

Young Scamper
and
The Sly Fox

It was late February and Young Scamper was looking forward to the warmer weather of spring. His mother, Mrs. Redfur, had recently told him that he is going to have a new brother or sister by the end of March, probably around his first birthday, which is on the 1st of April.

"Mum!" Young Scamper called out, "I think I'll go down to the river to see if there is anything exciting happening, Bye mum! see you later."

Young Scamper loves to get down to the river footbridge where it crosses into the North field, especially to his most favourite Horse Chestnut tree, which at the moment has no leaves on any of its branches.

After leaving the Redfur drey where he lives, Young Scamper scurried down to the edge of

the riverbank in search of some buried chestnuts that he had hidden the previous September. These chestnuts were given to him by his friends, the Grey squirrels. Whilst randomly searching for his buried chestnuts, Young Scamper likes to pounce along in the long grass to see if he can smell the chestnuts under the ground. He does not know why he pounces just before he digs, but he learnt how to do this by watching his brothers do it. After several failed attempts to find his buried stash, Young Scamper noticed a pair of Reddish-Brown pointed ears lurking in the long grass about 30 metres away. Young Scamper pretended not to notice and carried on pouncing his front paws into the grass. He looked up again thinking, "Hello! I do believe I am being shadowed by a large unknown animal." So Young Scamper continued pouncing but

kept a sharp eye out on the mysterious pair of pointed ears.

When the unknown animal got too close for comfort, Young Scamper decided it was time to nip up on to the lowest branch of his favourite Horse Chestnut tree for safety. Once up on the branch he could still see the mysterious animal and he could quite clearly make out that it had a very long bushy tail and extremely sharp looking teeth.

"I wouldn't want to get bitten by those nasty looking teeth," exclaimed Young Scamper as the mysterious animal continued to creep and sneak towards the Horse Chestnut tree where he was seeking refuge.

He decided enough was enough and shouted out to the animal, "Hey! what's your game then? Why are you sneaking about in the grass? Have you got nothing better to do?"

The animal replied, "I'm not sneaking, I'm just practicing my special manoeuvres, I'm