

**EPISODE 24**  
29th August 2023

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will view a range of BTN stories and use comprehension skills to respond to a series of focus questions.

**CURRICULUM**

**English – Year 4**Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning to expand content knowledge, integrating and linking ideas and analysing and evaluating texts.

**English – Year 5**

Use comprehension strategies to analyse information, integrating and linking ideas from a variety of print and digital sources.

**English – Year 6**

Use comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information and ideas, comparing content from a variety of textual sources including media and digital texts.

**English – Year 7**

Use comprehension strategies to interpret, analyse and synthesise ideas and information, critiquing ideas and issues from a variety of textual sources.

Teacher Resource

**Focus Questions**

As a class, discuss the stories featured in the episode of BTN Classroom and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following focus questions.

# Trump Charges

1. Discuss the BTN Trump Charges story in pairs or small groups.
2. What is Donald Trump accused of doing?
3. What is an indictment?
4. It's the first time a sitting or former president of the United States has been indicted. True or false?
5. What questions do you have about the story?

# Moon Race

1. Which countries are in a race to the moon?
2. Why is water an important resource on the moon?
3. What happened to the Russia’s Luna-25 space craft?
4. A space craft from which country successfully landed on the lunar south pole recently?
   1. India
   2. United States
   3. China
5. What was surprising about this story?

Check out the [teacher](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/weekly-teacher-resources/10746906) resource on the Archives page.

# Snow Season Future

1. What was the main point of the BTN story?
2. Why has the snow season been bad this year?
3. What are ski resorts doing to ensure there is snow for skiers?
4. What are future snow seasons looking like?
5. Name 3 facts you learnt watching the BTN story.

# UNICEF Young Ambassador

1. Briefly summarise the BTN story.
2. What is Denzel’s role at UNICEF?
3. When and why was UNICEF set up?
4. Which issue is Denzel hoping to raise awareness about?
   1. Unemployment
   2. Climate Change
   3. Homelessness
5. Why is it important for young people to have a voice?

Check out the [teacher](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/weekly-teacher-resources/10746906) resource on the Archives page.

# Young Auctioneers

1. What is an auction?
2. What sorts of things can be auctioned?
3. What skills do you need to be an auctioneer?
4. Why do auctioneers talk fast?
5. What do you think would be some of the challenges of being an auctioneer?



**EPISODE 24**  
29th August 2023

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will learn more about why there is a race to the moon to mine valuable resources.

**CURRICULUM**

**Science – Year 5**

Scientific understandings, discoveries and inventions are used to solve problems that directly affect peoples’ lives.

The Earth is part of a system of planets orbiting around a star (the sun).

**Science – Years 5 & 6**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 the physical conditions of their environment.

**Science – Year 7**Predictable phenomena on Earth, including seasons and eclipses, are caused by the relative positions of the sun, Earth and the moon.

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

Teacher Resource

**Moon Race**

# Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Which countries are in a race to the moon?
2. Why is water an important resource on the moon?
3. What happened to the Russia’s Luna-25 space craft?
4. A space craft from which country successfully landed on the lunar south pole recently?
   1. India
   2. United States
   3. China
5. What was surprising about this story?

# Activity: See, Think and Wonder?

After watching the BTN Moon Race story, students will respond to the following questions:

* A blue cloud with black background

  Description automatically generatedWhat did you SEE in this video?
* What did you LEARN from this story?

What do you SEE, THINK and WONDER?

* What do you WONDER about this story?
* What QUESTIONS do you have about this story?

Discuss the BTN Moon Race story as a class. What do students know about the moon? Record on a mind map. What questions do they have about the moon? Use the following questions to help guide discussion:

* A picture containing text

  Description automatically generatedWhich countries are in a `race to the moon’?
* Why mine the moon for resources?
* What valuable resources does the moon have?
* Why is water a useful resource on the moon? What can it be used for?
* Do you think the moon should be mined? Why or why not?
* Is space exploration important? Give reasons for your answer.

# Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Moon Race story. Here are some words to get them started.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| MOON | RESOURCES | SPACE RACE |
| LUNAR MISSION | EXPLORATION | MINING |

**Activity: Research Project**

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Moon Race story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students’ knowledge? The following KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| What do I **know**? | What do I **want** to know? | What have I **learnt**? | **How** will I find out? |
|  |  |  |  |

Students will develop their own question/s to research or select one of the questions below.

