

Possum v snake: Mother saves joey from grip of python

Francesca McMackin, The Courier-Mail

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THIS possum reacted as any mother would after a python snatched her baby from her back, as the fight for life unfolded in a Queensland backyard.

Christine Birch Williams said the carpet python had been living in the courtyard of her property for some time, before trying to make a meal of the wandering possum's baby, the *Sunshine Coast Daily* reports.



The point where the snake may have realised it had bitten off more than it could chew. Picture: Christine Birch Williams

But the possum's mother wasn't going to let that happen, biting and scratching at the snake with the full force of her rage as the python tried to squeeze the life out of her offspring.

The point where the snake may have realised it had bitten off more than it could chew.

The snake was finally forced to retreat under the brutal onslaught.

Snake catcher Stuart McKenzie shared the photos to his Facebook page, adding the baby possum appeared to be fine after the snake let go.

"Mr Python had a few bite marks for his troubles," he said.

"He wont mess with that possum again!"

A debate has since raged among commenters on whether the resident should have intervened to save the possum instead of taking photos, or was right to let nature take its course.

"As hard as this would be to watch ... this is all a part of nature," Mr McKenzie said.

"Would I interfere and save the baby if I was there at the time? Hard to say.

"On one hand it would be horrible to watch, on the other hand the snake has earned his meal."