

HIKER KILLS COYOTE WITH BARE HANDS

Feb 27th, 2024

WARM-UP QUESTIONS: *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s).*

1. Why do people like hiking?
2. Read the headline above. Have you heard this news story? If so, say what you know. If not, can you guess what it is about?

VOCABULARY: *Match the following vocabulary words with a description. Use a dictionary if you need to.*

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Encounter | a) to go somewhere unfamiliar and possibly dangerous |
| 2. Suffocate | b) to present |
| 3. Rabies | c) death caused by cutting off oxygen |
| 4. Urge | d) to follow, obey |
| 5. Venture | e) to throw |
| 6. Hurl | f) a meeting, especially an unexpected one |
| 7. Pose | g) to strongly encourage or advise |
| 8. Showcase | h) to emphasize |
| 9. Underscore | i) to present someone's qualities in a positive way |
| 10. Adhere | j) a disease that causes salivation, strange behavior, paralysis, and potentially death |

LISTEN: *Listen to the audio track on eslnewsstories.com or to a reader of the text. Try to fill in the missing words. Then check your answers with the full text (below).*

A hiker's recent encounter with a coyote serves as a reminder of the importance of caution and awareness in the _____. While exploring trails in the state of Rhode Island, the hiker was attacked by the wild animal. In a remarkable display of self-defense, the hiker managed to suffocate the coyote with his bare _____ and received only minor injuries.

However, the incident took a concerning turn when the coyote later tested positive for rabies, a potentially fatal disease that spreads through bites. This was only the third reported _____ of rabies in Rhode Island coyotes since 1994, highlighting the rarity of such occurrences.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) has launched an investigation into the attack, urging residents to be cautious while venturing outdoors, particularly _____ the coyote mating season, which typically spans from January to March. The DEM advises individuals encountering coyotes to create loud noises and hurl objects to scare them away. It is important _____ to approach or feed wild animals, as their unpredictable nature can pose a significant threat.

While this incident showcases the hiker's remarkable self-defense skills, it underscores the risks associated with wild animals. Maintaining a safe _____ and adhering to recommended precautions come first when exploring natural habitats.

WORD FORMS: *Fill in different forms for the vocabulary from the article. Use a dictionary if you need to. Where there is an x, the word is unimportant for ESL students, has a different meaning, or does not exist. Sometimes there are multiple possible answers, and sometimes the adjective form is a past or present participle.*

VERB	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB	NOUN
encounter		x	
suffocate			
urge			
venture			

FULL STORY:

A hiker's recent encounter with a coyote serves as a reminder of the importance of caution and awareness in the outdoors. While exploring trails in the state of Rhode Island, the hiker was attacked by the wild animal. In a remarkable display of self-defense, the hiker managed to suffocate the coyote with his bare hands and received only minor injuries.

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While this incident showcases the hiker's remarkable self-defense skills, it underscores the risks associated with wild animals. Maintaining a safe distance and adhering to recommended precautions come first when exploring natural habitats.

Sources: apnews.com, wpri.com, turnto10.com
For source links, see the article on ESLNewsStories.com

COMPREHENSION: *Decide if the following are true (T) or false (F), and then discuss your answers with your partner(s).*

1. A man killed a coyote out of cruelty. (T / F)
2. The coyote had a dangerous disease. (T / F)
3. Making noise can scare coyotes away. (T / F)
4. It was lucky that the man had a gun. (T / F)

COMPLETE: *Re-order the following sentences. Capitalize certain words and add punctuation.*

1. makes / animals / more / and /dangerous / rabies / aggressive
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2. man / seriously / the / not / hurt / was
-

DISCUSSION: *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s). Try to speak in sentences and ask follow-up questions.*

1. What did you think about this story? Was there any surprising information?
2. Do you like to go outside? Why or why not?
3. Talk about a beautiful outdoor location in your country.
4. Could you have done what the man in the story did? Could you kill a coyote with your bare hands?

5. What's the most dangerous animal that you think you could beat in a fight?
6. There are several dangerous animals in the American wilderness. What others have you heard about?
7. Is it important to be able to defend yourself? How well can you defend yourself?
8. Would you consider taking a weapon, like a gun or bear repellent when going hiking in America?
9. Have you been bitten by an animal? What happened?
10. Have you ever seen a dangerous animal outside of a zoo? Where were you and what did you see?

WRITING: Write a paragraph that clearly states your opinion on the above news article. Give reasons for your opinion.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY: 1-f, 2-c, 3-j, 4-g, 5-a, 6-e, 7-b, 8-i, 9-h, 10-d

WORD FORMS: encountered, encounter, suffocating, suffocatingly, suffocation, urgent, urgently, urgency, venturous, venturously, venture

COMPREHENSION: 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-F

COMPLETE: 1. Rabies makes animals more aggressive and dangerous. 2. The man was not seriously hurt.