

Introduction

Before you read, think about the following questions:

Do you often see wild animals where you live? What kinds of wild animals can be found in Alberta cities and towns?

Background Reading: About Coyotes

Excerpt taken from:

<http://www.srd.alberta.ca/ManagingPrograms/FishWildlifeOfficers/HumanWildlifeConflict/Coyotes.aspx>

The paragraph below is about coyotes.

Coyotes look like a cross between a fox and a small collie or German shepherd and weigh between 9 and 14 kilograms. They have a narrow nose, large ears and a bushy tail they hold low when running. Coyotes are highly curious, intelligent and adaptable. Coyotes primarily feed on rabbits, mice and squirrels. Because coyotes feed heavily on abundant rodent species, they provide a valuable pest-control service to their human neighbours.



Background Reading: Questions

Understanding the reading

- 1) What animals do coyotes look like?
- 2) What characteristics do coyotes have (besides their appearance)?
- 3) What are some benefits coyotes provide?

Food for thought

- 4) Do you think that city governments should try to get rid of all coyotes in urban areas? Why or why not?