

## **O** Focus Questions

Episode 27 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

#### **Mulan Controversy**

- 1. Discuss the BTN Mulan Controversy story as a class and record the main points of your discussion.
- 2. Which company produced Mulan?
  - a. DreamWorks
  - b. Disney
  - c. Universal
- 3. Complete the following sentence. Mulan is based on an old \_\_\_\_\_ legend
- 4. On social media, there have been calls to boycott Mulan. What does that mean?
- 5. Why have there been protests in Hong Kong?
- 6. Finish the following sentence: The actor who plays Mulan came out in support of China's....
- 7. How did that make Hong Kong supporters feel?
- 8. Mulan was filmed in a part of China where the Uyghur people live. What have authorities there been accused of?
- 9. Where is the Xinjiang region of China? Find on a map.
- 10. What questions do you have about this story?

#### **Fake Aboriginal Art**

- 1. What was the main point of the BTN story?
- 2. What percentage of artworks and souvenirs sold in Australia are fake?
  - a. 50%
  - b. 70%
  - c. 85%
- 3. Why is Aboriginal art unique?
- 4. What impact does the production of fake art have on Indigenous artists?
- 5. While it's illegal to pretend something has been created by an Indigenous person, there are no laws against selling art that looks similar. True or false?
- 6. What is the Government doing to stop fake Aboriginal art being produced?
- 7. How can you tell the difference between a fake and an authentic piece of Indigenous art?
- 8. Predict what might happen if fake artworks continue to be made and sold to tourists.
- 9. Should more be done to protect the Aboriginal art industry? Explain your answer.
- 10. What do you understand more clearly since watching this story?

Check out the Aboriginal Art resource on the Teachers page.

#### **Koala Threat**

- 1. Before you watch the BTN *Koala Threat* story, record what you know about koalas.
- 2. Discuss the BTN Koala Threat story in pairs.
- 3. What happened to the koalas on Kangaroo Island this year?
- 4. What did a recent World Wildlife Fund study find about koala populations?
- 5. What do koalas do when they are feeling threatened?
- 6. What happened to the koala's food source during the bushfires?



- 7. Even before the fires, habitat loss was a problem for koalas. What were the causes of habitat loss?
- 8. Complete the following sentence. Some are worried that koalas could be extinct in some areas by
- 9. What did you learn watching the BTN story?
- 10. How did this story make you feel?

Check out the Koalas resource on the Teachers page.

#### **Girls Cricket Campaign**

- 1. What do the girls in the BTN story like about playing cricket?
- 2. Where was the first recorded game of women's cricket played?
- 3. Complete the following sentence. The first official women's match was played at what is now known as the .
- 4. How have the uniforms changed over the years?
- 5. Who did Australia play in the first women's test match?
- 6. Over the past four years, participation in women's cricket has...
  - a. Increased
  - b. Decreased
  - c. Stayed the same
- 7. Name a well-known female cricketer.
- 8. Cricket is still dominated by boys and men. True or false?
- 9. What is the aim of Cricket Australia's girls cricket program?
- 10. What do the girls in the BTN story want to achieve playing cricket?

#### **Nigerian Ballet Dancer**

- 1. Briefly summarise the BTN Nigerian Ballet Dancer story.
- 2. Where is Nigeria? Find on a map.
- 3. What inspired Anthony to become a ballet dancer?
- 4. How does ballet make Anthony feel?
- 5. Where does Anthony practice ballet?
- 6. Where did Anthony get a ballet scholarship?
- 7. What did Anthony's parents want him to become?
- 8. What is Anthony's dream job?
- 9. What would you like to ask Anthony about ballet?
- 10. Write a message of support to Anthony and post it in the comments section on the story page.





