



Weekly Discussion Questions 11/11/2024

Weiford, Linda. "Grateful for the Turkey Crossing the Road." *The Spokesman-Review*, 25 Nov. 2024, pg. 25

Classroom Discussion Question Grades 9-12

Conservation Efforts and Success: The article mentions the wild turkeys near extinction by 1900 and its subsequent comeback as "one of the greatest successes in wildlife conservation." What factors do you think contributed most to this success, and how can these strategies be applied to other species facing similar threats today?

Wild Turkeys in Urban Environments: The article describes how wild turkeys have adapted to urban and suburban areas like Spokane, citing factors such as fewer predators and abundant food. Do you think the presence of wildlife in urban settings is more beneficial or problematic for humans and the animals themselves? Why?

Human-Wildlife Interactions: According to Mark Vekasy, human behavior, such as feeding turkeys, can lead to conflicts. Why is it important to maintain boundaries with wild animals, and what are the potential risks if such boundaries are ignored? How can communities better educate residents about living alongside wildlife responsibly?

Classroom Discussion Question Grades 6-8

Helping Wild Turkeys: Wild turkeys almost disappeared by 1900, but conservation efforts brought them back. What do you think people did to help wild turkeys survive, and how could we use those ideas to help other animals that are in danger?

Wild Turkeys in the City: The article talks about wild turkeys living in cities because they find food and have fewer predators. Do you think having wild animals in cities is good or bad for people and the animals? Why?

How to Act Around Wild Animals: The article says that feeding wild turkeys can cause problems because they might keep coming back and act aggressively. Why do you think it's important not to feed wild animals? How can we teach people to live safely with animals like wild turkeys?

Classroom Discussion Question Grades 1-5

Saving Wild Turkeys: A long time ago, there were almost no wild turkeys left. What do you think people did to help them come back, and how can we help other animals that need it?

Turkeys in the City: Some wild turkeys live in cities now because they can find food and stay safe. Do you think it's a good or bad idea for wild animals to live near people? Why?

Being Safe Around Wild Animals: The article says feeding wild turkeys can make them act mean or come back too much. Why do you think we shouldn't feed wild animals? How can we keep both people and animals safe?