

**EPISODE 13**  
20 May 2025

**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.

# New Leaders

1. Who is the new leader of the Liberal Party?
2. It's the first time the Liberal Party has had a female leader. True or false?
3. Adam Bandt is the former leader of which party? Who has taken over from his as leader?
4. What is the name of the key group of decision-makers in the government?
   1. Senate
   2. Cabinet
   3. House of Representatives
5. What questions do you have about the BTN New Leaders story?

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

# Kashmir

1. Discuss the BTN Kashmir story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Where is Kashmir? Locate on a map.
3. When did India become independent from Britain?
   1. 1847
   2. 1947
   3. 1967
4. Kashmir has been at the centre of a conflict between which two countries?
5. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BTN story?

# Drought and Algae

1. Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. What impact has the drought had on the kids in the BTN story?
3. What has caused the recent algal bloom in South Australia?
4. How is the algal bloom affecting sea life?
5. Name three facts you learnt watching the story.

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

# Kids AI

1. In pairs, discuss the BTN Kids AI story. What were the main points discussed?
2. What is artificial intelligence?
3. In your own words, describe what a chatbot is.
4. What is the name of the Google AI chatbot made for under 13-year-olds?
5. What are some concerns with young people using the chatbot?

# World Football Day

1. What is the most popular sport in the world?
2. Why was the 25th May chosen for World Football Day?
3. What is the name of our women’s national soccer team?
4. What do the kids in the BTN story like about playing soccer?
5. What did you like about the BTN story?



**EPISODE 13**  
20 May 2025

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will learn about leaders in Australian parliament. Students will develop a range of questions they would ask leaders in parliament.

**CURRICULUM**

**Civics and Citizenship – Year 5**

The key features of the electoral process in Australia.

The roles and responsibilities of electors and representatives in Australia’s democracy.

**HASS – Year 5**

The key values and features of Australia’s democracy, including elections, and the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives.

**Civics and Citizenship – Year 6**

The responsibilities of electors and representatives in Australia’s democracy.

**Civics and Citizenship – Year 7**

Reflect on their role as a citizen in Australia’s democracy.

Develop a range of questions to investigate Australia's political and legal systems.

Teacher Resource

**New Leaders**

# Focus Questions

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

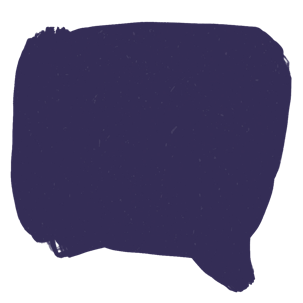
1. Who is the new leader of the Liberal Party?
2. It's the first time the Liberal Party has had a female leader. True or false?
3. Adam Bandt is the former leader of which party? Who has taken over from his as leader?
4. What is the name of the key group of decision-makers in the government?
   1. Senate
   2. Cabinet
   3. House of Representatives
5. What questions do you have about the BTN New Leaders story?

# A picture containing text Description automatically generatedActivity: Class Discussion

Afterwatching the BTN story, discuss with students what they learnt. Use the following questions to guide discussion.

* What political parties in Australia have new leaders? Name one.
* What is the Cabinet?
* What questions do you have about the story?

# Activity: Ask a Question



What questions do you have?

Do you have a question about leaders in Australian parliament that you would like to ask as a class? Send it into the PEO’s [Your questions on notice](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/your-questions-on-notice)

Below are some examples from the PEO’s Your Questions on Notice.

*“How does a political party choose its leader?” –* [*Response*](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/your-questions-on-notice/questions/how-does-a-political-party-choose-its-leader)

*“How is the Prime Minister chosen?” –* [*Response*](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/your-questions-on-notice/questions/how-is-the-prime-minister-chosen)

# Activity: Glossary

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| MINISTER | CABINET | DEPUTY LEADER |
| SEAT | FORMER LEADER | HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES |

Further activities for students:

* Add to your glass glossary by downloading the transcript for the BTN story and highlight all the words that relate to the topic. For example, federal Cabinet, Greens leader and Liberal leader. Visit the Parliamentary Education Office (PEO) [glossary](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/glossary/) and browse or search the meanings of key parliamentary terms.
* Why is a Cabinet called a Cabinet? Explore the origin of the term Cabinet.
* What is the difference between a minister and a shadow minister?
* Choose one word/term from your glossary. Find a definition for the word and explore its meaning in more detail. Explain the meaning of the word or term to your classmates. Use examples to help explain the word’s meaning.

