

# The Hero Cat

A tale about a hero who is also a cat.



**A cat who proves herself to have the heart of a lion.**

Imagine you're four years old. You're riding your bike in your family's driveway. It's a beautiful sunny day but suddenly, out of nowhere, a dog grabs your leg and pulls you off your bike. You quickly realise you're in danger.

In this situation, if you could be saved by any animal in the list below, which would it be:



**My Dog**



**A Grizzly Bear**



**A Cat**

If you picked the dog or the bear, you are grossly underestimating the power of the cat.



**The humble housecat has been known to save the life of their not-so-furry counterparts.**

On May 13, 2014, four-year-old Jeremy Triantafilo in North America, was rescued by his cat, Tara. When Tara saw that Jeremy was in trouble, she quickly tackled the dog and chased him away. As soon as the threat was gone, Tara ran back to Jeremy's side to check on him. All of this was caught on video.



**Spending time with another animal creates a bond of friendship that can last a lifetime.**



Millions of people around the world saw what Tara did and they were amazed. They wondered why Tara, a humble household cat, would risk her life to protect a human being.

It's been shown that pets form strong attachments to their caregivers. These attachments are a form of love which proves that animals do have feelings and can communicate them through various actions. A perfect example being the way Tara protected Jeremy. By going up against a dog that was much bigger than her and very aggressive, she showed that she cared more for her owner than she did for herself. Because of this, Jeremy tells everyone that Tara is his hero.

The next time you find yourself in a situation where you need some saving, don't be surprised if the hand reaching out to help is actually a paw.

 **Good to Think About**



1. How did Tara save Jeremy's life?

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2. Why did Tara tackle the dog at the risk of endangering her own life?

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3. Why do some cats rescue human beings?

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4. Why is Tara described as having the "heart of a lion"?

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 **Key Vocabulary:**

- beautiful
- suddenly
- underestimate
- humble
- thwart
- bravery
- allegiance
- attachment
- communicate
- aggressive



LiteracyPlanet's  
**My Words**