* Brainstorm the characteristics of both the Earth and the moon. Create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast, recording similarities in the overlapping areas.
* What resources do humans want to mine on the moon? What can they be used for?
* Investigate the following statement - `Living and working on the moon will be a test run for living and working on Mars and beyond.’
* What evidence have scientists found that water exists on the moon?
* What would humans need if they were going to survive on the moon for a long period of time. Make a list.
* How will space exploration change in the future? Make a prediction about how space exploration will change in the future. Illustrate your prediction/s and provide an explanation.

# Activity: Timeline – History of Space Exploration

Students will investigate the history of space exploration and present the information they find on a timeline. Below are some key events in the history of space exploration:

* An astronaut walking on the moon

  Description automatically generatedSputnik, first artificial satellite launched into space
* Yuri Gagarin, first person to enter space
* Apollo 11, Moon landing
* Launch of Hubble Space Telescope
* Launch of International Space Station
* Curiosity launches to Mars
* First image of black hole released
* Artemis mission

Students will present their information on a timeline and respond to one or more of the following research questions:

* Find 1-3 interesting facts about each significant event on your timeline. Why are they significant?
* How has technology used in space exploration changed over time?
* Imagine if you were the first person to land on the moon. Write a journal describing your experience including the challenges you face on the mission.
* How have advancements in space technology helped us on Earth
* Which events on the timeline do you think are especially significant? Why?

# Activity: Choose a project

Individually or in small groups, students will choose one of the following projects to work on and then present their findings to the class.

A picture containing shape

Description automatically generated

**What would you pack for a trip to the moon?**

Astronauts on the ISS are only allowed a 12.7cm x 20.3cm x 5.1cm case to carry personal belongings. Select items that fit within this space. Make a list of what you would pack and why.

**Persuasive writing**

Should we be allowed to mine the moon? Develop an argument for or against the issue.

**True or False?**

Create a true or false quiz about the moon and test your classmates. Alternatively, create a word find or crossword.

**Lunar Living**

Explore the idea of living on the moon. Find out more about the conditions on the moon so they can plan and design a settlement that will sustain human life. Take a look at NASA’s plan for a lunar colony [Artemis Base Camp](https://blogs.nasa.gov/artemis/2020/10/28/lunar-living-nasas-artemis-base-camp-concept/)

**Activity: Q&A with a Space Expert**

All scientific discoveries start with a question! As a class, come up with some questions you think astronauts ask and solve in relation to space exploration. As a class, make a list of questions that you would like to ask a space expert. Organise the questions into common themes.

A black background with white text and colorful circles

Description automatically generatedWant to learn more about a career in space? Book into one of the Australian Space Discovery Centre’s [digital sessions](https://www.industry.gov.au/australian-space-discovery-centre/digital-sessions) to find out more, as well as answering any questions you may have. Sessions go for 45 minutes.

**Activity: BTN Moon stories**

As a class watch one or more of the following BTN stories to learn more about the moon. After watching any one of the BTN videos ask students to respond to the discussion questions (to find the teacher resources go to the related BTN Classroom Episode and download the Episode Package).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 50th Moon Landing Anniversary Special (Ep 19), 2019 - Behind The News  [Moon Landing Special](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/20190723-ep19-btn/11313570) | Moon Water Discovery - Behind The News  [Moon Water Discovery](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/moon-water-discovery/12827578) | Moon Exploration - Behind The News  [Moon Exploration](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/moon-exploration/10524260) |
| Artemis Launch - Behind The News  [Artemis Launch](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/artemis-launch/14038538) | Moon Living - Behind The News  [Moon Living](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/moon-living/10527786) |  |

# Useful Websites

* [Russia declares the race has begun for moon’s resources after crashing its lander into it](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-08-22/russia-declares-the-race-has-begun-for-moons-resources/102757808) – ABC News
* [Moon landing anticipation builds for India’s Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission after Russia’s crash](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-08-22/moon-landing-anticipation-india-chandryaan-3-lunar-mission/102757860) – ABC News
* [Pocket Guide to the Moon](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-16/pocket-guide-to-the-moon/11260558) – ABC News
* [India’s Chandrayaan-3 makes historic landing on the lunar south pole](file:///\\sadfile01\btn\website\Teachers\2023%20weekly%20resources\Ep%2024\•%09https:\www.abc.net.au\news\2023-08-23\india-moon-lander-makes-historic-landing-on-moon\102768378) – ABC News



**EPISODE 24**  
29th August 2023

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will investigate the role of UNICEF’s Young Ambassador.