# Activity: Profile

In May 2025, Australia introduced a wave of new political leadership, with the announcement of a new federal Cabinet, a new opposition leader, and a new leader of the Greens. In this activity students will research who these leaders are and what their role is in Australian parliament. Before starting this activity, students will find out who the following leaders are in Australian parliament. Refer to the PEO’s website to find out [Who's who in the current Parliament](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/people-in-parliament/whos-who-in-the-current-parliament).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Types of Leaders in Parliament | Who and what is their role? |
| Who is the Prime Minister of Australia? |  |
| Who is the Leader of the Opposition? |  |
| Who is the Deputy Prime Minister? |  |
| Who is the leader of the Australian Greens? |  |
| Who is the leader of the National Party of Australia? |  |
| Who is the Leader of the Government in the Senate? |  |
| Who is the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate? |  |

Students will choose one and explore their background in more detail and create a profile of them. Students will find out as much as they can about them using a range of primary and secondary sources. Examples of primary sources include interview transcripts, photographs, novels, paintings, films, historical documents, and official statistics. Examples of secondary sources include journal articles, political commentary, biographies, and newspaper editorial/opinion pieces.

Students will include the following in their profiles:

* Name
* What electorate or state do they represent?
* Have they won a seat in the House of Representatives or Senate?
* What is their background?
* What are their key policies?

Watch BTN’s Election Lingo story to learn more about [Houses](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-houses/105225956)!

* What other interesting information did you find?

# Activity: Representative Democracy

In Australia we have something called a representative democracy, which means that the people vote to elect members of parliament to represent their views and make decisions on their behalf in government. It's their responsibility to keep in touch with their voters and make sure their voices are heard on a national level. In this activity students will reflect on what makes a good representative both in politics and in their own community.

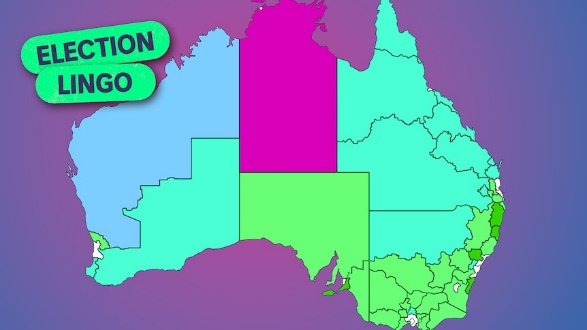
**What makes a good representative?**

Begin this activity by asking students to think about the following question:

*What do you think makes a good representative?*

Brainstorm and list what a good representative ‘is’, ‘does’, ‘does not’ and ‘says’. Record their ideas. Here are some examples:

* honest
* good at communicating
* confident
* has a positive attitude
* commitment
* creative
* inspiring
* good at solving problems
* works well with people

**Who represents you in your electorate?**

Find out which electorate your school is located in and who representatives you in your local area.

* Go to the *Australian Electoral Commission* website to [find your electorate](https://electorate.aec.gov.au/).
* Find more information on the electorate that your school is situated. On a map locate your school and draw the boundary of your electorate.

Watch BTN’s Election Lingo story to learn more about [Electorates](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-electorates/105225958)!

* Create a profile on your local Member of Parliament.
  + Who is the current member for this electorate?
  + What political party do they represent?
  + Is it a safe or marginal seat?

Watch BTN’s Election Lingo story to learn more about [Safe and Marginal Seats](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-safe-and-marginal-seats/13868152)!

**Who represents you in your school community?**

* What makes your school a democratic community?
* Who makes decisions at your school? Give examples.
* What decisions do you make personally?
* Are many decisions made through representation?
* How do your school representatives know what you want?
* Who represents you on the School Representative Council (SRC)?
* How important is it for us to have good representatives that make decisions on our behalf?
* How can teachers, students and parents have a say in what happens in your school community?

# Activity: Interview a Leader

A hand holding a microphone and speech bubbles

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Students will imagine they are given the opportunity to interview the leader of one of Australia’s political parties. Their task is to write a list of interview questions that they would like to ask the leader of the party. Students need to remember to write open-ended questions. Open-ended questions have no right or wrong answer and can’t be answered with a ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

Before writing their interview questions, students will need to think about the following:

* What are the main political parties in Australia? How are they similar or different?
* Who are the leaders of the main political parties in Australia?
* What issues would you like to ask about in your interview?
* Choose a topic that is important to you and your school community. What do you want the leader of the party to do about it?

