

HENRY AND THE FOX

Who will keep Henry from feeling lonely this summer? Stop every two or three pages to summarize what you have read. Henry lived on a farm. All his school friends lived in town. Now school was out I for summer. Henry hoped he would not be too lonely on the farm.

Henry liked to wheel all over the farm. He fed the chickens. He picked up eggs. He watched the silverfish in the stream. Of all the places on the farm, Henry liked the raspberry patch best. He went there every day. One day, something caught his eye. A tiny red fox was standing near him.

Henry sat very still. The fox was trying to eat the bright, red berries in the bushes. "She looks too small," thought Henry. "She must be hungry." Slowly Henry picked one raspberry. He tossed it to the fox. She ran off before the berry hit the ground. Henry waited, but the fox didn't come back.

The next day, the fox did come back. Henry tossed a raspberry again. This time she ate it. Henry tossed another, and another. Every day, the fox came back. She ate all the raspberries Henry tossed to her. "I've made a new friend!" thought Henry.

For three weeks, Henry visited with the little fox. Then one day she didn't show up. She didn't come the next day, either. One day, Henry was wheeling across the farm. He heard something. It sounded like crying. Henry followed the sound past the raspberry patch. He followed the sound into the woods. The sound got louder. Henry saw a wire box.

It was a trap. Inside the trap was the little red fox! She had been making the sound.

The fox saw Henry. She stopped crying. She came to the door and looked up at him. Henry leaned down and opened the door. The fox ran out. She stopped and looked at Henry as if to say, "Thank you!" Then she ran into the woods.

Henry didn't see the fox again that summer. Fall came. The sky got gray. The winds grew colder. Soon winter snows covered the raspberry patch. Spring came again. The skies got blue. The wine got warmer. At the raspberry patch, something caught Henry's eye.

There was his friend, the fox!

The fox was bigger now. She was not alone. She had two pups! Henry grinned as he watched them play. This summer, he would have three fox friends.