Ruby master - Feature #16043

`$LOAD_PATH.resolve_feature_path` should not raise

08/04/2019 11:16 AM - deivid (David Rodríguez)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>Closed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
<td>Normal</td>
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<td>Assignee:</td>
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<td>Target version:</td>
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**Description**

When I first tried this method, I was expecting it to return nil when the given feature is not found. This is because I read in the docs and discussion that this method only searches the feature in the LOAD_PATH, but does not attempt to load it. Raising a load error makes it look that this method tries to load the feature, but I don't think it does that.

Also returning nil seems friendlier to me because the "feature not found" case is more like an expected outcome of the method than a real error condition, so in most usages this error will actually be rescued for control flow.

I attach a patch with the change, and link to the GH PR: [https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2317](https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2317).

**Associated revisions**

Revision 4dfc5496 - 02/16/2021 09:13 AM - znz (Kazuhiro NISHIYAMA)
Add NEWS entry for [Feature #16043]

**History**

#1 - 08/04/2019 01:24 PM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

read in the docs and discussion that this method only searches the feature in the LOAD_PATH, but does not attempt to load it. Raising a load error makes it look that this method tries to load the feature, but I don't think it does that.

I had a look at the tracker:

[https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/15230](https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/15230)

And I agree with you in the sense that mame did not mandate that the method should raise, so it probably should not raise (or it should be mentioned in the documentation, IMO).

I have no opinion on what it should return but I think either way it would be best to specify it, to less confusion by other ruby users. It may be best to ask mame directly whether he agrees with your comment + patch. :)  

#2 - 08/04/2019 01:43 PM - deivid (David Rodriguez)

Thanks for having a look and for linking to the original discussion!

#3 - 10/17/2019 05:10 PM - jeremyevans0 (Jeremy Evans)

- Backport deleted (2.5: UNKNOWN, 2.6: UNKNOWN)
- ruby -v deleted (ruby 2.7.0dev)
- Tracker changed from Bug to Feature

#4 - 11/04/2020 10:46 AM - Eregon (Benoit Daloze)

Agreed, I added it to the next dev-meeting agenda ([#17299](https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2317)).

#5 - 11/20/2020 07:35 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

Accepted.

Matz.

#6 - 02/16/2021 09:17 AM - znz (Kazuhiro NISHIYAMA)
Status changed from Open to Closed

Applied in changeset git|4dfc5496b7b64a063b36cbbbe95b43abeb9fb48cd.

Add NEWS entry for [Feature #16043]

Files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Name</th>
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<td>0001-LOAD_PATH.resolve_feature_path-should-not-raise.patch</td>
<td>1.13 KB</td>
<td>08/04/2019</td>
<td>deivid (David Rodríguez)</td>
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