

Solar farms become home for endangered foxes

Do you have solar panels on your roof?

Vocabulary

1. habitat 2. environment 3. adapted 4. predators 5. researchers 6. construction

True Story

A solar farm in California became an unexpected home for the endangered San Joaquin kit fox. It was built to produce clean energy, with large areas of panels and little human activity. After _____, plants began to grow, attracting insects and small animals. This created a stable _____.

The foxes, which had lost much of their natural _____, found food and safety there. Fences kept larger _____ out, and the panels provided shade. _____ saw that the foxes _____ quickly and began living in the area.

This shows that solar farms can do more than produce energy. With good design, they can also support wildlife.

Quiz

1. Where is the solar farm located?
2. What kind of energy does the solar farm produce?
3. What did the foxes find at the solar farm?
4. Who saw that the foxes adapted quickly?

True or False

- | | |
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| 1. The solar farm attracted insects and large animals. | True False |
| 2. The foxes found a new home at the solar farm. | True False |
| 3. Larger predators were able to enter the solar farm. | True False |

Conversation

- A: Did you see the foxes at the solar farm?
 B: Yeah, they seem really happy there!
 A: It's amazing how they adapted so fast.
 B: I know, right? They even have shade from the panels.
 A: And no big predators can get in.
 B: It's like a five-star hotel for them!

Discussion

1. Have you ever seen a fox in the wild?
2. What other animals might like living at a solar farm?
3. Are there any solar farms in your city? What do you think about them?
4. What other kinds of energy can you think of?