

RANGER RICK ADVENTURES

On Guard for Goats!

STORY BY GERRY BISHOP; ART BY THE CHARACTERSHOP

Ranger Rick, Scarlett, and Boomer are hiking along a trail in beautiful Glacier National Park, in Montana.



Whoa—look at that!

Let me see!

They're mountain goats, and they seem to be eating something on the rocks.

But what could be growing on such a STEEP mountainside?



Says here that the goats are LICKING the rocks. The rocks have minerals that are salty, and the goats love the taste.

The minerals are also good for their bones.

That is SO cool!



A little while later...

Look at all the cars and people!

A sign back there says that this is Logan Pass. It's one of the most popular parts of the park.



Mountain goats! What are they doing down HERE?

They're licking the sides of the cars. But why?

Look closely. The cars have road salt on them!



Rick explains that some of the high-mountain roads in the park still have snow on them. People put salt on the roads to melt the snow, but it also gets all over the cars.



Check out the mama goat with her two kids.

Cool! But what's she sniffing?



Looks like something that people put into their car engines to keep them running cool.



Says here it's called antifreeze—and it's poisonous!



HELLLLL!



WOOF!
WOOF!
WOOF!



The antifreeze must have leaked from a car. We have to warn that goat!

Won't have to—look!



Hey—get away from there! Shoo!



Good girl, Gracie!



Gracie must belong to the park ranger. She's a hero!

Yep, that guy could have been hurt!



And the goat and her kids were saved from lapping up that nasty antifreeze!

RANGER RICK'S FIELD NOTES

- In parks, wild animals often lose their natural fear of people and allow people to get near them. The animals may seem tame, but they're not and can become dangerous in a flash. People who forget that—even when trying to do good—can end up getting in trouble.
- Park rangers throughout the country have big jobs to do. One of the biggest is making sure people and wild animals don't get too close to each other.
- People can help the rangers by keeping their distance from wild animals and by NEVER feeding them.
- No one has yet been harmed by mountain goats in Glacier National Park, and rangers there—including Gracie—are doing their best to keep it that way.



Uh-oh, that goat looks angry.

She's defending her kids!

That guy had better watch out!



Go, get lost—you don't want to lick that stuff!



The goat's charging!



A few minutes later...

So, Gracie's job is to keep goats away from people—for EVERYONE'S safety.

Yeah—it's like she's one of the park rangers.



Nah, not a park ranger—a BARK Ranger!

Look for an exciting new adventure next month!