**Teacher Resource** 

Episode 27 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# **Fake Aboriginal Art**

## **Q** Focus Questions

- 1. What was the main point of the BTN story?
- 2. What percentage of artworks and souvenirs sold in Australia are fake?
- 3. Why is Aboriginal art unique?
- 4. What impact does the production of fake art have on Indigenous artists?
- 5. While it's illegal to pretend something has been created by an Indigenous person, there are no laws against selling art that looks similar. True or false?
- 6. What is the Government doing to stop fake Aboriginal art being produced?
- 7. How can you tell the difference between a fake and an authentic piece of Indigenous art?
- 8. Predict what might happen if fake artworks continue to be made and sold to tourists
- 9. Should more be done to protect the Aboriginal art industry? Explain your answer.
- 10. What do you understand more clearly since watching this story?

# **☆** Activity

After watching the BTN Fake Aboriginal Art story, respond to the following questions:

- What did you SEE in this video?
- What do you THINK about what you saw in this video?
- What does this video make your WONDER?
- What did you LEARN from this story?
- How did this story make you FEEL?
- What was SURPRISING about this story?

### Key Learning

Students will learn more about the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and respond to artwork created by Indigenous artists.

### @ Curriculum

#### The Arts - Years 3/4

Explore ideas and artworks from different cultures and times, including artwork by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, to use as inspiration for their own representations.

Identify intended purposes and meanings of artworks using visual arts terminology to compare artworks, starting with visual artworks in Australia including visual artworks of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

#### The Arts - Years 5/6

Explore ideas and practices used by artists, including practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, to represent different views, beliefs and opinions.

Explain how visual arts conventions communicate meaning by comparing artworks from different social, cultural and historical contexts, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artworks.

# Activity

#### **Class Discussion**

Discuss the BTN *Fake Aboriginal Art* story as a class. Record the main point of the discussion. Use the following questions to guide the discussion.

- What do you know about Aboriginal art?
- What impact do the fake artworks have on Aboriginal artists and the industry?
- Why do you think the Australian Government has cracked down on fake Aboriginal art?













#### **Key Words**

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN *Fake Aboriginal Art* story. Here are some words to get you started.

fake	souvenir	artwork	
authentic	tourist	ethical	



#### **Indigenous Art Research**

Define: What do I want to know?

#### Key questions to research

Students can choose one or more of the following questions or come up with their own:

- · Why is Aboriginal art important?
- How does Aboriginal art tell stories?
- How is Aboriginal culture expressed through art?
- How does Aboriginal art differ across Australia?

#### Locate: Where do I find the information?

What resources will help answer my questions? (Internet, people, resource centre, organisations, print). Discuss with students what a reliable source is.

#### Select: What information is important for the investigation?

Students may need support to sort through and select relevant information.

#### Organise: How do I make sense of the information?

Students can organise their research by creating main headings from their questions. Write each heading on a separate piece of paper. Record the information found for each question.

#### Present: How do we let others know about this information?

Each group needs to discuss then decide on the best way to present the information. Possibilities could include:

- A 'Did You Know' Facts sheet
- Oral presentation
- Prezi presentation
- Poster

#### **Evaluate: What have we learnt?**

Each group reflects on what they have learnt about Aboriginal art during their investigation. Students will reflect on their learning and respond to the following.

- What I learned...
- What I found surprising...
- What I would do differently next time...





#### **Responding to Indigenous Art**

#### Virtual art gallery trip

Students will visit an online art gallery and respond to Indigenous artworks they have chosen. Below is a list of galleries with links to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art collections for students to choose from.

Art Gallery of South Australia
Art Gallery of NSW
National Gallery Victoria
Art Gallery of WA
Queensland Art Gallery
National Gallery of Australia

Choose an artwork/s to respond to. Record everything you see in detail.

- What is the name of the artwork and artist who created it?
- Is it a painting, print, sculpture or another type of artwork?
- What does the artwork remind you of? What does it make you think about?
- What materials were used to make it?
- Describe the artwork. What sorts of colours, lines, shapes and patterns can you see?
- Does it tell a story? What sort of story?
- How does the artwork make you feel?
- · What questions do you have about the artwork?

