

Encounters with Wild Animals

The Estonian Folklore Archives' 2023 collection competition focuses on the relationship between people and nature. We are looking for memories and stories about wild animals. Contributions can be written in free form or as answers to the following questionnaire. You do not have to answer all the questions. Entries are welcome during 2023 on the website kratt.folklore.ee, by e-mail to kratt@folklore.ee or by post to Tartu 51003, Vanemuise 42 Estonian Literary Museum, Estonian Folklore Archives, keyword **Metsloomad**.

1. RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

1.1 How would you describe your relationship with nature - are you an urban or rural person, a nature lover, a guide...? Do you spend time in nature because of your job or hobbies? What has influenced your relationship with nature in your life?

1.2 How have you gathered knowledge about wildlife? Give examples.

1.3 What is your idea of a wolf? What do you think about the wolf as an Estonian national animal?

2. ENCOUNTERS WITH WILD ANIMALS

2.1 Recall your encounters with wild animals in different places - in the forest, on the road, in the city, in the garden, at the zoo... anywhere else? Tell your own stories or stories you have heard from others! What was your reaction when you encountered animals in the woods or heard them making noise?

2.2 How have you been trained to behave if you encounter, for example, a bear, a wolf, a deer, a wild boar, a raccoon, or wildlife cubs in the forest?

2.3 If you're interested in taking pictures of animals, watching wildlife on camera, filming animals and making films, tell us about your experiences!

3. WILD ANIMALS AND FEARS

3.1 What activities, places in the forest do you avoid? Why? In which situations have you had to hide or protect yourself in the forest?

3.2 Which wild animals are you afraid of? Which animals scared you as a child? How have your beliefs changed over time?

4. HUMAN ACTIVITIES AND WILDLIFE

4.1 Should humans intervene in the lives of wild animals - feeding, hunting, treating...? What do you do when you meet a sick or injured wild animal? What are your experiences of damage caused by animals – for example, a wolf taking a sheep, a moose destroying a pine tree...?

4.2 What are your or your acquaintances' experiences with domesticated wild animals?

5. WILD ANIMALS IN EVERYDAY LANGUAGE

5.1 There are figurative meanings in the vernacular, where an animal stands for a certain type of person, human action, or attitude. For example: sleeps like a bear. Which sayings do you know, and can you name them?

6. WILD ANIMALS IN THE DREAM WORLD

6.1 What dreams have you had about wild animals? What have you heard about the meaning of the animals you dreamed about?

If you have any questions, please contact: Mathilda Matjus mathilda.matjus@folklore.ee or call the Estonian Folklore Archives: 7377730. Thank you for answering!

Estonian Folklore Archives of Estonian Literary Museum asks for your preferences for archiving and use of your contribution.

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Please, fill out current form for the archives to know, how can your contribution be used in the future. Please, put as few restrictions as possible, but as many as you consider appropriate.

We also would like you to put down some personal details that you are ready to disclose to the public. We also would like to ask for your contact information that will be for archive use only. You are required to choose only one variant, so, if you mark 'yes' for the first option, you don't need to mark others.

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Materials can be made accessible online, in publications, exhibitions etc without any restrictions.		
Materials can be used only for research purposes and they cannot be published online or in any publications for years.		

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