

Bibliography

This bibliography focuses on representations of the fox and hunting in literature and popular culture that may provide literacy opportunities. Links to an extensive library of books and texts exploring hunting can be found on the *Foxhunting: past, present, future?* website.

The fox

Fables of Aesop

Written around the sixth century BC, tales include the 'Fox and the Crow' which show the fox as devious and skilled at using flattery to get what it wants.

Reynard the Fox

These medieval folk tales, featuring the charming yet wily fox Reynard, first appeared in English in a translation by the printing pioneer, William Caxton, in 1481. The character eventually gave the French their word for fox, *renard*.

Rossel

In Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales', the story told by the Nun's Priest features a wily fox named Rossel.

Volpone

In Jonson's 1606 play Volpone - the references to the corrupt priesthood are presented through the figure of the fox.

Brer Fox

First published in the 1880s in the USA, the Brer stories were written by Joel Chandler Harris, a white writer who had been told similar stories as a child by a pair of elderly slaves in Georgia. Unusually the fox is portrayed as gullible and allows the central character Brer Rabbit to outwit his predator.

Beatrix Potter's Tale of Jemima Puddle Duck

The sly Mr Fox appears in the 'Tale of Jemima Puddle Duck'.

Basil Brush

A popular children's television character since the 1960s, Basil Brush represents the 'loveable rogue' character often associated with foxes. He is devious, mischievous and revels in getting the better of his human side kick.

Roald Dahl's Fantastic Mr Fox

Three farmers, launch a relentless campaign to try and catch Mr Fox and his family. The friendly and fantastic Mr Fox conceives a brilliant scheme and successfully outwits the farmers.

Pro-hunting literature

Henry Fielding

In 'Hunting Song' hunting is portrayed as based on reckless bravery.

This eighteenth century novel 'Tom Jones' portrays hunting as the pursuit of true English men.

Rudyard Kipling

In 1933 Kipling wrote the poem 'Fox Hunting' which told of a world without hunting where the countryside was overrun with motor cars.

Siegfried Sassoon

In 1917 Siegfried Sassoon recalled the atmosphere of the hunts in the autobiographical work 'The Old Huntsman'.

Robert Smith Surtees

Surtees created Mr John Jorrocks, a cockney grocer obsessed with hunting as shown in 'Jorrocks's Jaunts and Jollities', 'Handley Cross', 'Mr Sponge's Sporting Tour' and 'Mr Facey Romford's Hounds'.

Anthony Trollope

Trollope spoke of the values of hunting believing it to be inclusive to many social groups.

Anti-hunting literature

William Blake

'Auguries of Innocence', published in 1805, tells of the pain caused by hunting.

Lord Byron

Byron attacked fishing and hunting in 'Don Juan' published between 1818 and 1824.

William Wordsworth

Wordsworth targeted hunting in his poem of 1800 'Hart-Leap Well'.