

**2nd Grade Curriculum Guide Book Summary**

**Book and DVD title: *The Fox and the Hound***

**Author:** Mouseworks (Based on a Walt Disney movie by the same name)

**Main characters:** Tod, Cooper, Chief, Big Mama, Dinky, Boomer, Mrs. Tweed, Mr. Amos, Vixey

**Executive summary:** Tod, an orphaned fox, and Cooper, a young hunting hound, become best friends. As they grow older, they are supposed to be enemies, but they discover that friendship and kindness are stronger than hate.

**Detailed summary:** One summer day an owl named Big Mama sees a fox hide her fox cub near a fence to keep him safe from hunters. The mother fox runs away and is shot by the hunters. Big Mama along with Dinky the sparrow and Boomer the woodpecker help the little fox find a new home with Mrs. Tweed, a kind old widow. She takes care of him and names him Tod.

Nearby a hunter named Amos Slade brings home a puppy named Cooper. Amos Slade’s old hunting hound, Chief will watch out for Cooper and teach him to hunt.

One day Tod and Cooper meet in the woods. They quickly become best friends. Every day they run and play together. One day when Cooper does not come into the woods to play, Tod goes to find him. Amos tied Cooper up. Chief was sleeping near Cooper. He was tied to a barrel. When Chief sniffs the air, he smells a fox. It’s Tod. Chief chases Tod, dragging the barrel, barking loudly. Amos runs out of the house with his gun. He fires a shot, but Tod runs away. He sees Mrs. Tweed in her truck and jumps in the back. Later that day Amos tells Mrs. Tweed to keep Tod away from his farm and his chickens.

Mrs. Tweed is afraid that Amos will hurt Tod, so she keeps him inside the house. Tod misses his friends outside and sneaks out. He sees Cooper in a truck with Amos and Chief. They will teach Cooper to hunt. Big Mama worries about Tod being friends with a hunting hound. She tells Tod that Cooper will learn to track animals for Amos to hunt for food and furs. Tod is surprised that his friend Cooper would do such a terrible thing. Big Mama tells Tod that he will be safe with Mrs. Tweed. Continued on Back ***The Fox and the Hound,*** Page 2  
  
Winter comes and Tod is safe and warm inside the house, but he misses his friend, Cooper. Meanwhile, Cooper has grown a lot and has learned to track by scent. Chief is proud of his student. Cooper will be a great hunter.

Spring comes, and Tod too has grown up over the winter. He is in the yard playing with Big Mama, Dinky and Boomer when he sees Amos drive by with Cooper in the front seat. Tod is excited to see his friend. Big Mama warns Tod that Cooper is a trained hunting dog now.

That night, Tod goes to see his friend, but Cooper tells him that he cannot be his friend anymore. Then Chief wakes up and smells the air. He barks, and shots are fired. Tod is scared and runs away, but he gets lost and hides under a pile of timber. Cooper tries to save Tod from Chief and Amos. He tells Tod to run away. The fox runs along the railroad tracks, but Chief is on the tracks behind him. A train comes down the tracks. Tod lays flat on the tracks, but Chief must jump out of the way and falls into the ravine below the tracks. Tod runs home to Mrs. Tweed. He hopes Chief is alright. When Cooper finds the injured Chief, he is angry at Tod for causing Chief’s injuries. He and Amos want revenge.

Mrs. Tweed decides that, though she loves Tod very much, foxes belong in the woods, not the house. She takes him to a wildlife sanctuary, where she thinks he will be safe and happy. But Tod is very sad when she leaves him there. He misses his friends and his home. Big Mama flies to the sanctuary to find Tod. She meets a nice female fox named Vixey, who helps look for Tod. When they find him, Vixey thinks Tod is very handsome, and Tod thinks Vixey is beautiful. They fall in love.

Amos sneaks into the sanctuary and sets traps to catch Tod. Cooper and Amos see Tod and Vixey coming down the path. Tod sets off one of the traps. He is unhurt but scared. Vixey takes Tod to hide in her burrow. Amos lights a fire outside the burrow to smoke them out. Tod and Vixey jump through the fire to escape. Cooper chases them along the river. They run into a bear. The bear is angry at the hunters. As Amos backs away, he steps in one of the traps he set earlier. Cooper stands by his master, ready to fight the bear. He lunges at the bear, but the bear sweeps him away with his large paw. Cooper lay unconscious on the ground. Tod hears the barking and screaming and returns to see what happened. Just as the bear is about to kill Cooper, Tod jumps at him, nipping his ear. Now the bear runs after Tod, who steps out on to a log hanging over the river. The bear follows him and both animals fall into the river. Tod swims to the bank. He is safe. He lay on the bank catching his breath when he sees Amos, pointing his gun at him. Then Cooper jumps in front of Tod, before Amos can fire his gun. Cooper knows that Tod saved their lives. Amos realizes that Cooper is right. Tod deserves to go free after saving their lives.

When Amos tells Mrs. Tweed what happened, she is proud of her brave little fox. And she actually becomes friends with Amos. Chief’s wounds heal and he forgives Tod too, after he hears what Tod did. In the sanctuary Tod and Vixey live a happy life together. They both cherish the love and friendship they have had in their lives.