**CURRICULUM**

**HASS – Years 5 and 6**

Work in groups to generate responses to issues and challenges.

Present ideas, findings, viewpoints, and conclusions in a range of texts and modes that incorporate source materials, digital and non-digital representations and discipline-specific terms and conventions.

**HASS – Year 7**

Collaborate to generate alternatives in response to an issue or challenge and compare the potential costs and benefits of each.

Present ideas, findings, viewpoints, explanations, and conclusions in a range of texts and modes that incorporate source materials, citations, graphic representations and discipline-specific terms, conventions, and concepts

Teacher Resource

**UNICEF Young Ambassador**

# Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Briefly summarise the BTN story.
2. What is Denzel’s role at UNICEF?
3. When and why was UNICEF set up?
4. Which issue is Denzel hoping to raise awareness about?
   1. Unemployment
   2. Climate Change
   3. Homelessness
5. Why is it important for young people to have a voice?

# Activity: Class Discussion

A picture containing text

Description automatically generatedAfter watching the BTN story, hold a class discussion using the following discussion starters.

* What is a UNICEF Young Ambassador?
* What issues are important to you?
* Complete the following sentence. It is important that young people’s voices are heard because…
* Think of three questions you have about the BTN story.
* What did you like about the BTN story?

**A blue cloud with black background

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated**

What issues are important to you?

What did the BTN story make you wonder?

# Activity: What’s Important to You?

Hold a brainstorming session in the classroom to find out what’s important to your students and how they think things could be done better in their school community. Some topics for discussion include:

Mental Health support

Religion

Community

Family

Social Media

Education

Cyber Safety Change

Environment

Use the following questions to help guide a discussion (either as a class or in small groups).

* What are you passionate about (what issues are important to you)? Rate on a scale of 1 to 10.
* What concerns do you have about the future?
* How do you think things could be done better in your school community?
* Do you think you can have an impact on change in the community?

**Activity**

Students will think about what is important to them in their community and express this creatively through writing a letter to their SRC or local Member of Parliament, creating an artwork, or writing a poem. Before starting this activity, students will think about what they appreciate about their community, the issues they observe and what they would like to see improved. Students will write their ideas and thoughts using dot points or on post-it notes.

**Write a Letter**

* Write a letter to your SRC or local Member of Parliament (MP).
* Your letter will need to address the issues or improvements you would like to see in your community.
* Include language that is persuasive, respectful, and specific.

**Create an Artwork**

* Create an artwork that represents your thoughts and values about your community.
* Your artwork can include drawings, painting, collages, or other mediums.
* Use colours, symbols and imagery that help convey your message.

**Write a Poem**

* Write a poem to express your feelings and thoughts about an issue in your community that is important to you.
* Use imagery and descriptive language to help convey your message.
* It could be haiku, acrostic, black-out or another type of poetry.

**Reflection**

* How did this activity make you feel?
* What surprised you when completing the activity? Consider the impact that you can have on social change and the empowerment of young people in the community.
* Write a short paragraph reflecting on why you believe it is important for all individuals to have a voice in society. Having the right to voice allows people to participate in decision-making, share their experiences, and advocate for change.

# Activity: World Children’s Day

Discover what’s happening this [World Children’s Day](https://www.unicef.org/world-childrens-day) – UNICEF’s annual day of action for children, by children.

