



UNTAMED S2E2: Wild Neighbors

Discussion Questions

These discussion questions are designed to be used as a resource that inspires conversation, critical thinking, and promotes a “big picture” understanding of topics covered in each episode. Questions may be answered individually, or out loud in a group setting. Key terms and vocabulary that will help educators and students engage in discussion include:

[habitat, environment, nuisance animal, coexist]

The following questions are best used when paired with a complete viewing of the full episode, and may be more suitable for advanced levels:

1. What traits and behaviors would lead someone to think of a wild animal as a “good” neighbor or a “bad” neighbor?
2. Coexisting with wild animals in a certain space starts by understanding why they’re in that area to begin with. What things might attract an animal to a rural agricultural field? A suburban backyard? An urban city park?
3. Out of all the phone calls the Wildlife Center receives about “nuisance” species, snakes tend to be the most frequently asked about. Why do you think so many people dislike snakes, and what could you do to change that?
4. Why is teaching tolerance towards wildlife important?
5. Modifying humans’ behavior is almost always the easiest, most-effective way to live in harmony with wildlife. What can you do to be a better neighbor to wildlife near your own home?

The following questions are best used when paired with a viewing of “Wild Neighbors: In (About) Two Minutes”, a synopsis of the major themes and key topics covered in the full episode, that may be more suitable for younger audiences:

1. What are the four things that animals are looking for from a habitat that they might be able to find near people?
2. Why are people interacting more closely with wildlife in the present day compared to the past?
3. Why might some people think wild animals in their backyards or neighborhoods are a nuisance?