

Here is a story from page 11 of *First News*. Read the story, and then try the puzzle. To help you, we have underlined the answers to the crossword puzzle clues in the story – but you will need to match the correct word with each clue!



ANIMAL NEWS

NOSEY FOXES



FOXES living in cities or towns are changing and becoming more like domestic dogs.

Researchers from the University of Glasgow have been studying the differences between urban foxes and rural foxes.

As part of the study, they looked at the skulls of thousands of foxes from London and from the countryside, to see if they could spot any differences.

They discovered that foxes living in more built-up areas have smaller brains and different-shaped snouts (noses).

Foxes are in the same animal family as dogs and

wolves. Unlike many creatures, foxes have flourished in our towns and cities. They eat almost anything, including beetles, worms, birds, small mammals and fruit.

But in urban areas, foxes scavenge most of their food from our rubbish bins! The experts think the different shaped snout might make it easier for city foxes to get food out of bins. And because they hunt less, they may not need to be such quick thinkers. This may explain why they have smaller brains.

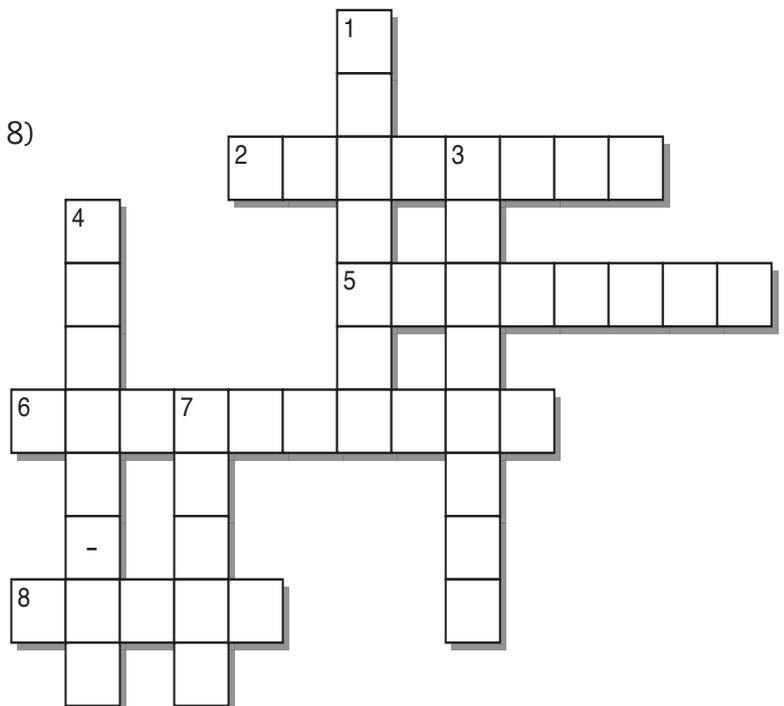
The foxes are adapting to living close to humans, just as wild dogs once did.

ACROSS

- 2) Animals kept and bred by humans, such as pet dogs, rather than wild dogs (adjective 8)
- 5) Changing because of what's around them (verb 8)
- 6) Did very well; grew in number (verb 10)
- 8) Countryside (adjective 5)

DOWN

- 1) Warm-blooded animals (such as foxes, mice or humans) with a backbone that feed their young with milk produced by the mother (plural noun 7)
- 3) To search for food in rubbish bins, etc (verb 8)
- 4) Places that have lots of houses and other buildings and little green space (adjective 5-2)
- 7) A built-up area, such as a town or city (adjective 5)



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