Watch BTN’s Election Lingo story to learn more about [Parties](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo---parties/13858392)!

# Activity: Explainers

Election reporting can be full of words and phrases that we don’t hear too often and can sound a little complicated. So, as part of BTN’s election coverage, we’ve asked some of our rookie reporters to explain some election terms. Watch BTN’s Election Lingo videos to learn more about electorates, houses, majority/minority governments, political parties, political seats and the democracy sausage!

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Election Lingo - Electorates - Behind The News  [Electorates](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-electorates/13849284) | Election Lingo - Majority/Minority Governments - Behind The News  [Majority/Minority Governements](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-majority-minority-governments/105225952) | Election Lingo - Houses - Behind The News  [Houses](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-houses/105225956) |  |
| A picture containing text, clipart, sign  Description automatically generated  [Electorates](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-electorates/13849284) | A picture containing text, accessory  Description automatically generated  [Political Parties](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo---parties/13858392) | A picture containing text  Description automatically generated  [Safe and Marginal Seats](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo-safe-and-marginal-seats/13868152) | Election Lingo - Democracy Sausage - Behind The News  [Democracy Sausage](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/election-lingo---democracy-sausage/13878386) |

# Useful Websites

* [New Cabinet Sworn in and New Liberal Leader](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/newsbreak/btn-newsbreak-20250513/105286480) – BTN Newsbreak
* [Cabinet](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/government/cabinet) – Parliamentary Education Office
* [Who's who in the current Parliament](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/people-in-parliament/whos-who-in-the-current-parliament) – Parliamentary Education Office
* [Sussan Ley becomes first woman to lead Liberal Party](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-13/liberal-party-new-leader-sussan-ley/105285148) – ABC News
* [What is a Minister](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/what-is-a-minister-/104186338)? – BTN
* [Ministers and Shadow Ministers](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/people-in-parliament/ministers-and-shadow-ministers#:~:text=They%20assist%20ministers%20in%20developing,which%20need%20updating%20or%20improving) – Parliamentary Education Office
* [What is a minister and what do they do?](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/your-questions-on-notice/questions/what-is-a-minister-and-what-do-they-do) – Parliamentary Education Office
* [People in Parliament](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/people-in-parliament) – Parliamentary Education Office
* [Frontbenchers and backbenchers](https://peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/parliament-and-its-people/people-in-parliament/frontbenchers-and-backbenchers#:~:text=Who%20are%20frontbenchers%3F,or%20the%20House%20of%20Representatives.) – Parliamentary Education Office



**EPISODE 13**  
20 May 2025

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will learn more about what drought is and how it impacts people and places. They will also find out more about what an algal bloom is and the impact on sea life.

**CURRICULUM**

**Geography – Year 4**

The importance of environments, including natural vegetation and water sources, to people and animals in Australia and on another continent.

**Geography – Year 5**

The management of Australian environments, including managing severe weather events such as bushfires, floods, droughts or cyclones, and their consequences.

**Geography – Year 7**

The causes and impacts of an atmospheric or hydrological hazard, and responses from communities and governments.

Teacher Resource

**Drought and Algae**

# 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. Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. What impact has the drought had on the kids in the BTN story?
3. What has caused the recent algal bloom in South Australia?
4. How is the algal bloom affecting sea life?
5. Name three facts you learnt watching the story.

**Please note:** Talking about natural disasters may be upsetting for some children and may cause some discomfort, distress and/or anxiety. Here is some information on how to talk to children about natural disasters and upsetting news.

* [Kids Helpline](https://kidshelpline.com.au/teens/issues/coping-natural-disasters) has some information to help children cope with natural disasters.
* BTN has a short video about [Upsetting News](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/campaigns/upsetting-news/10500572).

# Activity: Comprehension

After watching the BTN Drought and Algae story students can answer one or more of the following comprehension questions, for example:

* A picture containing text, vector graphics

  Description automatically generatedWhat are some keywords from the BTN story?
* What did you learn from the story? Write a summary.
* What is the purpose of this news story? To entertain, persuade, inform, explain or describe?
* Why do you think BTN covered this story?

