

Teen Survives Whale Attack, Kayaking Near Catalina Island

Fifteen year old Greg Greenfield was attacked by a whale on Sunday when kayaking off of Catalina island. Greg was accompanied by his father, George Greenfield 52, when he was abruptly swallowed by a Humpback Whale for about 10 seconds before being spit out.

Moments before the attack, George started recording his son on the water about 10 feet away when the attack took place, managing to get it all on video.

“It just happened so fast, I had no time to react until Greg was already spit out,” George said.

Shortly after the incident, Sgt. John Greko of the Coast Guard picked up the kayakers. Sgt. Greko was in disbelief when the father and son had told them what happened.

“I thought I was dead, I thought it had swallowed me, I was really scared but there was nothing I could do,” said Greg.

“I wouldn’t believe it if I didn’t see the video,” Grecko said.

After the attack, George took his son to urgent care. Greg did not sustain any injuries but was shaken up from the attack.

The video was posted on social media and went viral, people were impressed with dad’s calm reassurance of his son.

“It was scary but I didn’t want Greg to panic, so I focused on that,” dad said.

George and Greg live in Irvine, California. Greg plays soccer and George is a computer programmer. They are both avid kayakers and started kayaking when Greg was 11 years old.

Whale attacks are extremely rare in California waters and luckily George and Greg both escaped with no injuries.