#### **Further investigation**

Reflect on the artwork and learn more about the artist. Respond to the following:

- · Why did you choose the artwork?
- What were your fist impressions of the artwork?
- How would you describe the artwork to someone who has never seen it before?
- Is it contemporary or traditional?
- If you could interview the artist what questions would you ask them about the artwork? Find out if you can contact the artist for an interview.
- What is the 'story' behind this artwork?
- What other artworks has the artist created?
- Where is the artist from?
- Interesting facts

#### Challenge

Choose another Indigenous artist to explore in detail to learn more about their life and art. Create a short biography of their life and show examples of their artworks. Explain why you chose to find out more about them and what you like about their art.





#### **BTN Story**

Watch the <u>BTN Indigenous Art</u> story and learn about how some kids got involved in a special Indigenous art exhibition.

- 1. What have the kids made for the Tarnanthi art exhibition?
- 2. What is the purpose of an audio guide?
- 3. Give an example of the sort of information in the guide.
- 4. Who did the students interview as part of their research?
- 5. Describe Yvonne Koolmatrie artworks.
- 6. Where does she collect the materials for her artworks?
- 7. Describe at least one other piece of art in the exhibition.
- 8. How did they put together their audio guides?
- 9. What did the art gallery say about the guides the kids made?



### **Useful Websites**

fakes/12621362

Commonwealth vows to stamp out fake Aboriginal art made in `sweatshops' – ABC News https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-02/federal-government-moves-to-protect-indigenous-art-from-

Indigenous Art - BTN

https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/indigenous-art/10525598





### **Teacher Resource**

Episode 27 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## **Koala Threat**

## **Q** Focus Questions

- Before you watch the BTN Koala Threat story, record what you know about koalas
- 2. Discuss the BTN *Koala Threat* story in pairs. Record the main points of the discussion.
- 3. What happened to the koalas on Kangaroo Island this year?
- 4. What did a recent World Wildlife Fund study find about koala populations?
- 5. What do koalas do when they are feeling threatened?
- 6. What happened to the koala's food source during the bushfires?
- 7. Even before the fires, habitat loss was a problem for koalas. What were the causes of habitat loss?
- 8. Complete the following sentence. Some are worried that koalas could be extinct in some areas by \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 9. What did you learn watching the BTN story?
- 10. How did this story make you feel?

# Activity

#### **Note Taking**

Students take notes while watching the BTN *Koalas Threat* story. After watching the story, students reflect on and organise the information into three categories.

What information about koalas was ...?

- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting

# **☆** Activity

#### **Glossary**

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN *Koala Threat* story. Students will then use the words to write their own sentences about the topic. Students may want to use pictures and diagrams to illustrate the meaning and create their own glossary. Here are some words to get you started.

Ecosystem	Habitat	Native
Species	Conservation Population	
Vulnerable	Threat	Marsupial

### **Key Learning**

Students will develop a deeper understanding of the issues facing koala populations in Australia.

### @ Curriculum

#### Science - Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

#### Science - Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

#### Science - Year 7

Classification helps organise the diverse group of organisms.

Scientific knowledge has changed peoples' understanding of the world and is refined as new evidence becomes available.





#### **Inquiry Questions**

After watching and discussing the BTN Koala Threat story, what questions do students have and what are the gaps in their knowledge? The following KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic and consider what they would like to know and learn.

What do I <u>k</u> now?	What do I <u>w</u> ant to know?	What have I <u>l</u> earnt?	<u>H</u> ow will I find out?

Students will develop their own question/s for inquiry, collecting and recording information from a wide variety of sources. Students may develop their own question for inquiry or select one of the questions below.

- Where can koalas be found? Use a map of Australia to highlight where koalas live in the wild. Why don't koalas live in Western Australia?
- Is there just one species of koala? Explore the physical features of koalas and how these vary depending on their environmental conditions.
- What is the difference between a vulnerable and an endangered species? Explore the status of koala populations around Australia.
- What threats do koala populations face?
- How are koala populations measured? Think of all the reasons why finding and counting koalas might be hard. Investigate what citizen science projects are happening to help count koalas.
- How many koalas are there left in the wild? Look at numbers of koalas before and after the 2019-2020 Australian bushfires. What would the numbers look like if we had another bushfire? Predict the numbers.

