

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

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.

1. 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.

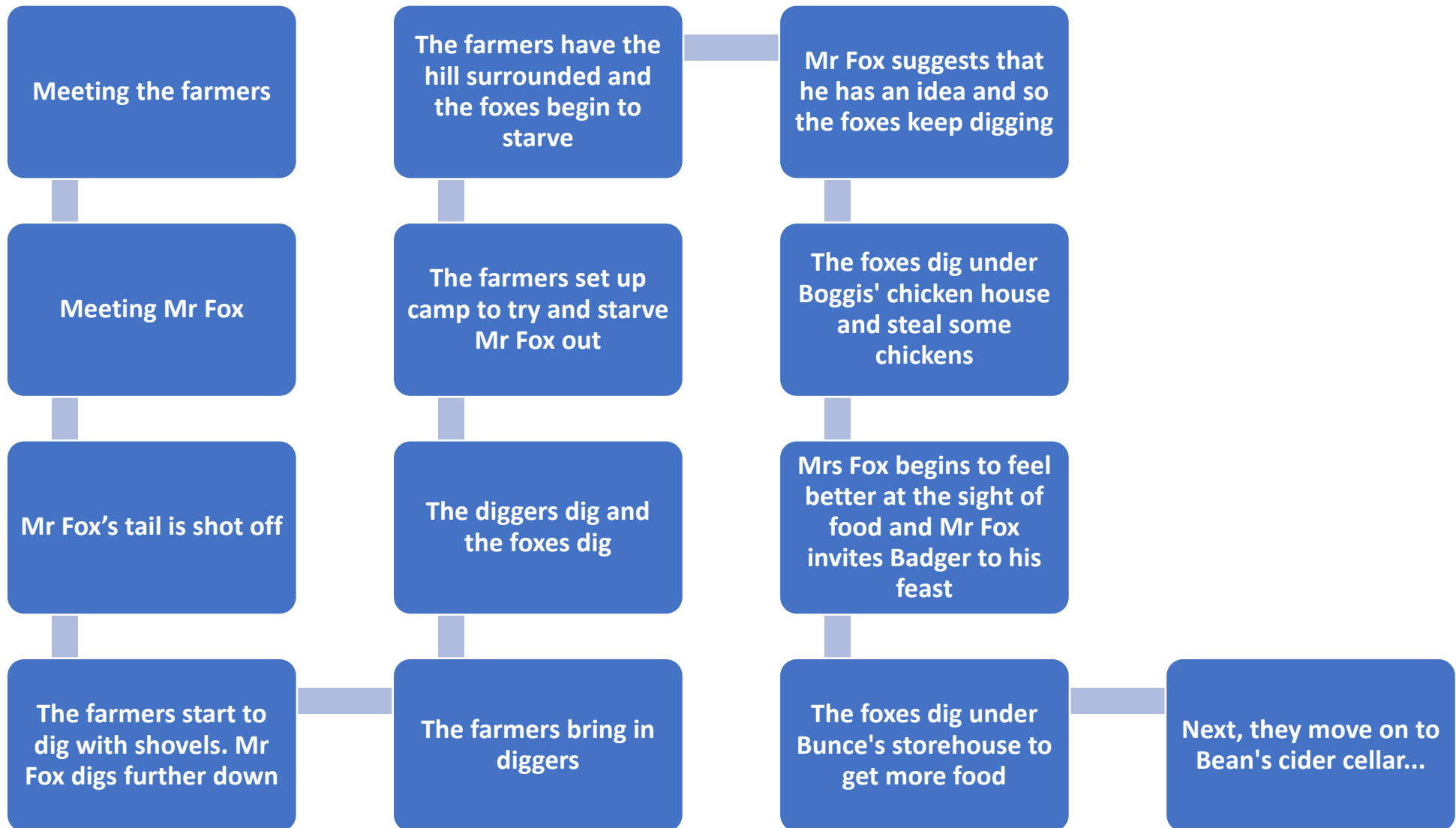
2. Verbs – Present Perfect Form

- [Watch the presentation on the PowerPoint](#) OR [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. Start with activity one, challenge yourself to see if you can do all three!

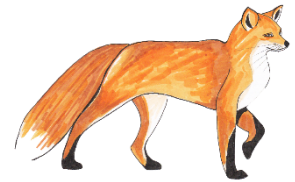
Try the Fun-Time Extras

- 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!’

‘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.

Learning Reminder Verbs – Present Perfect Form

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.*

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

It uses past form of verbs.

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



Simple past

I finished the feast.

He lost his tail.

Perfect form

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

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

Which are in the present perfect form?

*She **has** collected the jars.*

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
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.

Present Perfect Form
has/have + verb

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 2: Sentence pairs - **Answers**

Present Perfect Form

has/have + verb

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

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

Activity 3: Present perfect forms: cloze

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*)



Activity 3: Present perfect forms: cloze - **Answers**

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

They **have paused** in the tunnel. (*pause*)

Badger **has raised** his glass. (*raise*)

Mrs Fox **has hugged** the smallest fox. (*hug*)

The animals **have attacked** the succulent food. (*attack*)

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

They **have grabbed** their jars of cider. (*grab*)

They **have flown** down the tunnel. (*fly*)

The animals **have begun** to eat. (*begin*)