The Eastern Coyote

QUICK FACTS

COYOTE WATCH CANADA

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Coyotes have been a part of our urban landscapes for nearly **100** YEARS

THE AVERAGE ADULT COYOTE WEIGHS 22 to 40 lbs

The Eastern Coyote has a mix of DNA from the Western Coyote and Eastern Wolf and is sometimes called a "coywolf."

Coyotes are cousins to our domestic dogs. They are highly intelligent and can adapt to live in a variety of environments.

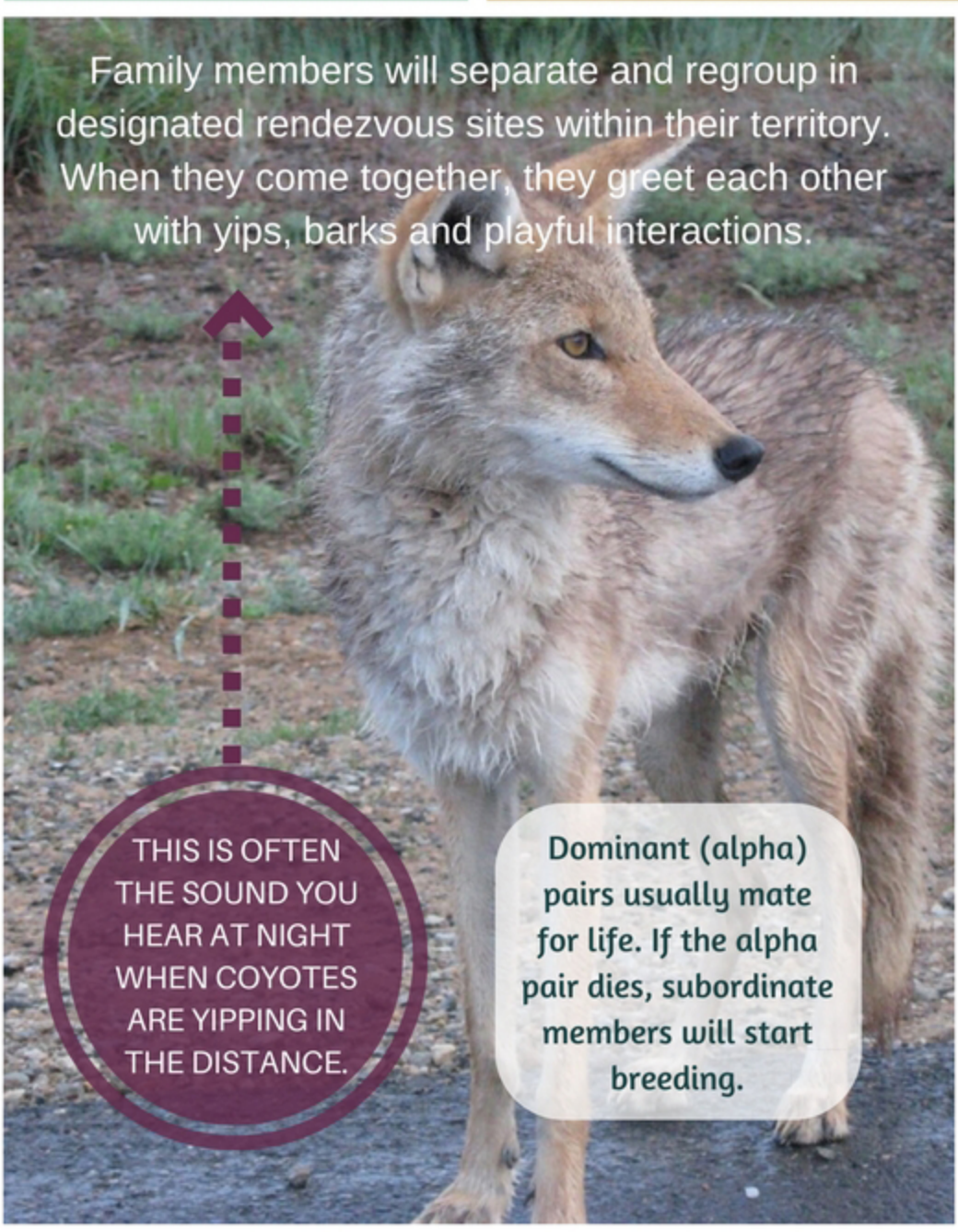
Coyotes live in highly structured social family units called **PACKS**

Pack members share the duties of pup rearing, hunting and territory protection. Pack sizes vary based on habitat and available resources; on average, a pack includes two to three adults and any surviving pups.

Vocalizations send messages of mating, mourning, celebration and warning or distress to pack and non-pack members. Howls are also used to locate pack members. Sometimes, a coyote separated from his family will howl simply out of loneliness.

COYOTES ARE OMNIVORES

Primary food sources include rodents, rabbits, squirrels and carrion. They also eat insects, fruit and grass. In cities, coyotes will eat pet food and garbage.



Coyotes are considered a **KEYSTONE SPECIES**

They help to keep ecosystems healthy. Coyotes regulate rodent populations, which prevents the outbreak of disease. Coyotes also contribute to avian diversity by keeping bird-eating mesocarnivore populations in check.

Coyote pups are born in the spring.

AVERAGE Litter Size: **5** PUPS

50 - 70% OF COYOTE PUPS are killed by humans before they reach adulthood