



Wolves Imitate Bees: Astonishing Discovery Revealed!

Description

Recently, a remarkable phenomenon has been observed among a particular species of wolf residing in Ethiopia, which has been documented engaging with flora in an unexpected manner—specifically, by licking flowers. This intriguing behavior suggests that these carnivorous predators may occupy an unforeseen ecological niche akin to that of gargantuan, terrestrial pollinators.

As these distinctive red wolves traverse from blossom to blossom, their tongues sampling the sweet exudates, their white snouts become enshrouded in the bright yellow pollen of the red hot poker flower (*Kniphofia foliosa*). Researchers, led by Sandra Lai of Oxford University, posited that the Ethiopian wolf (*Canis simensis*) may represent an unprecedented instance of a large carnivore engaged in pollination.

The research team articulates, “Wolves have been observed foraging for nectar on *K. foliosa* flowers, resulting in a significant deposition of pollen on their muzzles, implying a potential contribution to the pollination process.” They emphasize, though, that further investigation is requisite to substantiate these preliminary findings.

The supplementary material accompanying their enlightening study in **Ecology** features a video illustrating the Ethiopian wolves in action as potential pollinators of *K. foliosa*.

If these wolves are indeed aiding in the fertilization of flowers, they would join a select and charming array of non-flying mammals known to engage in pollination, a phenomenon termed [therophily](#). Notable participants in this category include various rodents, certain primates, elephant shrews, and honey possums, the sole entirely nectarivorous mammal that is not a bat.

Over the years, Lai and colleagues noted the wolves' incidental penchant for sugary substances. Their observational study tracked six distinct wolves across four days, revealing individual wolves visiting up to 30 flowers in a single outing. This unique behavior not only underscores the complexity of ecological relationships but also highlights the wolves' critical role within their ecosystem.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Phenomenon** /fə'nomɪnən/ (noun): An observable event or occurrence often one that is unusual or remarkable.
2. **Ecological** /i:kə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ (adjective): Related to the interactions between living organisms and their environment.
3. **Engaged** /ɪn'geɪdʒd/ (verb): Involved or participating in an activity or process.
4. **Pollination** /,pɒlə'neɪʃən/ (noun): The transfer of pollen from male to female parts of a flower enabling fertilization.
5. **Deposition** /,dɛpə'zɪʃən/ (noun): The act of placing something in a specified position or the state of being placed.



6. **Intriguing** /In'tri:ɡɪŋ/ (adjective): Arousing curiosity or interest; fascinating.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term describes the ability of a product to produce a desired effect?
Option: Efficacy
Option: Variant
Option: Frailty
Option: Eclipses
2. What word means a visual representation or description of something?
Option: Mitigate
Option: Deposition
Option: Indispensable
Option: Engaged
3. Which term is used to describe the action of fine-tuning or adjusting something for accuracy?
Option: Calibrated
Option: Robust
Option: Prohibition
Option: Extrusion
4. What term refers to a remarkable event or occurrence?
Option: Biocompatibility
Option: Ecological
Option: Phenomenon
Option: Pollination
5. Which term relates to the study of the adverse effects of chemical substances on living organisms?
Option: Sustainable
Option: Consequently
Option: Toxicological
Option: Accumulation
6. What term describes the process or means by which something operates or is achieved?



- Option: Modifiability
- Option: Prophylactic
- Option: Mechanism
- Option: Substantiating

7. What term refers to the act of forbidding or banning something?

- Option: Nanosketti
- Option: Eclipses
- Option: Prohibition
- Option: Emulsifying

8. Which term means to make something less severe serious or painful?

- Option: Intriguing
- Option: Mitigate
- Option: Substantiating
- Option: Deposition

9. What word describes something that can be maintained for a long time without exhausting resources?

- Option: Sustainable
- Option: Engaged
- Option: Pollination
- Option: Indispensible

10. Which term refers to the process of shaping or forming objects by forcing material through a die?

- Option: Extrusion
- Option: Robust
- Option: Variant
- Option: Elucidated

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. A _____ security system is essential to protect sensitive information.

12. The flu vaccine is adjusted each year to target the most prevalent _____ of the virus.

13. Good communication skills are _____ in a customer service role.

14. The _____ of evidence led to the breakthrough in the case.

15. The employees were actively _____ in the team-building exercises.



16. Bees play a crucial role in the _____ of flowering plants.
17. The professor _____ the complex theory in a way that everyone could understand.
18. The software's _____ allows users to customize its features.
19. Materials used in medical implants must possess _____ to avoid rejection by the body.
20. The budget cuts led to a reduction in staff numbers; _____ workload increased for remaining employees.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Understanding the inner of a machine is crucial for its maintenance.
22. The old bridge collapsed due to the of its structure.
23. Researchers are exploring the applications of particles in advanced technologies.
24. The study provided ample evidence the hypothesis.
25. During a solar the moon passes between the sun and the earth.
26. agents are commonly used in food preparation to mix oil and water.
27. The study aimed to determine the between sleep patterns and cognitive function.
28. The new data is crucial for the previous research findings.
29. The mystery novel had a plot full of twists and turns that kept readers engaged.
30. The environmental organization focuses on promoting conservation practices.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Efficacy 2. Depiction 3. Calibrated 4. Phenomenon 5. Toxicological 6. Mechnism
7. Prohibition 8. Mitigate 9. Sustainable 10. Extrusion

Gap-Fill: 11. robust 12. variant 13. indispensable 14. accumulation 15. engaged 16. pollination 17. elucidated



18. modifiability 19. biocompatibility 20. consequently

Matching sentence: 1. mechanism 2. frailty 3. nanosketti 4. substainting 5. eclipses 6. emulsifying 7. correlation 8. substantiating 9. intriguing 10. ecological

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL6

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