

MIGHTY MIKKO SOLUTION - PEDICURE

The grid can be filled as shown below. The string of words filling the non-lettered rows conceals the names of eight kinds of fox, each concealing an extra letter: T(r)IBETAN, ARC(e)TIC, FEN(d)NEC; D(c)ARWIN'S; CRAB(l)-EATING, CO(u)RSAC, SE(e)CHURAN, and HO(s)ARY. Extra letters spell the clue RED CLUES.

Note that the word “red” appears hidden throughout the clues. Taking the first letters from these clues (e.g. “Cake or salad ingredient”) in order spells another clue: CORRECT NUMBERS ARE YLVIS SONG. This refers to the group Ylvis’s best-known song “The Fox (What Does the Fox Say?)”, aptly for the chatty Mikko.

For this puzzle, “Correct numbers” refers to those numbers appearing in the numerically-correct position within their rows. Those squares are shown shaded in the solution grid. Those letters in each row spell one of The Fox’s utterances from that song, plus an extra letter. In song order: RING-D(p)ING, WA-PA-P(e)A, HATE(d)E, JOF(i)F, J(c)ACHA, FRA(u)KA, A-HE(r)E, AOO(e)O.

Extra letters spell the answer PEDICURE.

