

An Interesting Crossing

Amazing Fact

A Russian scientist called Dmitri K. Belyaev conducted a 50-year-long experiment to domesticate foxes. He only bred the tamest foxes that enjoyed human company and at one point had produced a population of 700 foxes who were suitable pets.

Although the foxes in Dmitri K. Belyaev's experiment were believed to be tame, wild foxes are most certainly not.

Challenge 1

Can you solve this famous logic puzzle involving a young farm boy, a chicken a fox and bag of seed?

A young farm boy goes to market and buys a fox, a chicken and a bag of seed.

On his way back, he has to cross a narrow, but deep stream. The only way across is by boat. He can only take one of his purchases in the boat with him at a time. The boy must think carefully because if he left the fox alone with the chicken, the chicken would perish, or if the chicken was left alone with the seed, the seed would be eaten.

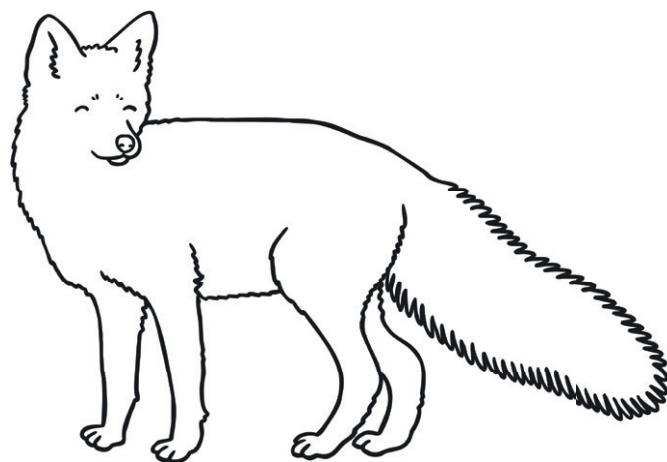
Can you find a way for the boy to get the chicken, fox and seed across the stream safely?

Write or sketch your solution in the box below.

An Interesting Crossing

Challenge 2

What other wild animals do you think could be domesticated? Why do you think that? How could this be attempted?



You could also try to find out:

- whether attempts have been made to domesticate any other wild animals;
- how dogs were domesticated;
- how there are such differing breeds of dog;
- about unlikely friendships between humans and animals.

An Interesting Crossing **Answers**

1. Trip 1
The boy takes the chicken across the stream.
2. Trip 2
The boy returns for the seed and fox.
3. Trip 3
The boy takes the fox across to the other side.
4. Trip 4
The boy returns WITH the chicken.
5. Trip 5
The boy leaves the chicken and takes the seed.
6. Trip 6
The boy returns alone.
7. Trip 7
The boy makes the final journey with the chicken.