# 11-year-old girl survives adder bite at Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve



On May 28, 2024, an 11-year-old girl named Lily Lythgo was bitten by an adder at Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve in Colchester, Essex. During an adder trail event at the reserve, Lily crouched for a closer look at one of the snakes, resulting in the reptile biting her hand. Her mother, Sam Lythgo, 41, quickly rushed her to Colchester General Hospital. Upon arrival, Lily exhibited severe symptoms, including chest swelling and violent vomiting, as the venom spread through her body, causing organ failure.

Doctors administered the last available dose of anti-venom, which stabilized her condition within an hour. Lily recovered and was discharged a few days later. Essex Wildlife Trust, which manages the reserve, emphasized the presence of clear signage warning visitors about adders and the necessary precautions. In response to the incident, the Trust plans to enhance their warnings to ensure public safety.