From climate change, education, and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future. Kids are standing up for a more equal, inclusive world. **What will you do?**

# Activity: Youth Addressing the UN

As a class watch one or more of the following videos to learn more about young people who have addressed the United Nations on a range of issues. After watching the video students will respond to the questions below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | [BTN Raise the Age](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/raise-the-age/12507078) Meet Dujuan, an Arrernte/Garrwa boy who’s passionate about the issue of raising the age of kids put in detention who, last year, took his argument to the United Nations.  [Dujuan addressing the UN Human Rights Council, YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8JpUUWYumw) |
| Greta Thunberg Passionate Speech at UN Climate Action Summit 2019 - YouTube | 16-year-old environmental campaigner Greta Thunberg delivers a powerful message to world leaders.  [BTN Newsbreak - Greta's passionate UN speech](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/newsbreak/gretas-un-speech/11542200) |
| A person in a green dress at a podium with microphones  Description automatically generated | Watch this animated BBC video called “[The child who tried to save the world…in 1992](https://www.bbc.co.uk/ideas/videos/the-child-who-tried-to-save-the-world-in-1992/p07zxlwx?playlist=sustainable-thinking)”. In 1992, when she was just 12, Severn Cullis-Suzuki warned the world about the environmental crisis. Here she tells her story.  Watch her original speech here - [Severn Cullis-Suzuki’s speech at Rio Summit 1992, YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJJGuIZVfLM). |

After watching one or more of the videos students will respond to the following questions:

* What issue did they talk about in their address to the United Nations?
* Why do you think they wanted to address the United Nations?
* What impact did their speech have?
* How did the speech make you feel?
* What part of the speech (1-2 sentences) had the most impact on you? Why?
* Why is it important for young people to voice their concerns about global issues?

**Further challenge – Be a diplomat.**

In this activity students will play the role of diplomats and prepare a speech about an issue they are passionate about. Students will then imagine they are delivering their speech to world leaders at a United Nations Summit and deliver their speech to the class.

# Useful Websites

* [Young Ambassadors](https://www.unicef.org.au/young-ambassadors) – UNICEF
* [World Children’s Day](https://www.unicef.org/world-childrens-day) – UNICEF
* [Climate Crisis + Mental Health](https://www.voicesofyouth.org/campaign/climate-crisis-mental-health) – Voices of Youth
* [Climate Action, The Essentials: understanding and tackling climate change](https://www.voicesofyouth.org/climateaction) – Voices of Youth



Teacher Resource

**BTN Transcript: Episode 24 – 29/8/2023**

Hey. I'm Amelia and you're watching BTN. Thanks for hanging out with us again, let’s see what’s coming up on today’s show. We learn about the race to the moon's icy south, find out why Australia's ski fields aren't icy enough and meet some young auctioneers.

# Trump Charges

Reporter: Michelle Wakim

*INTRO: First up today to this picture which you might have seen in the news last week. It's a mugshot taken of Former US President Donald Trump, who was arrested after being indicted for the fourth time. Here's Michelle to tell you what that means.*

Newsreader: We're coming on the air with breaking news from Atlanta where something both historic and now somewhat routine is playing out.   
  
Newsreader: Former President Donald Trump is turning himself in at the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta, Georgia.   
  
Newsreader: The former president finds himself in legal peril facing four indictments.   
  
It's not often you see a mug shot of a former US President. Actually, this is the first time it ever happened. So, what is going on? Well, Donald Trump has a few indictments to his name and two were served just this month. An indictment basically means a grand jury has found enough evidence to formally charge someone with a crime, and they have to go to court. It's the first time it's happened to a sitting or former president in the United States. But, to understand exactly what's going on, we have to go back to 2020.   
  
Donald Trump, Former President of the United States: We are going to win four more years in the White House.   
  
After a colourful campaign, the votes were counted, and it became clear that Joe Biden was the new US President. Clear to most people that is. After the count, Donald Trump refused to admit he lost, saying that Joe Biden's win was unfair and that the Democrats cheated. He even made a phone call to Georgia's Secretary of State, asking him to find some more votes.   
  
Donald Trump, Former President of the United States: I just want to find 11,780 votes, which is one more than we have, because we won the state.  
  
And it didn't stop there. For weeks, Donald Trump's team and supporters spread the claim that the election was stolen, in speeches, on social media and on TV.

Sidney Powell, Former Attorney for Donald Trump: There has been a massive and co-ordinated effort to steal this election from we, the people of the United States of America

Of course there was no evidence of this, at all, and to many this claim became known as 'the big lie'.  
  