# Activity: Key words

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

Toxic

Algal bloom

Algae

Drought

Rainfall

Climate

Weather

Marine environment

Ask students to write what they think is the meaning of each word (including unfamiliar words). They will swap definitions with a partner and ask them to add to or change the definition. Check these against the dictionary definition.

# Activity: Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Drought and Algae story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students’ knowledge? Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below.

* What is a drought?
* What causes droughts?
* Who is affected by droughts? How are they affected?
* How can communities prepare for droughts?
* How is wildlife affected by drought? Consider food supply and habitats.
* How do you think climate change might affect future droughts in Australia?
* What are the direct and indirect impacts of droughts? For example, a direct impact of drought may be that there is less water for growing crops. An indirect impact may be that people may have to pay more for food.
* How can drought affect marine environments? Consider less freshwater flowing into the ocean, increased salinity, higher water temperatures.
* What is an algal bloom and what causes them to occur?
* How do algal blooms affect marine animals like fish and seabirds?
* What impact do algal blooms have on people, fishing industries and tourism?
* Australia has experienced droughts over the years. Choose a major drought in the country’s history to research. Include the following – a map highlighting the location, when it occurred, a summary of the impact of the drought and images of the drought.

# Activity: Images of Drought

In this activity students will look at a range of images that relate to drought. Students will choose one or more of the images below and respond to the following:

* What is happening in the image?
* What does it tell you about the effects of drought?
* How does the image make you feel?
* What questions would you like to ask about the image?
* Create a caption for each image.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| cracked dry soil surrounded by dry shrub[Source of image](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/86db8ac8e4f9c7150059fce86f51e9c2?impolicy=wcms_crop_resize&cropH=2268&cropW=4032&xPos=0&yPos=0&width=862&height=485) | A hand dropping very fine, dry soil.[Source of Image](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/5ea8d9755189896edabcf78f4223de9d?impolicy=wcms_crop_resize&cropH=3333&cropW=5000&xPos=0&yPos=0&width=862&height=575) |
| A sheep eating hay looking towards the camera, standing in a dry paddock with other sheep[[Source of image](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/16ef8d369e8341d3bb2ae5f1f0069bc3?impolicy=wcms_crop_resize&cropH=576&cropW=1024&xPos=0&yPos=94&width=862&height=485)](https://au-img-cdn.livecenter.com/lc-aus-images/lcimg-4a94d0a7-b562-4675-86e8-b18fe44badb1.jpeg) | A kelpie farm dog drinks from a water trough on a farm, surrounded by dry, barren paddocks. [Source of image](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/c8d1d87a390eb3e2a33436672dd782a7?impolicy=wcms_crop_resize&cropH=815&cropW=1223&xPos=22&yPos=0&width=862&height=575) |



[Source of image](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/6bbcada560b40969a8784bbee565c06a?impolicy=wcms_crop_resize&cropH=1024&cropW=1536&xPos=0&yPos=512&width=862&height=575)

# Useful Websites

* [Drought](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/drought/) – BOM
* [Explainer: What is drought?](https://media.bom.gov.au/social/blog/2179/explainer-what-is-drought/) – BOM
* [SA’s toxic algal bloom similar to size of Kangaroo Island, state government says](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-08/size-of-sa-algal-bloom-revealed/105264168) – ABC News
* [Drought Explained](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/drought-explained/10488726) - BTN
* [What you need to know about droughts: Why they happen and how they are defined](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-01/what-you-need-to-know-about-droughts/10051956) – ABC News



Teacher Resource

**BTN Transcript: Episode 13 - 20/5/2025**

Yaama. I'm Jack Evans and you're watching BTN. Here's what's coming up. We'll find out about the drought in South Australia, learn more about Google's plans for a kids chat bot and celebrate World Football Day.

# New Leaders

Reporter: Jack Evans

*INTRO: But first today, we're going to meet some of Australia's new leaders. We got a whole heap last week. There were new federal ministers, a new opposition leader and a new leader of the Greens. Take a look.*

ALIEN: Take me to your leader.  
  
JACK: Oh, well funny you say that, because we actually just got a whole bunch of new ones.  
  
ALIEN: Huh?   
  
JACK: Yeah, we just had a federal election, so it shook things up a little. Oh, look, they're about to announce the new Liberal leader.  
  