# Activity

#### **Literacy activity – Koala habitat**

This literacy activity demonstrates students active listening and interpreting skills. Students will listen to a description of a koala's habitat and create a simple black and white artwork illustrating its habitat. Teachers will use the following as a guide for this activity.

- Find a description of a koala habitat to read aloud to your students. Alternatively, choose another Australian native animal that is a vulnerable or endangered species. Visit the Australian Museum to explore a range of Australian animal habitats.
- Read the description of the koala habitat aloud to your class as a whole, reading the description 2 or 3 times.
- Students will take notes and write down key words as they listen.
- Students will illustrate the habitat using only a black felt—tip pen (0.4 or 0.6) on a piece of A4 art paper. Students will include as much detail as they can.
- Display the student's artwork in a school exhibition.
- We would love to see your students' artwork! Send your artwork to us at btn@abc.net.au
- Challenge students by asking them to recreate the habitat as a diorama or a virtual reality experience using Minecraft.





#### Who am I?

Students will make their own *Who am I?* game to learn more about native Australian animals.

- Students will research and write 5 clues to correspond with each animal in the Who am I? worksheet at the end of this activity, with the first clue being the hardest and the last clue being the easiest.
- Include clues about the animal's special features, its predators and how it adapts to its environment.
- Students will test their game on a partner.



## **Activity**

Quiz Questions Your Answer		Your Answer	
1. Koalas are a type of			
	a. Monotreme		
	b. Marsupial		
	c. Reptile		
2. What is the scientific name for a koala?			
	a. Macropus rufus		
	b. Tachyglossus aculeatus		
	c. Phascolarctos cinereus		
3. Koa	alas are herbivores		
	a. True		
	b. False		
4. Wh	ere do koalas get most of their water from?		
	a. Eucalyptus leaves		
	b. Digging underground		
	c. Lakes and ponds		



5.	What is	s the status of koalas?	
	a.	Endangered	
	b.	Vulnerable	
	C.	Critically endangered	
6.	6. What is a baby koala called?		
	a.	Joey	
	b.	Puggle	
	C.	Pup	
7.	What is	s a threat to koalas?	
	a.	Tree clearing	
	b.	Global warming	
	C.	Bushfires	
	d.	All of the above	
8.	Koalas	need very little sleep	
	a.	True	
	b.	False	
9. How many digits do koalas have on each of their front paws?			
	a.	3	
	b.	4	
	c.	5	
10. What habitat do koalas live in?			
	a.	Rainforest	
	b.	Desert	
	C.	Eucalypt forest	
	d.	All of the above	
		·	

Answers: 1b, 2c, 3a, 4a, 5b, 6a, 7d, 8b, 9c, 10c

## **Useful Websites**

WWF report finds 71pc decline in koala numbers across norther NSW bushfire-affected areas – ABC News <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-06/wwf-koala-loss-report-finds-71pc-decline-after-fires/12624938">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-06/wwf-koala-loss-report-finds-71pc-decline-after-fires/12624938</a>

Bushfires and Wildlife - BTN

https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/bushfires-and-wildlife/11910468

Koala Carer - BTN

https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/koala-carer/11391692

Koalas in Decline - BTN

https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/koalas-in-decline/10522878

Koala - NSW Government

https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/native-animals/native-animal-facts/koala





# Who am I?

Choose 5 unique native Australian animals or use the five animals below. Write 5 clues to correspond with each animal. Include clues about the animal's appearance, diet and adaptations. Cut up the cards and test a partner to see if they can match the animal to the clues.



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#### Who am I?

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#### Who am I?

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#### Who am I?

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#### Who am I?

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Images: 1. Koala 2. Wombat 3. Platypus 4. Echidna 5. Kangaroo





# BTN Transcript: Episode 27 – 15/9/20

Hey, Amelia Moseley here and welcome to the very last BTN of term 3. Here's what we've got for you today. We find out why fake Indigenous art is a real problem, learn about the problems facing this adorable Aussie icon and meet the future stars of women's cricket.