Donald Trump, Former President of the United States: The election is the lie. You know they talk about 'the big lie'. And they know it and they don't want to talk about it.   
  
But, despite this, a lot of Donald Trump supporters believed him, which leads us to January 6th, 2021. Thousands of Donald Trump supporters stormed the Capitol Building, where the government sits, to try and stop the official handover of power to Joe Biden.   
  
Rioter: We want our country back. We are protesting for our freedom right now.   
  
And this brings us back to the indictments.   
  
Jack Smith, US Department of Justice Special Counsel: The attack on our nation’s capitol on January 6th, 2021, was an unprecedented assault on the seat of American democracy. It was fuelled by lies. Lies by the defendant, targeted at obstructing a bedrock function of the US Government, and the Nation’s process of collecting, counting and certifying the results of the presidential election.   
  
The Federal Justice Department has charged the former President on four counts, including Conspiracy to Defraud the United States and Conspiracy to Obstruct an Official proceeding. Basically, that means he worked with other people to deliberately try to stop Joe Biden from becoming president. Then there's the indictment that's been issued by the state of Georgia, based on that phone call we mentioned earlier.   
  
Donald Trump, Former President of the United States: I just want to find 11,780 votes.  
  
Fani Willis, Fulton County District Attorney: The indictment alleges that rather than abide by Georgia's legal process for election challenges, the defendants engaged in a criminal racketeering enterprise to overturn Georgia's presidential election result.   
  
Being indicted doesn't mean he's guilty, and Donald Trump says he's done nothing wrong and describes the charges as an ‘un-American witch hunt’. In any case, this isn't going to stop him from running for president next year. Weird as is sounds, even if he were sent to jail, he could still campaign from behind bars. And, if he does become president, he can't go to jail.   
  
Neama Rahmani, Former Federal Prosecutor: It's well established that no sitting president can be prosecuted, so if he wins, the case goes away   
  
So, prosecutors are trying to get the cases to court as soon as possible. Although, many experts say, the chances of it happening before next year’s election, are pretty slim. So, where does that leave the US? In a very, very strange place. And with the election campaign around the corner, we're in for an interesting ride.

# News Quiz

The Japanese government has started releasing treated radioactive water from a damaged nuclear power plant. Do you know what that powerplant is called? Fukushima, Chernobyl or Three Mile Island? It was the Fukushima Daiichi power plant which was badly damaged in a huge earthquake and tsunami in 2011. More than a million tonnes of water which was used to cool the reactors has been stored and treated and now it’s being released. Authorities say it’s safe, but some of Japan’s neighbours and fishing groups are worried about the effect it’ll have on the environment.

Where did these Pakistani school kids get stuck for around 16 hours last week? Was in it a tree, in a cable car or on a bridge? It was in a cable car! The group were rescued after their cable car broke and they were left dangling a terrifying 275 metres in the air! Yeesh!

Can you name this character? Itsa me! Mario! Or at least it was! After 30 years, Chris Martinet, who voiced the iconic video game character has stepped down. He holds the world record for the most voice over performances in a video game for the same character, but he says getting the job was a bit of a fluke.

# Moon Race

Reporter: Joe Baronio

*INTRO: Now, to the moon! Last week India's Space Agency made history by landing a rover on the moon's south pole. It happened just a few days after Russia's unsuccessful lunar mission and according to that space agency, it marks the beginning of a new space race. Here's Joe to tell you more.*

Commentator 1: Welcome back everybody to the Space Race! If you're just joining us, here's a quick re-cap of all the action so far!   
  
Commentator 2: Thanks Joe, well we've seen plenty of thrills and a pretty big spill as the multi-nation sprint race to the moon restarted after around 60 years!  
  
Commentator 3: That's right, Joe, and competition is hotter than ever, with a couple of new competitors on the grid! Let's take a closer look.   
  
Joe, Reporter: Yep, it's time to rev up your rocket engines because the moon is the trophy everybody wants right now. See, the US, Russia, China, India, and Japan are pedal-to-the-metal powering to the finish line at the South Pole of the moon, where scientists reckon there's a gold mine of important resources, possibly including water!  
  
Commentator 2: Seems like an odd prize doesn't it, Joe? we've got plenty of water already back on earth.   
  
