



Strange but True!

What is the runaway cow?

- Florida police were trying to catch a cow.
- They asked people to watch out for it.

Illustration: The runaway cow.

Florida Police Catch Runaway Cow

April Fools' Day is today! It's a time where people **traditionally** play jokes or try to catch each other out. Twinkl NewsRoom, though, has found some stories that are **strange but true**.

Have you 'herd' about the runaway cow? In Pembroke Pines, Florida, the police put up wanted posters. They weren't looking for a person. They were looking for a cow!

The police said on social media that, "For several months, a loose cow has been seen wandering" in the Pembroke Pines area.

The police, though, wrote a humorous message, saying the cow was wanted for "MOOving **violations**".

On the wanted poster, the police said the cow was "Faster than it looks" and a "talented fence jumper." It also liked swimming pools!

The cow even caused traffic chaos, walking across a busy road. Cars had to dodge the cow as it wandered across.

The cow's days on the run are now over,

though. In the end, the police trapped it. They said, "We wish the cow well on its future adventures."

In other news, you'd think superheroes should be able to follow the law!

Unfortunately, for Batman fans, this wasn't the case. Police took a **replica** of his car off the streets in Moscow, Russia.

The Batmobile was not **roadworthy**, the police reported. They said it was too wide for the city's streets.

Glossary

traditionally	Something that has happened for a long time.
violations	Examples of breaking the laws or rules.
replica	An almost identical copy of something.
roadworthy	When a car is safe to drive on the road.

Questions

1. How do you think people felt when they saw wanted posters for a cow? Explain your answer.

2. 'Have you 'herd' about the runaway cow?'

Tick the box which gives the best reason why the author used the word 'herd'.

- ☐ There was more than one cow on the run.
- ☐ The author can't spell correctly.
- ☐ The author is trying to make a joke as 'herd' and 'heard' sound similar.
- ☐ The author is trying to catch the reader out!

3. 'The police, though, wrote a humorous message,'

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to 'humorous'.

- ☐ dull
- ☐ funny
- ☐ serious
- ☐ strange

4. Find and copy three things the police said about the cow on the wanted poster.

1.

2.

3.

5. What do you think the owner of the Batmobile will do next? Explain your answer.

6. Which of the news stories did you prefer? Give a reason for your answer.

Answers

1. How do you think people felt when they saw wanted posters for a cow? Explain your answer.

Accept any answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think the people felt confused as you normally see wanted posters for people, not cows!

2. 'Have you 'herd' about the runaway cow?'

Tick the box which gives the best reason why the author used the word 'herd'.

- ☐ There was more than one cow on the run.
- ☐ The author can't spell correctly.
- ☒ **The author is trying to make a joke as 'herd' and 'heard' sound similar.**
- ☐ The author is trying to catch the reader out!

3. 'The police, though, wrote a humorous message,'

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to 'humorous'.

- ☐ dull
- ☒ **funny**
- ☐ serious
- ☐ strange

4. Find and copy three things the police said about the cow in the wanted poster.

Accept any three from the following: the cow was "faster than it looks"; it was a "talented fence jumper."; the cow liked swimming pools!

5. What do you think the owner of the Batmobile will do next? Explain your answer.

Accept any answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think the owner will make changes to their car as it's too wide.

6. Which of the news stories did you prefer? Give a reason for your answer.

Accept any answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think the story about the Batmobile was really funny because it sounds more unlikely but it really happened!