

What should you do if wildlife gets too close to you and you get scared?

# Be **S.M.A.R.T.**!

Colorado is home to many incredible wildlife species. As people and wildlife continue to share space, there is a chance that you, or a family member, will have a close encounter with one of Colorado's predators. Please take the time to speak with your children, and other loved ones, about being **S.M.A.R.T.**:

**S** **STOP!** Do not run! If you run, the animal may chase.



**M** **MAKE yourself look big!** Put your hands over your head or pull your jacket up over your head. Look as big as you can so the animal knows that you are too tough to mess with.



**A** **ANNOUNCE firmly "Leave me Alone!"** This lets the animal know you are a person and it lets people around you know that you may be in trouble.



**R** **RETREAT by backing away slowly.** Do not turn your back to the animal.



**T** **TELL an adult about your encounter.**



If you are attacked- fight back! People have successfully fought off predators with rocks, sticks and even their bare hands. Kick, punch, poke, bite- do whatever it takes to win!



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