#### Mulan Controversy

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: But first today to Disney's new movie, Mulan. A lot of people have been looking forward to seeing it and don't worry, no spoilers. But there has been a bit of controversy around the movie, because of where it was filmed and something its lead actor said on social media. Let's find out more.

MULAN 2020: Do you know why the phoenix sits at the right hand of the emperor? She is his guardian. His protector.

It's one of the most highly anticipated movie of the year, Disney's live action remake of Mulan. In case you don't know, it's based on a really old Chinese legend about a young woman who takes her father's place in the army by disguising herself as a man. And for some people it was really exciting to hear about a Chinese story coming to life with a mostly Chinese or Chinese American cast.

AMELIA, REPORTER: Now Mulan's been released to stream and while many people around the world are stoked to sit down to watch it; others say we shouldn't be watching this movie at all.

There've been calls to boycott Mulan. Not because it's a bad movie or anything, but because China is the subject of a lot of controversy right now. There's the coronavirus.

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: It came out of China. It went to Europe. It went all over the world. They could have stopped it.

Trade arguments.

JOURNALIST: All these laws are about China are they not?

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: These laws are about Australia's sovereign national interests.

And Hong Kong. You've probably seen a bit of what's been going on there: big and sometimes violent protests over new laws which would give mainland China more control over the territory, which, while technically part of China, has its own government and laws. During last year's protests, some people came out in support of the protestors; others came out in support of China's government and the police, including Liu Yifei, aka Mulan, who commented on Chinese social media. While many Chinese people praised her for it, it made Hong Kong supporters really angry and they started the push to boycott Mulan.

AMELIA, REPORTER: And there's another problem that some people have with the movie - where it was filmed.

Parts of the movie were shot in the Xinjiang region of China and many people have spotted that Mulan's credits says thanks to Chinese authorities there. That's controversial because those same authorities have been accused of mistreating people in Xinjiang. You see, it's home to the Uyghur people; one of China's many different ethnic groups. They have their own language and culture and, unlike most Chinese people, they're Muslim.

For many years there's been tension between some sections of Uyghur people and the Chinese government. There's also been violence and, after big riots and some of acts of terrorism which China blamed on Uyghur people, it started what it called a "security crackdown". Human rights groups say a million



or more Uyghur people have been locked up in so-called re-education centres, forced to work and even harmed; all because of their ethnicity and religion. While China denies that, Uyghur people all over the world, including here in Australia, say they've stopped being able to communicate with their family or friends.

MEYASSAR ABLAT, UYGHUR PERSON: My father in law, he was put in those concentration camps along with his three sons.

AMELIA, REPORTER: You might be thinking "All this stuff is a long way from a Disney movie", right? And some people agree.

Some reckon the film makers aren't responsible for the politics of the country they film in and that there's room to respect other people's opinions. Plus, China is a big and powerful country with a huge population (and a lot of potential movie-goers) and many industries and other countries, including Australia and America, rely on it for business and trade. So, while some switch off and others switch on, it looks like the controversy around this character's home country will keep going long after this movie ends.

#### News Quiz

Deadly wildfires are still raging in the US turning the skies orange above this city. Can you name it? Is it Los Angeles, San Francisco or Seattle? It's San Francisco. The fires have burned more than a million hectares on the US west coast and destroyed hundreds of homes.

Which of these things is going to be banned in South Australia? Single-use plastics, fireworks or electric scooters? It's single use plastics. SA's the first state in the country to ban them, although it won't come into effect until next year because of COVID-19.

This group of teenagers has recently filed a class action lawsuit in the federal court. Do you know what they're trying to do? They're asking the court to force the government to stop the expansion of a coal mine. They say the Federal Environment Minister has a duty to protect future generations and burning coal could hurt them.

This guy has just been named the richest person in America by Forbes magazine. His name is Jeff Bezos. Do you know which company he founded? Was it PayPal, Amazon or Uber? Jeff Bezos is the founder and CEO of Amazon and according to Forbes he's worth a whopping 248 billion dollars. Crickey.

