

Newborn baby alive after 40 hours in sewer

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Picture: CreativeCommons



via susivinh on Flickr.com

A newborn baby boy is alive after spending 40 hours in a sewer in an apartment building in Alicante, Spain. Firefighters rescued the baby from under a manhole cover. The child was wrapped in a plastic bag with a hole in it so he could breathe. A man from

the apartment building called the police after he heard a sound coming from the sewer. He told reporters his story of what happened, saying: "I thought it was a cat that was trapped and that the baby's crying was its meowing. The noise went on for ages so I called the police. One of the firefighters saw one of his tiny feet and realised it wasn't a cat but a child." The baby boy, who weighs 2.1kg, is now safe in hospital. He has a broken arm and a few other injuries.

Spanish police arrested the 26-year-old mother of the baby soon after he was found. She is being charged with attempted murder for trying to kill her son. Police have not yet named the woman. Police officers said she went to a local hospital after she gave birth and told nurses she had suffered a miscarriage. She then told the police that she pushed her baby down a drain because she was too poor to pay for an abortion. Police are now trying to find out if she acted alone or if someone helped her. Last month, emergency workers in eastern China had to rescue a newborn baby after it became stuck in a sewer pipe. Its mother tried to give birth in secret and said the baby slipped down the toilet.

Sources: *Huffington Post* / *Sky News* / *BBC*

Writing

Newborn babies are the most beautiful things in the world. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

newborn baby / rescue / plastic bag / baby's crying / firefighters / hospital / injuries / arrested / attempted murder / gave birth / too poor / emergency workers / in secret

True / False

- A baby was found in a sewer under a restaurant. T / F
- The baby was covered in a plastic bag when firefighters found him. T / F
- A man called the police because he thought he heard a cat. T / F
- The baby had a broken leg but no other injuries. T / F
- The mother of the baby boy is now in a police station. T / F
- The mother told a local hospital that she had never been pregnant. T / F
- Police are investigating if someone helped the mother do what she did. T / F
- The woman said she copied what a woman in eastern China did. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. alive | a. had |
| 2. rescued | b. wounds |
| 3. wrapped | c. worked |
| 4. ages | d. covered |
| 5. injuries | e. saved |
| 6. arrested | f. nearby |
| 7. local | g. a long time |
| 8. suffered | h. jammed |
| 9. acted | i. living |
| 10. stuck | j. put in jail |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think of this story?
- What will happen to the baby from now?
- How surprised are you the baby survived for 40 hours? Why?
- What three adjectives best describe this story?
- What name would you give to this baby (and why)?
- What do you think the firefighter thought when he saw the tiny feet?
- How lucky is this baby?
- What do you think of newborn babies?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. in an apartment | a. on for ages |
| 2. a plastic bag with a hole in it | b. a miscarriage |
| 3. I thought it was a cat | c. a few other injuries |
| 4. The noise went | d. named the woman |
| 5. He has a broken arm and | e. murder |
| 6. She is being charged with attempted | f. alone |
| 7. Police have not yet | g. that was trapped |
| 8. told nurses she had suffered | h. building |
| 9. find out if she acted | i. birth in secret |
| 10. Its mother tried to give | j. so he could breathe |

Discussion – Student B

- What sentence should she get in court?
- Are you good with babies?
- What do babies think about?
- Which is better – a baby boy or baby girl?
- What dangers does a newborn baby face in its first few weeks?
- What is the most amazing thing about babies?
- What do you do if a baby doesn't stop crying?
- What questions would you like to ask a newborn baby?

Spelling

- in an apartment dilugnib
- Firefighters cedreus the baby
- The child was perapwd in a plastic bag
- so he could arhebte
- shegwi 2.1kg
- a few other urnjsii
- police reretasd the 26-year-old mother
- charged with attempted edurmr
- after she gave ibrth
- told uressn she had
- find out if she acted aoenl
- rnceeygm workers in eastern China

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Toys person

You think toys are the best present for a newborn baby. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): books, clothes or an investment.

Role B – Books person

You think books is the best present for a newborn baby. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): toys, clothes or an investment.

Role C – Clothes person

You think clothes is the best present for a newborn baby. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): books, toys or an investment.

Role D – Investment person

You think an investment is the best present for a newborn baby. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their presents. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): books, clothes or toys.

Speaking – Baby times

Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best times for a baby at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| • a day old | • six months |
| • one week | • 12 months |
| • one month | • 18 months |
| • two months | • 2 years |

Answers – True False

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