Man Finds New Cat

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In Bolivia, a man found a cat. It was dark yellow with black spots. It had small, round ears. It looked like a leopard. But it was small. Was it a pet cat?

The man took the cat home. He gave it noodles, rice, and eggs to eat. But the cat did not act like a pet cat. It was wild. The man could not take care of a wild cat. So he took it to a place that takes care of wild animals.

The people at the place looked at the cat. It was VERY small. It weighed less than one and a half kilograms! It was smaller than a pet cat! Was it a baby pet cat? Nope.

The cat was new to scientists too. Was it a leopard? No. Was it a tiger? No. Was it a tiger cat? Yes! But... it was different from other tiger cats!

Some people in Bolivia know about these tiger cats. These people live near forests. The forests have clouds ON the trees! The cats are from these cloud forests.

The people call these cats “tilcayo.” So scientists named them “tilcayo tiger cats.” "Tilcayo" means "small foot" in an Indigenous language.

How many tilcayo tiger cats are there? No one knows. One more tilcayo came to the place that takes care of wild animals. Scientists are looking for more.

Tilcayo tiger cats have been on Earth for more than one MILLION years. That is longer than people! But they are new to us! How cool!

Vocabulary

這種在南美洲玻利維亞的虎貓，是今年動物界的最新發現。

1) leopard 花豹。
Oh no, stop! 停! You almost hit that cat! 你差點撞到那隻貓!

That's not a common cat. 那不是普通的貓 2) black 黑色的。 It's a leopard cat.牠是石虎。

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How can you tell? 你怎麼看得出來? It ran by so fast! 牠一下就跑過去了。
Did you see the black spots on its back? 你有沒有看到牠背上的黑斑點? That's quite different from a house cat. 跟家貓很不一樣。

3) wild 野生的。
So that's a wild cat? 所以那是野貓?
Yeah. 是的。
Is it a kind of tiger? 是一種老虎嗎?
No, tigers are much bigger.不是，老虎大得多了。

4) tiger 老虎。
But in Chinese it's called a "rock tiger"! 但是中文卻叫牠石虎。
You're right. That's because it often hides among rocks. 你說得對，因為牠常常躲在石頭中間。

你看過石虎嗎? 來複習單字。leopard 花豹 black 黑色的 wild 野生的 tiger 老虎

Quiz

1. In which country did the man find the cat?
a. Bulgaria
b. Bolivia
c. Botswana

2. What did the man give the cat to eat?
a. Noodles
b. Fish
c. Bread

3. Where are these cats from?
a. A rainforest
b. A snow forest
c. A cloud forest

Answers

1. b
2. a
3. c