Commentator 1: That's right, Joe, but there's not much up here and this moon water could help unlock some bigger prizes!   
  
Space scientists say that when the water is broken down into its individual elements of Hydrogen and Oxygen, the Hydrogen could be used for fuel to fill up rockets on their way to Mars, and the Oxygen could be used to help humans breathe in a permanent lunar base! And that would also help astronauts conduct lunar mining to extract other things like rare earth metals, which are used in lots of modern electronics. It'll also give them something to drink, obviously.   
  
Commentator 3: Well, that is an exciting prize!  
  
Commentator 2: Certainly is, what's the latest on the standings, Joe?   
  
Commentator 2: Joe?  
  
Well, I'll just tell you. Russia took an early lead when they launched their Luna-25 space craft earlier this month. But just as it was near the finish line early last week it spun out of control and smashed into the moon!  
  
Commentator 2: Oooh, disappointing for them isn't it, Joe?   
  
Commentator 3: Absolutely. But Russia's space agency, Roscosmos, say they've learned a lot from it anyway and if they can get enough money, they'll have another crack at restarting their race in a few years' time.   
  
Commentator 2: I think we've got Joe back now. What's the rest of the standings looking like Joe?   
  
Commentator 1: India have taken the lead! They've touched down at the finish line!   
  
That's right! India successfully landed their Chandrayaan-3 space craft on the lunar south pole mid-last week, making them the first nation to ever land there! That's a big deal because the lunar south pole is super hard to land on safely thanks to it being really dark and covered in super deep craters.  
  
Ruchira Kamboj, India's UN Ambassador: it's a historic moment for humanity as we venture into uncharted territory near the moon's south pole.  
  
RESIDENT: I, obviously, feel really happy for my country.  
  
RESIDENT: We're feeling very proud to be Indians today and it's just a great feeling.   
  
As well as bragging rights, the Chandrayaan mission will hopefully give us a better idea of how much water ice is actually there. Next on the start line is Japan, which was due to launch its mission on Monday but had to postpone because of bad weather. Meanwhile China and the US are planning on sending humans to the lunar south pole, which takes a bit more time to prepare. But NASA's Artemis III mission will hopefully have humans there by 2025! With China snapping at their heels, saying they'll have humans there before 2030.  
  
Commentator 1: So, this race is far from over! Can I come back inside now?

# Quiz

Which was the first country to land a space craft on the moon? Was it the USA, Russia or China? It was Russia! The USSR’s Luna-1 probe crash landed on the moon way back in 1959 then, in 1966 the Soviet Union achieved a soft-landing with Luna-9, three years before the USA sent humans to the moon.

**Snow Season Future**

Reporter: Michelle Wakim

*INTRO: Right now it's peak ski-season in Australia. Except that this year the snow hasn't been that great. Warmer temperatures have meant a shorter snow season and some cancelled activities and experts say it's part of a worrying trend. Michelle had a look at the future of Aussie snow.*

Student: The best part about the snow is being able to ski and snowboard and to make new friends.   
  
Student: I like how you can complete lots of different activities in it, like skiing and snowboarding. We've made some snowmen.   
  
Right now, it's ski season in Australia, and these guys are having a blast on the slopes at Falls Creek in Victoria.   
  
While Australia's not exactly known for its snow, there are quite a few places where winter sports fans can get their thrills. The Alpine Regions of New South Wales, Victoria, ACT and Tasmania have ski seasons that run from June/ July through to September/ October. Well, that's what normally happens. But, if you take a look out there at the mountains, there's a lot more greenery than usual.   
  
Dr David Jones, BOM Climate Researcher: Certainly all Alpine parts of Australia are suffering a lack of snow this winter, so whether you are in the ACT, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, it's been very thin pickings. There has been snow, but much less than usual.   
  
This is Dr David Jones from the Bureau of Meteorology, and he says this is all happening because of that little thing you might of heard of called global warming.   
  
Dr David Jones, BOM Climate Researcher: It's clear it's been impacted by global warming or climate change. So, you know, as the planet gets warmer, we get more rain, and we get less snow. We've just had our warmest July on record in a lot of Southeast Australia, exactly where people look for snow. We say warmer, it still is quite chilly, but it wasn't as cold as it should have been. That’s not a uniquely Australian experience. Those people who were lucky enough to go to, say, Japan for their holidays or Europe, they would see a very similar thing, you know, right around the world. It's a bad ski season.

