



Color me!



DID YOU KNOW?



- Volcanoes are openings in the Earth's surface. When they are active they can let ash, gas and hot magma escape in sometimes violent and spectacular eruptions.
- The word volcano originally comes from the name of the Roman god of fire, Vulcan.
- Volcanoes are usually located where tectonic plates meet. This is especially true for the Pacific Ring of Fire, an area around the Pacific Ocean where over 75% of the volcanoes on Earth are found.
- While most volcanoes form near tectonic boundaries, they can also form in areas that contain abnormally hot rock inside the Earth. Known as mantle plumes, these hotspots are found at a number of locations around the globe with the most notable being in Hawaii.
- Hot liquid rock under the Earth's surface is known as magma, it is called lava after it comes out of a volcano.
- Some famous volcanic eruptions of modern times include Mount Krakatoa in 1883, Novarupta in 1912, Mount St Helens in 1980 and Mt Pinatubo in 1991.
- While we certainly have some big volcanoes here on Earth, the biggest known volcano in our solar system is actually on Mars. Its name is Olympus Mons and it measures a whopping 600km wide and 21 km high.
- The object with the most volcanic activity in our solar system is Io, one of Jupiter's moons. Covered in volcanoes, its surface is constantly changing to the large amount of volcanic activity.
- Most people think of volcanoes as large cone shaped mountains but that is just one type, others feature wide plateaus, fissure vents (cracks where lava emerges) and bulging dome shapes.
- There are also volcanoes found on the ocean floor and even under icecaps, such as those found in Iceland.
- Volcanoes can be active, dormant (recent historical activity but now quiet) or extinct (no activity in historical times and unlikely to erupt again). While these terms are useful, scientists are more likely to describe volcanoes by characteristics such as how they formed, how they erupt and what their shape is.
- Common volcanic gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen sulfide.
- Volcanic eruptions can send ash high into the air, over 30km above the Earth's surface.
- Large volcanic eruptions can reflect radiation from the Sun and drop average temperatures on Earth by around half a degree. There have been several examples of this over the last century.
- Pumice is a unique volcanic rock (igneous) that can float in water. It can also be used as an abrasive and is sometimes used in beauty salons for removing dry skin.

PEAR, COCONUT AND RASPBERRY SPELT MUFFINS

Ingredients:

- * 280g (2 cups) white spelt flour
- * 1 tablespoon baking powder
- * 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- * 35g (1/2 cup) shredded coconut
- * 140g (2/3 cup) raw sugar, plus 1 tablespoon extra
- * 2 eggs
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- * 125ml (1/2 cup) milk
- * 80ml (1/3 cup) vegetable oil
- * 1 small firm ripe pear, cored, grated
- * 85g (2/3 cup) frozen raspberries



Method:

- Preheat oven to 180°C or 160°C fan forced. Line a 12 hole 80ml (1/3 cup) capacity muffin tin with paper cases. Sift the flour, baking powder and cinnamon into a large bowl. Add the coconut and sugar, stir to combine.
- Whisk the eggs, vanilla, milk and oil together. Add

the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients, stir until just combined. Stir through the pear and raspberries. 3. Divide mixture between prepared muffin holes. Sprinkle tops with a little extra raw sugar. Bake in pre-heated oven for 20 - 25 minutes or until golden brown.

Fennec Fox

The fennec fox or fennec is a small nocturnal fox found in the Sahara of North Africa. Its most distinctive feature is its unusually large ears, which also serve to dissipate heat. Its name comes from the Arabic word fanak, which means fox. The fennec is the smallest species of canid. Its coat, ears, and kidney functions have adapted to high-temperature, low-water, desert environments. In addition, its hearing is sensitive enough to hear prey moving underground. It mainly eats insects, small mammals, and birds.

The fennec has a life span of up to 14 years in captivity. Its main predators are the African varieties of eagle owl. Families of fennecs dig out dens in sand for habitation and protection, which can be as large as 120 m² and adjoin the dens of other families. Precise population figures are not known but are estimated from the frequency of sightings; these indicate that the animal is currently not threatened by extinction. Knowledge of social interactions is limited to information gathered from captive animals. The species is usually assigned to the genus *Vulpes*; however, this is debated due to differences between the fennec fox and other fox species. The fennec's fur is prized by the indigenous peoples of North Africa, and in some parts of the world, the animal is considered an exotic pet.

Social behavior

Information on fennec fox social behavior is mainly based on captive animals. The basic social unit is thought to be a mated pair and their offspring, and the young of the previous year are believed to remain in the family even after a new litter is born. Playing behavior is common, including among adults of the species. Fennec foxes make a variety of sounds, including barking, a purring sound similar to that of a domestic cat, and a snarl if threatened.

