THE FOX
went out on a chilly night

An Old Song  Illustrated by PETER SPIER
The fox went out on a chilly night, and he prayed to the moon to give him light,

For he’d miles to go that night before he reached the town-o, town-o, town-o,

For he’d many miles to go that night before he reached the town-o.
He ran till he came to the farmer’s bin,

Where the ducks and the geese were kept penned in.

“A couple of you will grease my chin before I leave this town-o, town-o, town-o.
A couple of you will grease my chin

Before I leave this town-o."

First he caught the grey goose by the neck, then he swung a duck across the back.
And he didn’t mind the quack, quack, quack,

Or their legs all dangling down-o, down-o, down-o.

And he didn’t mind the quack, quack, quack, or their legs all dangling down-o.
Then old mother Giggle-Gaggle jumped out of bed.

Out of the window she popped her head,

Crying, “John! John! Our grey goose is gone, and the fox is in the town-o, town-o, town-o.”
Crying, “John! John! Our grey goose is gone,

And the fox is in the town-o.”

Then John, he ran to the top of the hill, blew his horn both loud and shrill.
The fox, he said, “I better go with my kill or they’ll soon be on my tail-o, tail-o, tail-o.”

He ran till he came to his nice warm den.
There were the little ones, eight, nine, ten.

They said, “Daddy, better go back again, because it must be a wonderful town-o, town-o, town-o.”

Then the fox and his wife, without any strife,
Cut up the goose with a fork and a knife.

They never ate such a dinner in their life and the little ones chewed on the bones-o, bones-o, bones-o.

They never ate such a dinner in their life
and the little ones chewed on the bones-o.

END

2. He ran till he came to the farmer's bin,
   Where the ducks and the geese were kept penned in.
   "A couple of you will grease my chin
   Before I leave this town-o.
   A couple of you will grease my chin
   Before I leave this town-o."

3. First he caught the grey goose by the neck,
   Then he swung a duck across his back.
   And he didn't mind the quack, quack, quack,
   Or their legs all dangling down-o, down-o, down-o.
   And he didn't mind the quack, quack, quack,
   Or their legs all dangling down-o.

4. Then old mother Giggle-Gaggle jumped out of bed,
   Out of the window she popped her head,
   Crying, "John! John! Our grey goose is gone
   And the fox is in the town-o, town-o, town-o."
   Crying, "John! John! Our grey goose is gone
   And the fox is in the town-o!"

5. Then John, he ran to the top of the hill,
   Blew his horn both loud and shrill;
   The fox, he said, "I better go with my kill
   Or they'll soon be on my tail-o."
   The fox, he said, "I better go with my kill
   Or they'll soon be on my tail-o."

6. He ran till he came to his nice warm den,
   There were the little ones, eight, nine, ten.
   They said, "Daddy, better go back again,
   Because it must be a wonderful town-o, town-o, town-o."
   They said, "Daddy, better go back again,
   Because it must be a wonderful town-o."

7. Then the fox and his wife, without any strife,
   Cut up the goose with a fork and a knife;
   They never ate such a dinner in their life
   And the little ones chewed on the bones-o, bones-o, bones-o,
   They never ate such a dinner in their life
   And the little ones chewed on the bones-o.