

unless she had been able to provide her dwelling with air.

When the time comes for laying her eggs, the spider wraps them up in another sort of coccon prepared for this purpose, and then dies.

LESSON XII.

THE FOX.

qua-dru-ped	crev-ice	char-ac-ter
muz-zle	de-struct-ive	prov-erb
e-rect	nox-i-ous	pre-ci-pice
re-si-dence	strat-a-gem	Rey-nard

The fox is a quadruped of the dog kind. This animal is found in almost every quarter of the world. His colour is brown; he has a sharp muzzle; his ears are erect and pointed; and his tail is straight and bushy, and tipped with white. His usual residence is a den or large burrow, formed under the surface of the ground, or in some deep crevice of a rock. He is seldom abroad till the evening; and then he prowls about the woods and fields for food, till the morning. He feeds on hares, rabbits, poultry, feathered game, moles, rats, and mice; and he is known to be very fond of fruit. He runs down hares and rabbits by pursuing them like a slow hound. His voice is a sort of yelping bark.

Although the fox is very destructive to poultry and game, and sometimes takes the liberty of carrying off or devouring a lamb, he is of service to mankind, by destroying many kinds of noxious animals. His skin also constitutes a soft and warm