Captive animals engage in highly social behavior, typically resting while in contact with each other. They have been seen to bury feces by pushing soil with their noses or hind feet when in captivity. Much remains unknown of their basic ecology and behavior in the wild, and a 2004 report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature stated that "in-depth study of the species, with particular emphasis on habitat use and population dynamics in the wild, is overdue."

Habitat

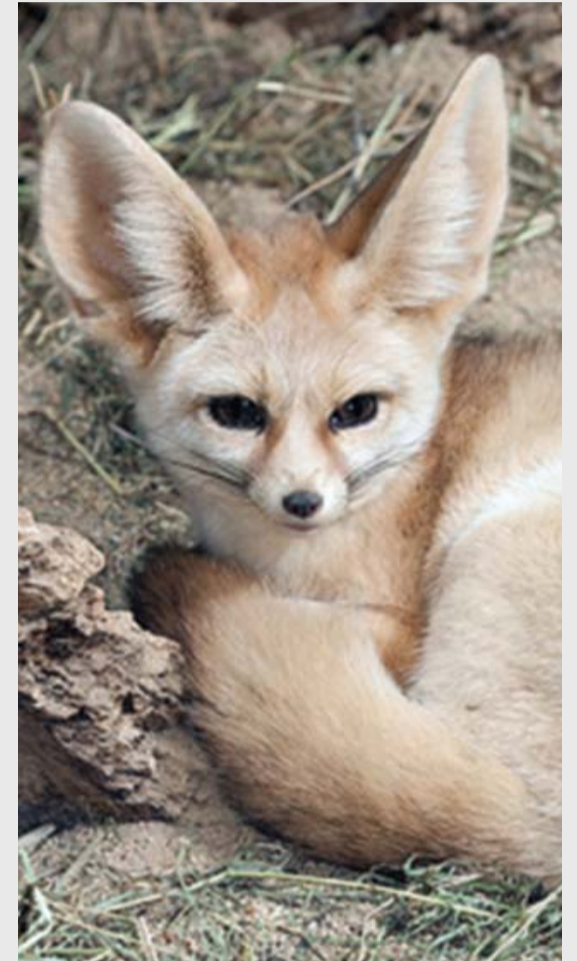
The species is found in North Africa and Asia. The range is from Morocco through to Egypt, as far south as northern Niger and as far east as the Sinai Peninsula and Kuwait. A fennec fox's typical den is dug in sand, either in open areas or places sheltered by plants with stable sand dunes considered to be their ideal habitat. In compacted soils, dens can be up to 120 square meters, with up to 15 different entrances. In some cases different families interconnect their dens, or locate them close together. In soft, looser sand, dens tend to be simpler with only one entrance leading to a single chamber.

Predators

The fennec fox's main predators are the various African varieties of eagle owl. Other possible predators include caracals, jackals, striped hyenas, and the

saluki, a greyhound-like domestic dog local to the area. However, fennec foxes are considered very difficult to capture, and reports of predators other than the eagle owl are considered to be anecdotal and questionable.

Fennec foxes are commonly trapped for sale to the pet trade and for fur by the human population of Northern Africa. In southern Morocco in particular, their meat is not eaten because it is considered to be foul smelling.



As pets

The fennec fox is bred commercially as an exotic house pet. Breeders tend to remove the young kits from the mother to hand-rear, as owners prefer tamer and more handle able foxes, thereby making them more expensive.

The species is classified a "small wild/exotic canid" by the United States Department of Agriculture, along with the coyote, dingo, jackal, and Arctic fox, and is considered the only species of fox, other than the domesticated silver fox, which can properly be kept as a pet. Although it cannot be considered domesticated, it can be kept in a domestic setting similar to dogs or cats. A breeders' registry has been set up in the United States to avoid any problems associated with inbreeding. The legality of owning a fennec fox varies by jurisdiction, as with many exotic pets.

Q: Why was the computer cold?

A: It left its Windows open!

Q: Why was there a bug in the computer?

A: Because it was looking for a byte to eat!

Q: Why did the computer squeak?

A: Because someone stepped on its mouse!

Q: What do you get when you cross a computer

JOKES

and a life guard?

A: A screensaver!

Q: Where do all the cool mice live?

A: In their mouse pads!

Q: What do you get when you cross a computer

with an elephant?

A: Lots of memory!

ACTIVITY

SPOOKY BAT DECORATION

What you need:

- * 1 x bat printable template
- * Pencils or crayons
- * 1 x a4 sheet of black card
- * 2 x googly craft eyes

Activity:

- Once you've printed out the spooky bat template, you can make your own fun!
- Color the template in with pencils or crayons
- Trace it onto black card and make a black bat
- Make a slightly more detailed bat by adding googly craft eyes and white fangs.
- For best effect, make lots of bats and then string them from your front porch on halloween.
- To add a hanging string, just staple a piece of wool or string to the bat's head.



SUDOKU

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