

Python bites teenager in gang attack

英校園霸凌拿蟒蛇當武器

A gang pinned down a 14-year-old boy and attacked him with a snake, forcing the reptile to bite the teenager on the arm, British police said.

Police said they were interviewing two teenagers over the attack in the southwest English city of Bristol which they suspect was racially **motivated**.

The boy was taken to hospital for treatment after the non-**venomous** snake, thought to be a python about 1.2m long sank its **fangs** into his arm, leaving two puncture wounds, police said.

"The teenager had been subject to racist comments and then reportedly held down as a snake was held in front of him, which bit his right arm," a spokesman for Avon and Somerset police said.

"The boy was taken to Frenchay Hospital with breathing problems, where he was treated for the injury to his arm."

The boy, who has now left hospital and is **on the mend** at home, gave a description of the snake to ambulance officers who contacted experts.

"We contacted Bristol Zoo to talk to their snake expert. What we described they indicated was probably a type of python, so not venomous," an officer from Great Western Ambulance said. (AFP)



英國警方表示，一夥校園惡霸壓住一名十四歲少年，強行以蛇攻擊咬傷他的手臂。

英國西南部布里斯托市警方表示，他們正在約談兩名參與這起攻擊事件的青少年，他們懷疑整起事件起因於種族歧視。

警方表示，這名受傷少年被這條沒有毒性的蛇咬傷後送醫治療，研判咬傷他的是一條長一米二的蟒蛇，牠用長牙在這名少年手臂上留下兩個穿刺傷。

艾坊與薩默塞特警方發言人表示：「這名青少年一直飽受種族歧視言論的霸凌，這次他被壓制在地，惡霸

拿了一條蛇放到他面前，這條蛇咬傷了他的右手臂。」

「這名男孩因呼吸困難被送至法蘭查醫院，並在那裡治療手臂的傷口。」

這名男孩目前已出院回家休養，他對救護車上的醫護人員描述那條蛇的特徵，再由醫護人員向專家們求救。

大西部救護車服務隊的一位醫護人員說：「我們聯絡了布里斯托動物園的蛇類專家。依照我們的描述，他們判斷那應該是某種蟒蛇，並沒有毒性。」

(法新社/翻譯：袁星慶)

A one-month-old baby Python is taken for treatment at the Zoological Park in Guwahati City, northeast India, on Aug. 5, 2009.

八月五日，一條一個月大的幼蟒在印度東北古瓦哈提市動物園中接受治療。

照片：美聯社/歐新社

PHOTOS: AP/EPA

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **motivate** /'mɒtə,vet/ v.

刺激 (ci4 ji1)

例：The police are still trying to establish what motivated the attackers. (警方仍在釐清引發歹徒攻擊的動機。)

2. **venomous** /'venəməs/ adj.

有毒的 (you3 du2 de5)

例：Thankfully, the snake that bit me wasn't venomous. (幸好咬傷我的那條蛇沒有毒。)

3. **fang** /fæŋ/ n.

牙 (ya2)

例：Sam watched in horror as the wolf sank its fangs into a slab of meat. (山姆恐懼地看著那匹狼張嘴咬住一塊肉。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

on the mend
恢復健康中

If you are **on the mend**, you are recovering from illness. In the article, the boy is recovering from the snake bite.

Example: "Andrew isn't 100 percent fit, but he's **on the mend** and should be ready for our next game."

若說你「on the mend」，意思就是你的病正在好轉中。文章中提到，這名男孩被蛇咬後正在康復中。

例如：「安德魯還沒完全康復，不過他正在恢復當中，應該能趕上我們下一場比賽。」