Artie the Arctic Fox & Cooper the Red Fox

**Fast Friends ...**

Artie was born into the exotic pet trade in 2016. At only a year old, Artie’s owner made the difficult decision to surrender him and we got the call that Artie needed a forever home.

We welcomed him to our pack! Six months later, Cooper joined Artie as his companion.

We weren’t sure how they would fare together, especially since they are different species, but the duo quickly bonded and now spend hours playing tag and wrestling together! Cooper brought out a side of Artie we had yet to see -- a playful, inspired confidence! We are so grateful to find Artie a ‘brother’ to bond with, as foxes are naturally social animals. Artie and Cooper’s charisma and silly antics pull at guests’ heartstrings, stirring compassion and a new understanding of canid species around the globe.

**Enrichment Mad-Libs**

Fill in the blanks and insert your own words into the story on the next page!

1. Onomatopoeia __________________________
2. Adjective _______________________________
3. Verb + “-ing” ____________________________
4. Noun _________________________________
5. Verb + “-ed” ____________________________
6. Adjective _______________________________
7. Adjective _______________________________
8. Adjective + “-ly” _________________________
9. Your Name _______________________________
10. Adjective + “-y” _________________________
11. A trick you might do to jump in the pool ___________________
"(1)_______!" Artie exclaimed as he alerted Cooper to what was in store. A big, (2)_______, blue kiddie pool was (3)_______ their way. It was enrichment time (which they lovingly referred to as "(4)_______ o’clock"). Keeper Danielle (5)_______ over and greeted the brothers. ‘Hooray’ thought the boys simultaneously ‘I can smell the (6)_______, (7)_______ fish from here’. Artie and Cooper wiggled and geckered (8)_______ with anticipation as the big, blue thing made its way into their habitat. Artie and Cooper drooled as their keepers as (9)_______ and Danielle dumped the (10)_______, glistening pile of ice and fish into the kiddie pool.

“Cowabunga!” cried Cooper as he did a (11)_______ into the frigid water. Together, the two foxes scraped away at the fishy ice blocks in a fit of joy until they grew too full and tired. Off they went to sleep in their cozy dens in the beautiful hills of the Endangered Wolf Center.

The end...

Do You Want to Build a Snowman?

Spring has sprung and left Artie blowing his coat to prepare for summer. When Artie blows his coat, it looks like a fake snow storm came through only his and Cooper’s habitat and it leaves him looking smaller, darker, and a lot more comfortable in the warming spring. This is natural for Artie to acclimate to the warmth-- even an Arctic summer can get rather warm and would be far too tough to handle with all that fluff!

DIY Play “Snow”

No mess, household ingredients, hours of creative fun & reusable? What's not to love? Let your little ones craft, build, and squish without fear of slime getting all over the carpet (or worse, the cat’s fur)!

Directions:
Combine 3 cups baking soda and ½ cup white conditioner together in a large bowl.

Stir together with spoon until somewhat crumbly in texture. Snow should be moldable, like sand.

Place snow on the baking sheet play space and begin!

Too much baking soda? Try a smaller ratio such as 1 ½ cup baking soda: ¼ cup conditioner and still have enough to make a mini Arctic fox den!
What Does a Fox Say?

Foxes actually vocalize with a noise called a gecker that sounds a bit like a forceful giggle. Did you hear any geckering during your experience today? Even though we don't know exactly what a fox says, we still like to imagine that if foxes spoke like we do, they might say something so super silly someone would say: sorry sir, stop screeching!

All at once, Artie ate an artfully arranged arugula salad around an angry army of ants!

Creative canid Cooper carefully considered coloring his crate with cool crayons!

Let's imagine some kooky TONGUE TWISTERS... Try writing your own tongue twisters below!

All About Anything Artie:  

1  
2  
3  

Calling Cooper Creatives:  

1  
2  
3
It turns out Arctic foxes have one particularly fascinating adaptation in common with the fennec fox:

They both have fur on the bottoms of their paw pads!

Why might that be?

The same thing is protecting Artie’s feet from the cold, frigid ice as Daisy’s feet from the hot, scorching sand!

Same adaptation, different reason!

Learn More

Did you know that you can help take care of Artie, Cooper, and many of our animals without even leaving your home?

Join our Adopt-a-Wolf program!
Learn more at endangeredwolfcenter.org/adopt

Loved meeting Artie and Cooper?

Meet more of our animal ambassadors including Daisy the fennec fox, Clay the Western hognose snake, Sawyer the Virginia opossum, and three-toed box turtles Minya, Phoebe, and Pickle!