SUSSAN LEY, LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY: It is an enormous privilege to have been elected the leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party. I am humbled, I am honoured, and I am up for the job.  
  
Yep, Sussan Ley was voted in last week after the Liberals former leader, Peter Dutton, lost his seat in this year’s election. It's the first time the party has had a female leader in its 80-year history. So, who exactly is Sussan Ley? Well, she was born in Nigeria to British parents, her dad was an intelligence officer. She spent her early childhood in the United Arab Emirates, before migrating to Australia at the age of 13.   
  
Ms Ley has a commercial pilots license and worked for a while as a bush pilot mustering livestock with a plane. She considers herself an advocate for rural and regional issues and is not afraid to dress up for charity. She also says she was a bit of punk rocker in her youth. Oh, and she added an extra S to her first name when she was young based on numerology theory.  
  
JACK: Apparently the extra 'S' means her life would never be boring.  
  
ALIEN: I have 5 Rs in my name for that very reason.  
  
JACK: Oh, well, there you go.   
  
Sussan Ley joined the Liberal Party in 1994 and was elected to the House of Representatives at the 2001 election, winning the seat of Farrer. Since then, she's held many titles, most notable she was the deputy leader of the opposition up until last week.  
  
ALIEN: So, this is your leader? You must take me to this Sussan Ley.   
  
JACK: Oh, well she's a leader, of the Liberal Party. Weren't you paying attention? Oh, look here's another leader.  
  
Yep, the Liberals weren't the only one who got a new leader. Last week Larissa Waters was voted in as the new leader for the Greens. Taking over from its former leader Adam Bandt who also lost his seat.   
  
LARISSA WATERS, LEADER OF THE GREENS: So, it's been an absolute humbling day, and this is a big job, but I will give it my very best.   
  
Ms Waters is a former environmental Lawyer. She was born in Canada, which briefly got her into trouble because she had dual citizenship which politicians aren't allowed to have. But it was all sorted out and in 2018 she was voted into the senate for the second time and since then has served as co-deputy leader of the Greens.   
  
ALIEN: You seem to have a lot of leaders.   
  
JACK: Oh yeah and we haven't even gotten to the new ministers in the Cabinet.  
  
ALIEN: You keep your ministers in a Cabinet?   
  
JACK: No, you're hysterical. Are you a comedian on your planet?   
  
The Cabinet is the name we give to the group of Parliament members known as ministers who make big decisions about running the country. After the election some ministers stayed the same, some ministers were moved to different ministries, and we got some new ministers as well.  
  
JACK: Well, there you go, I think that's just about all of them. So, which leader did you want me to take you to?   
  
ALIEN: This is too much, I'm outta here.

# News Quiz

Which of these leaders did the Prime Minister shake hands with on the weekend? Was it King Charles, US President Donald Trump or the Pope? It was the Pope. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese went to Pope Leo the fourteenth’s inauguration in Vatican City and got to meet the Pontiff in person.

ANTHONY ALBANESE, PM: My mother would be, uh, is, I'm sure, looking down from heaven with the biggest smile she's ever had.

The PM also met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky where he talked about Australia’s support for Ukraine, and efforts to free an Australian who was captured by Russia.

Which country hosted peace talks between Russia and Ukraine last week? Was it Greece, Türkiye or Saudi Arabia? It was Türkiye. They were the first direct negotiations between the countries since 2022 although Russian President Vladimir Putin didn’t attend actually go in person.

What gift did the ruling family of Qatar offer US president Donald Trump? A racehorse, a luxury car or a plane? It was a plane. Not just any plane but a 620-million-dollar luxury jet known as the Flying Palace. President Trump said he’d be happy to take it to use as his official presidential plane…

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: They're giving us a free jet.

…but some said taking a gift like that from a foreign government would be unsafe and really inappropriate.

And do you know which country won this year’s Eurovision Song Contest? Was it Austria, Sweden or Israel? It was Austria. Singing JJ took out top prize with the song Wasted Love.

# Kashmir

Reporter: Wren Gillett

*INTRO: Now to a place called Kashmir, which has been at the centre of a conflict between India and Pakistan recently. Both sides have now agreed to a ceasefire, but things are still pretty tense. Here's Wren with more.*

Deep valleys, terraced mountains, lush meadows. You're looking at a beautiful part of world known as Kashmir. It sits here, between India and Pakistan, and it's actually divided into two. This part’s controlled by India, and this part’s controlled by Pakistan, with this little bit here controlled by China. But both these countries think the whole area should be belong to them. To understand why, we need to go back in time.  
  
