I finished the feast.

I **have** **finished** the feast.

He lost his tail.

He **has** **lost** his tail.



Which are in the present perfect form?

She has collected the jars.

Perfect Form
has/have + verb

She collected the jars.

We have finished collecting the cider.

We finished collecting the cider.

They stood very still behind the jars.

They have stood very still behind the jars.



Perfect Form
has/have + verb

Perfect form

Remember: the **perfect form** describes an action *completed in the past* which is still affecting the present.

Perfect form
describes an action
completed in the past.

Perfect form
also uses the verb
has/have in front.

The animals **have** **enjoyed** the feast.

Mr Fox **has** **succeeded** in his mission.

Now try writing five sentences of your own about *Fantastic Mr Fox* using the present perfect form.



Activity 1: Sentences to sort

Cut out the sentences and sort them into two groups: simple past tense and present perfect tense. Use the learning reminder cards to help you.

She has stopped right in front of them.	They have shot the tail but have missed the fox.
They have hidden behind the jars.	She walked away across the cellar.
The woman shouted to Mrs Boggis	They have scampered across the cellar floor.
She has brought a rolling pin with her.	She hesitated at the third jar.
The little fox has held his breath.	Mr Fox's whiskers twitched.

Activity 2: Sentence pairs.

Draw a line to match the sentences and then underline the present perfect form

Mr Fox put the last brick back in place.	Badger has raised his glass.
They grabbed their jars of cider.	Mrs Fox has hugged the smallest fox.
Mrs Fox hugged the smallest fox.	The animals have attacked the succulent food.
The animals attacked the succulent food.	Mr Fox has put the last brick back in place.
Badger raised his glass.	They have grabbed their jars of cider.

Activity 3: Present perfect forms

Can you insert the correct verbs to complete these in the present perfect form?



They _____ in the tunnel. (pause)

Badger _____ his glass. (raise)

Mrs Fox _____ the smallest fox. (hug)

The animals _____ the succulent food. (attack)

Mr Fox _____ the last brick back in place. (put)

They _____ their jars of cider. (grab)

They _____ down the tunnel. (fly)

The animals _____ to eat. (begin)

If you have a version of *Fantastic Mr Fox* (book, e-book, audio book or film) it would be great for children to read, listen to or watch the rest of the book.

Activity 3

Reading *Fantastic Mr Fox*

- If you haven't been able to read, watch or listen to the whole book [read the summary](#) of events in the story.

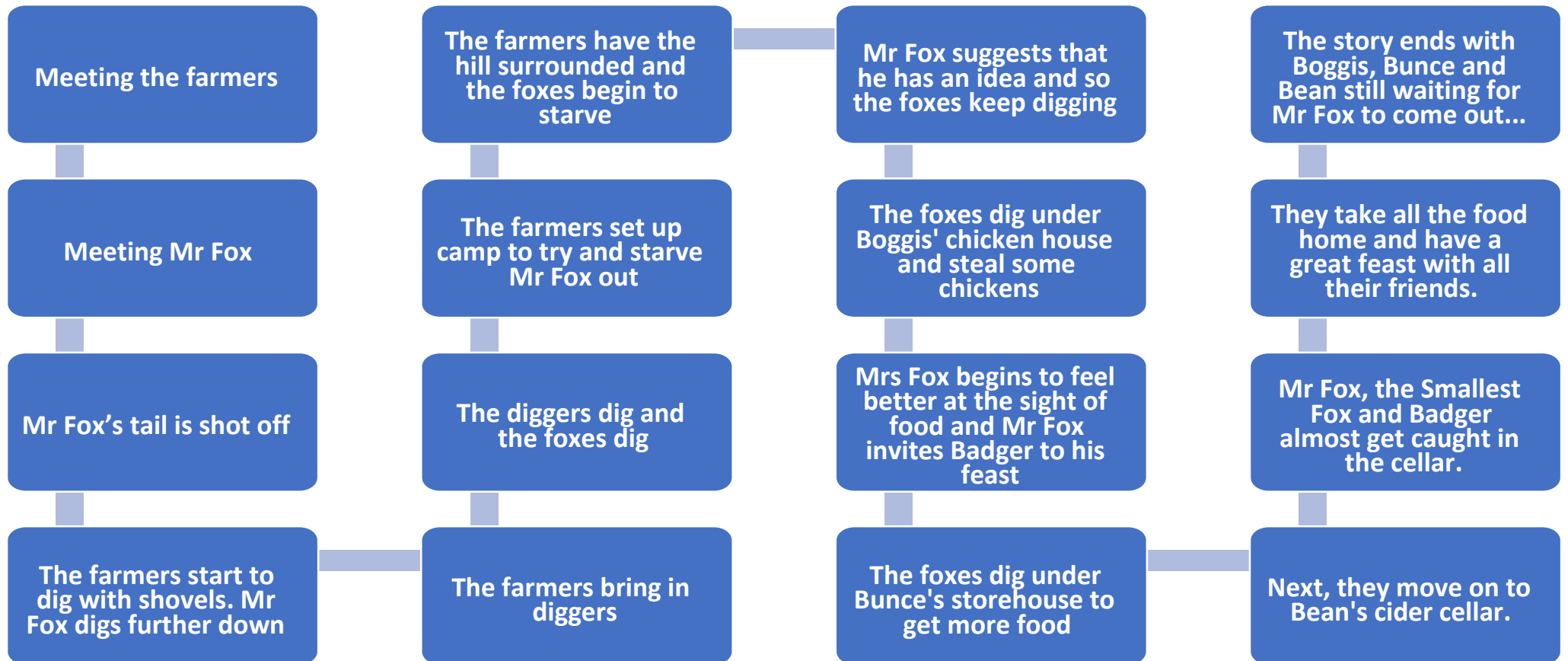
Composition

- **Look** at the story curve for *Fantastic Mr Fox*.
- **Write** your own story along the same lines as *Fantastic Mr Fox*. Use the story prompts to structure your story which will focus on an animal family and their enemies.

Try the Fun-Time Extras -Illustrate your story.

- Practise reading your story aloud. (You can see lots of celebrities reading stories on the CBeebies website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b00jdlm2/cbeebies-bedtimestories> and see how they use expression as they read).
- Read your story aloud via FaceTime, Skype or Zoom to another member of your family. Can they guess which story gave you inspiration?

Summary of events in *Fantastic Mr Fox*



Story Curve for *Fantastic M*

