

No frying eggs in Death Valley, says park

13th July, 2013



Officials at the Death Valley National Park have appealed to visitors to refrain from trying to fry eggs on rocks or the ground. The park has been inundated with visitors trying to test the theory that it is hot enough to fry an egg ever since a park employee posted a video on YouTube of her attempts to do so. The online clip, together with soaring temperatures nearing 50°C and the centennial on Wednesday of the hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth, encouraged many people to try their own experiment, with messy results. Park cleaners are being kept busy cleaning up egg shells, discarded egg cartons, and the foul-smelling goo from hundreds of unsuccessful attempts at a sunny-side up under the sun.

Park rangers urged people on their Facebook page to not fry eggs. It read: "An employee's posting of frying an egg in a pan in Death Valley was intended to demonstrate how hot it can get here, with the recommendation that if you do this, use a pan or tin foil and properly dispose of the contents. However, the...maintenance crew has been busy cleaning up eggs cracked directly on the sidewalk, including egg cartons and shells strewn across the parking lot." It added: "Please put trash in the garbage or recycle bins provided and don't crack eggs on the sidewalks." A comment on the park's YouTube page stated how hot it got in Saudi Arabia, joking that, "you can throw a chicken in the air and you will catch it cooked".

Sources: NBC News / L.A. Times

Writing

People should get incredibly large fines or prison sentences for littering. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

Death Valley / visitors / frying eggs / theory / temperatures / experiment / messy / demonstrate / recommendation / tin foil / maintenance / recycle bins / sidewalk

True / False

- Cooking with eggs has been totally banned in Death Valley. T / F
- Visitors have been trying to fry eggs on rocks in the Death Valley park. T / F
- The article said the temperature in Death Valley last week was 50°C. T / F
- Park cleaners have been cleaning up failed fried-egg attempts. T / F
- A video was made to show how hot Death Valley is, not how to cook. T / F
- A parking area at the park was littered with egg shells and egg cartons. T / F
- A problem is that the park has no garbage cans / rubbish bins. T / F
- If you throw a chicken in the air in Saudi Arabia, it will cook in the air. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. officials | a. flooded |
| 2. appealed to | b. throw away |
| 3. inundated | c. failed |
| 4. encouraged | d. supplied |
| 5. unsuccessful | e. representatives |
| 6. intended | f. scattered |
| 7. recommendation | g. urged |
| 8. dispose | h. implored |
| 9. strewn | i. suggestion |
| 10. provided | j. meant |

Discussion – Student A

- Do you think it can be hot enough to fry an egg?
- Which came first, the chicken or the egg?
- How important are eggs to you?
- What's the difference between white eggs and brown eggs?
- What do you know about the nutritional value of eggs?
- What's your favorite way of cooking eggs?
- Would you like to eat an egg fried in Death Valley?
- Are there any interesting customs in your country using eggs?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. refrain from | a. of the contents |
| 2. the theory that it is | b. goo |
| 3. soaring | c. how hot it can get |
| 4. foul-smelling | d. side up |
| 5. unsuccessful attempts at a sunny- | e. on the sidewalks |
| 6. intended to demonstrate | f. hot enough to fry an egg |
| 7. properly dispose | g. cartons |
| 8. egg | h. temperatures nearing 50°C |
| 9. strewn across | i. trying to fry eggs |
| 10. don't crack eggs | j. the parking lot |

Discussion – Student B

- Should the worker be disciplined?
- What different uses are there for eggs?
- Do you like eggs from birds other than chickens?
- Do you prefer the egg white or the yolk?
- Do you usually buy free range eggs or those from battery chickens?
- What would your life be like without eggs?
- Do you like eating raw eggs?
- What questions would you like to ask a Death Valley park official?

Spelling

- eaeapdlp to visitors
- aenirrf from trying to fry eggs
- unndadeit with visitors
- ogiansr temperatures
- erddisca egg cartons
- hundreds of unsuccessful eptsmtta
- denarettsmo how hot it can get
- with the eatmdnioornecm that...
- properly dpsieos of the contents
- tcnminnaee crew
- in the garbage or rececly bins provided
- don't crack eggs on the adisklsew

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. a	4. g	5. c
6. j	7. i	8. b	9. f	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Fried eggs

You think fried eggs are the best way to cook eggs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their methods. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): scrambled eggs, boiled eggs or omelettes.

Role B – Scrambled eggs

You think scrambled eggs are the best way to cook eggs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their methods. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): fried eggs, boiled eggs or omelettes.

Role C – Boiled eggs

You think boiled eggs are the best way to cook eggs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their methods. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): scrambled eggs, fried eggs or omelettes.

Role D – Omelettes

You think omelettes are the best way to cook eggs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their methods. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): scrambled eggs, boiled eggs or fried eggs.

Speaking – In the kitchen

Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put what you most like to make at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| • fried eggs | • pasta |
| • salad | • a rice dish |
| • toast | • a microwave meal |
| • a sandwich | • pizza |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.