This was the day India became an independent country, August 15, 1947. For more than 200 years, Britain had controlled what was then a collection of states, which were home to people of different religions and cultures. While the majority were Hindu, there were also Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Christians, Parsis, and Jews. For a long time, Indian leaders fought for Independence, and finally after World War II, Britain gave in, but it didn't leave India as one united country. Instead, Britain quickly drew up a plan to split it in two. India would be created out of the Hindu majority regions and would be mainly Hindu. While a second country, Pakistan, was created out of regions that had a Muslim majority and would mostly be Muslim. Over a period of around two years, millions of people left towns and villages their families had lived in for centuries. More than a million people died, and families were ripped apart, as people were forced to choose a home based on their religion.   
  
Kashmir's leader was allowed to choose which country his region would belong to. He was a Hindu, but most of his people were Muslim. At first, he wanted Kasmir to stay separate but chose to join India after Pakistani fighters invaded Kashmir. This led to an uprising from within Kashmir, and the first war between India and Pakistan. Fighting lasted for around one year, killing between 200,000 to 2 million people, until a ceasefire, negotiated by the UN, came into effect in January 1949. A line was drawn through Kashmir, with one side controlled by India and the other by Pakistan. Again, villages were severed, and families were separated, and tensions between India and Pakistan have continued, occasionally flaring into violence.   
  
In April this year, gunmen attacked a tourist spot in the Indian Kashmir Valley, killing 26 people, most of them Hindu. India blamed Pakistani terrorists and launched a series of air attacks on sites on Pakistan and Pakistan-controlled Kashmir. Pakistan said it had nothing to do with the terrorism. It claimed to have shot down some Indian aircraft and fired on Indian Controlled Kashmir. For a while there were worries the violence could get even worse. The world's biggest cricket tournament, the Indian Premier League, was even put on pause. But to the relief of many, both sides agreed to a ceasefire.   
  
DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: My administration helped broker a full and immediate ceasefire.

Now, life on both sides of Kashmir is starting to get back to normal. And people here are hoping that the peace will continue.   
  
**Quiz**

Which of these countries was originally part of Pakistan? Was it Bangladesh, Sri Lanka or Nepal? It's Bangladesh, formerly known as East Pakistan, which became independent in 1971.

**Drought and Algae**

Reporter: Aiden McNamara

*INTRO: Next up, we're heading to South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula, which is going through a double environmental disaster. There's a severe drought and now an algal bloom off the coast is killing sea life. Aiden found out what's going on and how it's affecting local kids.*

STUDENT: All the grass has gone a bit yellow and dry.  
  
STUDENT: It's the driest it's ever been.  
  
STUDENT: More dust is falling onto roofs and cars and stuff.  
  
STUDENT: Not lots of rain, well, except for today.  
  
AIDEN MCNAMARA, REPORTER: Here in Myponga, grey skies like this are pretty rare. It's been a really long time since people have seen any decent rain. For months, this part of South Australia has been going through a really serious drought, with some parts of the state experiencing record low rainfalls. Adelaide's had its driest 15-month stretch since they started tracking this stuff in the 1800s. And while the city's desalination plant is helping to keep the taps running normally, out in the country things are tough. Some places have had to have water trucked in to fill up tanks. And paddocks that are usually green enough for hungry cattle at this time of year are dry.   
  
STUDENT: There's not much feed for the stock.  
  
STUDENT: Farms can't get much water to grow things.  
  
STUDENT: We've had to go for showers and go and do our laundry at nanna's.   
  
It's a similar story for chunks of Victoria and Tassie. But here in South Australia, the hot dry weather isn't just causing problems on the land, it's also triggered something pretty serious in the water.  
  
STUDENT: Kinda just looks like bubbles.  
  
STUDENT: And there's a bit of like a weird colour in the water, you don't want to go there.

So, a few months ago this yellow-y foam stuff started washing up on the beaches of South Australia. Along with dead fish and other marine life. It's been caused by a type of algae. Algae is a creature, that’s actually neither plant nor animal, that lives in water. Like plants, they make their own food from sunlight and turn carbon dioxide into oxygen. And they're actually a really important part of the ocean ecosystem. This year the water off the coast of South Australia has been two and a half degrees warmer than usual which has caused this particular type of algae to bloom.   
  
