

***Boy fights  
lion  
tooth and nail.***

**MISSOULA, MT, USA** <sup>1</sup>On a fine summer day, Aaron Hall, 16, **set out on** a hike in the mountains of Montana with a group of young children. As a camp counselor, Hall **was in charge of** the children's safety.

<sup>2</sup>Hall was walking **in front of** six-year-old Dante Swallow when he heard Dante scream. <sup>3</sup>He turned around and **got the shock of his life**. An animal had Dante by the neck and was dragging him away. **At first glance** the animal **looked like** a dog, but then Hall saw the face of a mountain lion. <sup>4</sup>He reacted **in a flash**. He began kicking and hitting the lion. He **fought tooth and nail**.

<sup>5</sup>The lion **let go of** Dante and **backed off**, running into the bushes. <sup>6</sup>Hall gave Dante first aid. Then he jumped into a nearby truck and drove the boy down the mountain. <sup>7</sup>At the hospital Dante got stitches in his neck. What **a close call**! The lion's teeth had just missed Dante's main artery.

<sup>8</sup>"I **was** really **scared of** that lion," Hall said afterwards. "I don't even remember fighting him." He is now a hero in his community. "What he did is just incredible," said Dante's grateful parents.

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artery: a tube that carries fresh blood from the heart through the body

- Set out (on a hike, a walk, a trip)
- Be in charge (of someone or something)
- In front of someone or something
- At first glance
- Look like someone or something
- Let go(of someone or something)
- Be scared of someone or something.

- begin(a hike, a walk, a trip, an adventure, etc)
- be responsible (for someone or something)
- ahead of; before someone or something
- at the first quick look
- be similar in appearance to someone or something.
- release ( someone or something)
- Fear; be afraid of someone or something

**charge of**

**flash**

**glance**

**call**

**tooth and nail**

**off**

**of one's life**

\_\_\_ **a.** get the shock \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **b.** back \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **c.** a close \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **d.** fight \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **e.** be in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **f.** at first \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **g.** in a \_\_\_\_\_

**1.** a narrow escape

**2.** very quickly

**3.** be responsible for

**4.** at the first quick look

**5.** be very surprised and scared

**6.** move in reverse

**7.** fight hard





be scared of



in front of



got the shock of one's  
life



set out on



let go of, back off



a close call



fight tooth and nail



first aid

# Answer The Questions

## About the story

- What was Aaron in charge of as a camp counselor?
- How did the mountain lion response when Aaron fought him tooth and nail?
- Why did people say “what a close call!” when Dante was at the hospital?
- How can you describe the Aaron’s characteristics by seeing that Aaron reacted in a flash when Aaron saw the face of a mountain lion?

## About you

- If you were Aaron as a camp counselor, how would you react when Dante was attacked by a lion?
- Have you ever achieve something or save someone by fighting tooth and nail?
- Have you had any situation which could be called ‘a close call’?

**START**

in front of

Fight tooth and nail

Be scared of

A close call

Let go of

Back off

In a flash

Set out on

At first glance

Be in charge of

**FINISH**

Look like

Get the shock of one's  
life**3****2****1****1****2****1****4****2****3****2****1****1****2****4****3**

When it is your turn close your eyes. Use your pencil to touch a number ( in the box on the right). Move your market that many spaces. Try to make a personal, true sentence using the idiom.

If you can do it, stay on the space. If you cannot, go back two spaces.

The first person to reach FINISH is the winner.

# Senator Has a Close Call

**Whitefish, Mt, USA** For many years Senator Bob Brown worked in the Montana Legislature, where he was (1) \_\_\_\_\_ making new laws for the state. But Brown is **retired**\* now and spends much of his time outdoors.

One recent summer day Brown (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with his dog Mishka to do some fishing. On his way to the river, he (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Mishka came out from some bushes and behind her was a grizzly bear! (4) \_\_\_\_\_, Brown climbed a dead pine tree which had no branches. "I went up that tree as fast as I could go. If you don't think a fat guy can climb a tree, think again," he said. The bear stood (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Brown and tried to grab his feet. "I (6) \_\_\_\_\_ falling. I was so tired. I knew I couldn't stay up in the tree much longer." Mishka, meanwhile, was hiding quietly in the bushes.

Luckily, the bear eventually got bored and (7) \_\_\_\_\_. Brown and Mishka escaped in the other direction. It was (8) \_\_\_\_\_!

\* be retired: be no longer working



- be scared of (v)
- in front of
- set out (v)
- back off (v)
- get the shock of one's life (v)
- a close call
- in a flash
- in charge of

## Complete the idioms

- *That woman fought tooth and nail during the war to protect her children.*
- *Ellen gets the shock of her life when she opens the door of an abandoned house in the woods.*
- *It was a close call for residents when a tornado swept through just west of the town.*
- *She backed off and then turned and ran.*
- *It happened in a flash. Suddenly my wallet was gone.*