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Health officials advising residents after possible exposure to bat that tested positive for rabies

Riverside County health officials are alerting parents about a possible exposure of two children in the Corona area who were seen handling a bat that tested positive for rabies. Testing was done by the Riverside County Public Health lab.

An adult who had contact with the bat told health officials there were two children who appeared to handle the bat in the parking lot of an industrial park at 301 Lincoln Ave. in Corona on Feb. 28. The incident occurred about 4 p.m.

The two boys appeared to be 11 or 12 years of age and were riding bicycles.

“It is important that these children be seen by a health care provider because the potential for a serious health issue,” said Dr. Geoffrey Leung, public health officer for Riverside County. “We ask parents and other guardians in the area to talk to their children and see if they might be the ones who handled the bat.”

It is recommended that exposed individuals see a health care provider as soon as possible to be evaluated for rabies post-exposure.

Parents can call Public Health at 951-358-5107 for any questions.