How is this French robot, named Pepper, keeping people safe from coronavirus? Is it telling people to wash their hands, telling them to socially distance or telling them to wear a mask? She's telling people to wear masks. She's programmed to detect whether or not the bottom of your face is covered and, if it's not, she tells you off politely, of course.

### Fake Aboriginal Art

Reporter: Jack Evans

INTRO: Now to some news about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. It's pretty special and lots of people around the world want to own some of it, especially when they come here on holidays. But sometimes what they're buying is fake and that's something the federal government wants to stop. Here's Jack.

Every year millions of tourists come to Australia, OK maybe not so much this year, but usually they do and many of them want to bring something uniquely Australian home with them. And what's more uniquely Australian than a piece of Indigenous art. If you've ever been in a souvenir shop you've probably seen lots of paintings and didgeridoos, boomerangs, even t-shirts and tea towels featuring patterns and designs from traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. But there's a bit of a problem, not all of them are the real deal.

JACK EVANS, REPORTER: OK, which of these was designed or made by an Indigenous artist? It's a trick question because neither of them are but if you thought they were well, you're not alone.

According to the Arts Law Centre of Australia around 85 per cent of artworks and souvenirs sold in Australia are fake. They are usually made overseas and not made by an Aboriginal artist. Now you might be wondering what's wrong with that. Well Nici from the Art Gallery of South Australia says to many Aboriginal



and Torres Strait Islander people art is about way more than just a pretty picture.

NICI CUMPSTON, ART GALLERY OF SA: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists come from over 200 different language groups. Everybody has their own way of expressing their cultural knowledge. Whether it's knowledge of how to grow plants, how to follow the seasons, you know, there's there are ancestral creation stories that are being shared. There's history narratives, there's personal experience, there's protest art.

She says if a non-Indigenous person copies an artwork without that cultural knowledge or personal experience it can be really offensive to the people it belongs to. It also means Indigenous artists aren't paid for the work they do. While it's illegal to pretend something has been created by an Indigenous person, there are no laws against selling art that looks similar and many people say that's not right.

KEN WYATT, MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS: Many tourists go home not realising that they don't have authentic Indigenous artwork and that's why we're working together to make sure that we stamp out this practice.

The Government says it's working on laws which would protect real Indigenous art by banning the fake stuff. Which is something a lot of artists and art lovers have been asking for, for a long time. And while it could make it harder for tourists to get their hands on cheap souvenirs some say it's worth it.

NICI, ART GALLERY OF SA: It's a message that is loud and clear to people who are considering copying works of art for commercial gain to think you know, to think about it, it's a multi-million dollar industry. And that's money that could be going back into Aboriginal communities.

In the meantime, Nici says there are things you can do to check the art you're buying is real. Like asking where it comes from, who made it and what their language group is? You can also look for clues in the artwork, like dot painting from central Australia and cross hatching from Northern Australia. She says it helps to learn more about Indigenous art and Indigenous culture so we can really appreciate just how special these works of art are.

#### Quiz

Ochre is a traditional paint made from natural pigments found in what? The soil, plants or insects? Ochre is usually made from minerals in the soil and rocks and it was extremely valuable. Before colonisation, ochre was traded between nations in different parts of the continent.

#### Koala Threat

Reporter: Ella Germein

INTRO: Speaking of things that are uniquely Australian, our next story is about Koalas. They are one of our most iconic species, but a recent report has found that, in some places, they're in a lot of trouble. Ella went to find out more.

When it comes to cute Aussie critters, it's hard to beat a baby koala, aww. Or just any koala really. Meet some of the newest additions to the Cleland Wildlife Park here in South Australia. Although these guys look pretty chilled now, they certainly had a rough start to the year.

ASHLEIGH HUNTER, KOALA KEEPER: So, all the koalas we have in this enclosure have come from Kangaroo Island. So, they were rescued from the bushfires over there. So, these koalas weren't too badly injured, but they were very much displaced, their habitat had been lost by the fires which means these koalas don't have anything to eat. So even if they've survived the initial bushfire, starvation is a very real thing that might happen for them.