Student: I expected it to be a lot colder  
  
Student: A few years ago, all the hills were covered in snow and now it's all green, especially behind us, a couple of days ago we had a snowball fight and now all the snow has melted, so we are seeing with our own eyes how quickly the snow is disappearing.

Student: Although many of us haven’t been to Falls Creek before, we don’t really know what it’s supposed to look like, but according to the locals, it’s been a warm winter with not a lot of snowfall.   
  
Scientists have been mapping snowfalls at Mount Mawson in Tassie, and they show that the amount of snow has almost halved since the 1960s and the number of snow days has followed a similar pattern.   
  
Dr David Jones, BOM Climate Researcher: If you if you talk to your parents, your grandparents, the 1960s and 1970s, snow was often quite deep but even used to snow in places like Canberra, occasionally Melbourne, and quite often Hobart.  
  
At the moment, a lot of ski resorts are getting around this issue by actually making snow, which is done by forcing water and pressurised air through a snow gun, or snow cannon.   
  
Dr David Jones, BOM Climate Researcher: Anyone who goes to Buller or Mount Hotham, they'll see them you know, blasting out snow on cold nights. That's been a big change. So, a year like this, you know, if you went back before snowmaking, would be a lot worse.   
  
But Dr Jones also says, while snowmaking eases the pain, it doesn't solve the problem, which is only likely to get worse.   
  
Dr David Jones, BOM Climate Researcher: The long-term trend really is a global warming signal. And we all know that that's really about emissions, carbon dioxide. That change is going to continue. It doesn't mean we won't get snow, it doesn't mean we won't have ski season, but, you know, those great ski seasons, the things you've seen the brochures, there are going to become rarer and rarer unfortunately.

# Quiz

Which country is the snowiest in the world? Is it Iceland, Japan or Norway? It's Japan. More than half of Japan gets heavy snow and I mean heavy! Back in 1927 Mount Ibuki set a record with more than 11.8 metres of snow on the ground.

**Sport**

It's been a tight race to the finals in the AFL. Over the weekend, ladder leaders Collingwood thrashed Essendon by 71 points. Carlton's nine-game winning streak came to an end following a 32-point loss to GWS and Port Adelaide clinched third spot after a hard-fought win over Richmond. There were also some emotional goodbyes. West Coast Eagles star Nic Naitanui called time on his career with an Achilles injury that saw him on the bench for the whole season and Sydney Swans legend Lance 'Buddy' Franklin also waved goodbye to fans at the SCG. The first week of finals kicks off next Thursday.  
  
The Wallabies have taken a big hit from France in the Rugby World Cup warm-up rounds. The Aussies went down 41-17 in Paris leaving them with a lot of work to do before their opening match against Georgia in a couple of weeks. Meanwhile our neighbours from across the pond, the All Blacks, suffered the biggest defeat in their history going down to South Africa 35-7.   
  
To some better news from the world athletics championship where Australia has scored its biggest ever medal haul. Nina Kennedy agreed to share gold with American Katie Moon after they both cleared 4.9 metres in the pole vault over the weekend. Kurtis Marschall took bronze in the men’s pole vault becoming the first Aussie man since 2015 to win a medal at the championships. Eleanor Patterson and Nicola Olyslagers added to the tally with silver and bronze in the high jump.

**UNICEF Young Ambassador**

Reporter: Lyeba Khan

*INTRO: You're about to meet an Aussie teenager who's just been given a really important job. Denzel is one of this year's UNICEF young ambassadors who help the UN children's charity represent Aussie kids and push for a better future. Let's find out more.*

This is Denzel. He's 17 and from South Australia. He's just been named as one of this year's UNICEF Young Ambassadors.  
  
Denzel: Over the next 18 months, I'll be talking and consulting with young people on issues that affect them the most. We'll take them to key policymakers and turn them into policy suggestions which we could take to politicians and key decision makers.  
  
UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund. It started off in 1946 to help kids and their mums who'd been affected by World War II. But now it helps kids and women around the world with the different problems they face today. And their Young Ambassador program is designed to give kids a chance to speak up for things that matter to them.  
  
Denzel: My main area of my advocacy journey is climate change and disasters. The main reason that I chose climate change is because I've seen it in person. I've seen the impacts it has on us as Australian children.   
  
I used to live in a remote community in far north South Australia, Oodnadatta. And I've recently moved from Oodnadatta live in the city. We would often see droughts, lack of clean water. Often we wouldn't have the opportunity to have food get delivered to us as it'd be disrupted from rain, flooding, or even the corrugation on the road.  
  
The impacts climate change has on us as young people, we don't really get to input that in the main decision making process as sometimes their decisions can affect us.  
  
Going to school in a remote community, we would be running off of a diesel generator, which would often shut down in heat, as we would constantly get droughts, heat waves, less rain or even storms that come out of nowhere.  
  
Denzel hopes to raise more awareness about climate change and its impacts, especially in communities like his.   
  
Denzel: Us as kids, we could be climate champions right now. We could utilise public transport more, ride a bike, walk to school, or even reuse, recycle and eat more seasonal fruit and veggies.  
  
My favourite quote is "Be the voice, not the microphone", and I'd encourage you to speak up about those problems and those major impacts that have happened to you.

**Young Auctioneers**

Reporter: Lyeba Khan

*INTRO: Finally today we're going to head to the New south Wales Riverina where some high school students have been competing in an unusual event - an auctioneering competition. Here's Lyeba to tell you what that is and why it's harder than it looks.*

In the market for one of these? Never fear! Find an auctioneer! These Riverina teens are battling it out for the title of top auctioneer at the Ganmain Show.  
  
Indigo: I've been doing it since year 7 because my dad's the organiser of it and he kind of encouraged me to join it.  
  
Grace: The opportunity was there at my school, and I thought I may as well just give it a crack.  
  
You might have seen an auctioneer before if you've ever been to a stock sale or maybe a house sale or maybe if you're in the market for some antiques. Basically an auction is a type of sale where people compete to buy something by offering the highest bid and the auctioneer is the one up the front doing the selling. But it takes a special set of skills.  
  
Grace: If they've got a nice strong voice, if they have control of the audience.  
  
TOM: Sort of being a bit of a showman too. So, it's not just selling you're kind of acting up there as well.  
  
Indigo: Just rocking up in front of a crowd. You have to have all your maths right, you have to remember all your bids, where they're at, you have to have your little fast fillers.  
  
The fast talking isn't just about showing off. The way auctioneers talk is designed to give things a sense of urgency and encourage people to spend.  
  
Joe Wilks, Auctioneer: They're just little liners, it could be 1 word, 2 words, and they just break up the normality of the numbers being continuously added up.  
  
Indigo: So I say, "got a bid" "money's on the left", or something like that, just quick little, before my next bid.  
  
Grace: Come on you want 'em in your paddock? Like, do you want 'em on your plate?  
It's something that takes a lot of practice, which this year's champion Tom knows all about. He trained himself during the COVID lockdowns by pretending to auction off toilet paper and toys online.  
  
TOM: $5 for the toilet rolls! Who's gonna start me off? Got a bid 5 there!  
  
Now he's keen to make this his career.   
  
TOM: It's just been something I've always been interested in like watching and doing so I figured might as well do a job that I like.  
  
For Grace and Indigo, it's a chance to show that auctioneering isn't just for the boys.  
  
Indigo: There's not many female auctioneers. I'd like to be someone that younger girls look up to and aspire to.  
  
Grace: I'd love to see more women in the agriculture industry.  
  
Even if they don't go on to sell sheep for a living, they say learning to auction has taught them a lot.  
  
ISAAC: For me it's public speaking, and just getting out there, meeting new people.  
  
Indigo: I like to see everyone getting involved, and everyone realising how much of a cool experience it is. And I really love seeing the competition grow more and, I dunno, I just really enjoy public speaking, and this is like extreme level.

**Closer**

That's it for BTN this week. I hope you've had fun and maybe learnt a thing or two. If you want more can jump online and check out more stories and quizzes and specials and of course BTN Newsbreak will be here every weeknight. Have an awesome week. See ya!