It's thought around half a billion animals died in the black summer fires, including tens of thousands of koalas, and while populations in South Australia seem to be doing okay, in Northern New South Wales it's a different story. Recently the World Wildlife Fund commissioned a study into koala numbers at several sites affected by the bushfires. They found that on average koala numbers had dropped by 71%. At some sites it was worse than that.



DR AMANDA LANE, ECOLOGIST: With the bushfires, the impacts were substantial. So, in some areas, we saw what could be a complete loss of koalas, whereas in other areas, the populations weren't as badly affected.

This is Dr Amanda Lane, an ecologist who worked on the study. She says there's a reason koalas were so badly affected by the fires.

DR AMANDA LANE: Some animals are better able to deal with situations like fires in terms of their capacity to move around. Whereas koalas really don't like to come down from their trees. So, when they feel threatened, what they will tend to do is to go to the top of a tree and curl up in that little ball and that can help in this situation of a cooler fire. But of course, in a really, really hot fire with a fire gets up to the canopy. that's a that's a real disaster for those koalas.

She says a lack of food has also been a really big problem since the fires because the eucalyptus trees koalas love can take many years to grow back. Even before the fires koalas were in trouble in many parts of Australia because habitat loss due to logging and development as well as climate change, diseases and introduced species. In fact, some are worried they could become extinct in some areas by 2050.

DR AMANDA LANE: It's a little bit of a tipping point right now, and it very much depends on what we do in this situation, as a society, what we do as people right now, if we want to save koalas.

Back in South Australia thanks to the hard work of wildlife carers, these little fuzz balls are facing a much brighter future full of gum leaves, naps and cuddles. And many are hoping that we humans can work together to secure the future of their threatened cousins out there in the wild.

#### Quiz

What is a baby koala called? A cub, a pup or a joey? It's a joey. Yup, just like baby kangaroos.

#### Sport

Dominic Thiem is the first man in 71 years to come from two sets down to win the US Open.

DOMINIC THIEM: I wish, really, I wish we could have two winners today. I think we both deserved it.

He defeated Alexander Zverev in a five-set marathon.

Meanwhile, Naomi Osaka has taken out her second US Open title with a win over Victoria Azarenka. And Dylan Alcott has missed out on singles glory with a loss to Dutch star Sam Schroder. But it wasn't all bad for the Aussie with a win in the quad wheelchair doubles final with Andy Lapthorne.

England has tied it's One Day International series with Australia 1 all after the Aussies suffered a massive batting collapse. They needed 232 to win and at 2 for 144, things were looking pretty good. Until they weren't, and wickets started falling. Australia fell 24 runs short but will be hoping to bounce back on Wednesday for the series decider.

And check out these seriously skilled mountain bikers at a comp in Germany. The week-long event saw two world-first tricks. Nico Scholz landed this fiver-ever Cordova flip on a downhill bike and Diego Caversazi smashed a backflip Barspin to cliff-hanger on a hardtail bike.

### Girls Cricket Campaign

Reporter: Jack Evans

INTRO: Now, it's nearly summer and that means cricket season. It's one of Australia's favourite games but in the junior levels it's still mainly played by boys and that's something Cricket Australia wants to change. Check it out.

Nothing stands between these girls and a game of cricket, not even an interview for National Telly.

ZARA: I love cricket because you can make so many friends and even the opposition are nice and there are so many skills, so, there's batting there's fielding and bowling. I like bowling because when you get a wicket



it's all exciting.

Kaila, Elyse and Zara aren't the only girls that love the game. In fact, Australia's home to some of the best female cricketers in the world and has been for a really long time, 146 years long to be precise. Yep, the first recorded game was in the Gold Fields in Bendigo in 1874. 3 years later and the first official women's match was played at the association ground, which you might know today as the SCG. Soon after women's teams formed right across the country and the uniforms got a lot more practical, although it wasn't until 1934 that the first women's test match was played in Brisbane - Australia vs. England.

86 years later, women's cricket is going strong, in fact, you could say it's going better than ever. In the past 4 years cricket participation has gone up by 61% with more than 76,000 females picking up the bat and ball. Many say that's thanks to the success of the Women's Big Bash League and the Aussie women smashing it on the world stage.

ZARA: I like Ellyse Perry and Megan Schutt, Ellyse Perry because she's the best in the world and Megan Schutt cause she's the best fast bowler and I want to be just like her when I grow up.

KAILA & ELYSE: I like Ellyse Perry because she has those skills that she's able to do anything and when I grow up, I want to be just like her because she's amazing.

ELLYSE PERRY: To have that platform to hopefully inspire young girls to play sport and hopefully cricket.

But despite more girls playing than ever before, the sport is still dominated by men and boys, especially at a grass-roots level. Women and girls only make up 24% of cricket participation. That's something Cricket Australia wants to change. In fact, it wants to make cricket the most popular sport in the country for girls aged 9-12. It says one way of doing that is by giving more girls a chance to pick up a bat and ball. It also wants to create more girls-only teams, because while some love a mixed game, research shows lots of girls feel more comfortable without boys.

KAILA & ELYSE: Because one boy was annoying us last season and chasing us and we couldn't concentrate properly so we couldn't play cricket.

ZARA: Boys kinda ruin the fun because they're so competitive so I like only girls.

Aww sorry boys, I'm sure you're not all like that. Cricket Australia also wants to increase the number of female coaches and umpires and who knows, you or one of these guys could be the next Ellyse Perry, Alyssa Healy, Meg Lanning, you get the point.

ZARA: My aim is to be like Ellyse Perry and Megan Schutt, like an Australian player.

KAILA & ELYSE: I wanna be a famous cricketer so. I've got to train for the rest of my life I wanna play cricket, it's just in my life I can't get it out of me.

#### Quiz

In March Australia won the seventh T20 World Cup at the MCG. Who did they beat in the final? Was it India, Sri Lanka or New Zealand? They beat India by 85 runs.

### Nigerian Ballet Dancer

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: Finally, today you're about to meet an 11-year-old boy from Nigeria with a big future. Anthony came to the world's attention after his teacher filmed him dancing barefoot in the rain and now, he's on his way to a top ballet school in the US. Check it out.

This is Anthony Madu. He lives in Lagos in Nigeria on the West Coast of Africa and as you can see, he's got some serious skills. Wow, you're making me dizzy Anthony. In Lagos, ballet dancing isn't very common, but when Anthony watched a ballet cartoon when he was younger he decided he wanted to give it a go.

ANTHONY MADU, BALLET DANCER: Ballet is my life and I practise everywhere, and when I am dancing I feel as if I am on top of the world.



He trains here at the Leap of Dance Academy; a studio set up in his teacher's house to provide kids with free lessons, but it's not the only place he's been known to practise. You might've seen this video before? It went viral after Anthony's teacher posted it on social media. More than 15 million people watched it, and everyone's been blown away by his moves, including some pros in the ballet business. Anthony's now received a scholarship to train at the famous American Ballet Theatre in New York next year and he won a virtual international ballet competition which means even more dance lessons in the US.

ANTHONY MADU, BALLET DANCER: I have won a grand prize to go to the US in the year 2021, and I am very, very happy about that. I will be in the plane and this is what I am waiting for, and ballet has done it for me.

Anthony says his parents actually wanted him to become a priest, but he's decided ballet is his dream job one he's willing to keep working hard for.

ANTHONY MADU, BALLET DANCER: I practise everywhere because they said practice makes perfect and I always practise, I cannot wait for me to go to a big stage.

Anthony says he hopes that his moves will inspire other kids in Nigeria to give ballet a crack, and he says he's gonna keep on dancing wherever he goes.

ANTHONY MADU, BALLET DANCER: It makes me feel very, very happy, I so much love ballet.

#### Closer

Well that's it for this week and this term. BTN Classroom will be back after the holidays but in the meantime BTN Newsbreak will be here every day to keep you up to date and don't forget you can check out our website or our YouTube channel if you're 13 or over. Have a great break, stay safe, wash your hands and look out for each other. We'll see you soon. Bye.