STUDENT: All the algae is just polluting everything and it's just taking over.

While the algae isn't known to be toxic to humans, it can be irritating to your skin and eyes. And experts are telling people to stay out of funny-looking, foamy water.

STUDENT: You can get a bit sick from it, so try not to encounter the algae too much.  
  
STUDENT: We do go to the beach, we usually don't go in the water, because you don't know what's in there.

But for fish the algae is toxic. More than 200 species of marine life have washed up.  
  
STUDENT: There's so many Port Jackson sharks, and puffer fish, and sting rays.  
  
STUDENT: It's actually pretty sad to see all of the animals washed up on the beach.  
  
Some experts are warning that we could see more algal blooms like this one as ocean temperatures rise around the world. As for South Australia, getting rid of this stuff will take some strong westerly winds, which will bring some cooler weather. And hopefully more rain.   
  
STUDENT: It's a lot colder which is good to see instead of just always being hot.  
  
STUDENT: It's still very pretty, that's the only problem with the water and the algae.  
  
STUDENT: It's a really good place to live.

# Kids’ AI

Reporter: Wren Gillett

*INTRO: Recently Google announced plans to release an AI Chatbot that's specially designed for kids. They say it'll help to keep young people safe, but not everyone thinks it's a great idea. Here's Wren.*

ELSIE: I've used a chat bot to write me a persuasive on why I should get a dog.

CHATBOT: Let's dive into why bringing a dog into your life would be an absolutely fantastic decision.

HARISON: I just said, write me an essay on snakes. And then it just punched it out and it took like five seconds to finish it.

CHATBOT: Instead of walking, they slither and slide on the ground.  
  
OLIVIA: Sometimes I just use it for note taking, and then I put it into my own words.  
  
HITANSH: Sometimes I use it just for fun, like yeah.  
  
Yep, chances are you've come across a chatbot before. Whether it's on a quest to find an answer to a burning question.  
  
WREN GILLETT, REPORTER: What's the name of the guy that's in the Minecraft movie, that's also in the movie about the panda.  
  
AI CHATBOT: The guy you're thinking of is Jack Black.  
  
Or booking a flight.  
  
JACK EVANS, REPORTER: No I said I want to go to Mallorca not New Yorker.  
  
WREN: A chatbot is basically a computer program designed to simulate human conversation. A chatty robot if you will.   
  
CHATBOT: Yes, you could definitely call me a chatty robot.  
  
Chatbots like these are trained on heaps and heaps of real human conversations. So, they learn to recognise patterns, figure out what we mean and how to respond in the most human-y way.  
  
WREN: As the technology has become more human-y, we've started to turn to it for more human-y needs, like therapy advice or friendship.

TOBY WALSH, AI EXPERT: This is the AI that we saw in science fiction, in movies where you had an assistant that you could an AI assistant that you could talk to, you could ask it to do things for you that is now arriving into our lives.  
  
Toby is an AI expert and he says chatbots can be an amazing tool, but they do come with dangers, especially for kids.   
  
WREN: AI chatbots don't always give the right answers, and sometimes they can say things we shouldn't hear.   
  
TOBY WALSH: Sometimes they say things, these chatbots will say things that are inappropriate, that might not be appropriate for young ears.  
  
It's why Google has introduced a version of their AI chatbot, Gemini, for under-13-year-olds. Younger kids can access it using Google's Family Link app, and it'll have safety features that will stop it from discussing inappropriate topics. Although, Google has warned parents that it can still make mistakes or show kids’ stuff they don't want them to see.  
  
TOBY WALSH: There are almost an infinite number of possible ways of interacting with these systems. So, it's almost impossible to ensure that there's no way that it could do things that are wrong or harmful or inappropriate.  
  
And some reckon there are wider problems we could face if we become reliant on AI.  
  
TOBY WALSH: Maybe we will make ourselves more dumb if we don't exercise our brain muscles like we used to.  
  
WREN: For example, if you always reach for chatbots when you have a question, you might not learn how to research properly.  
  
If you ask AI for creative tips, you're missing out on your own brilliant ideas.   
  
WREN: And if you ask it to do your homework, well that's just cheating.  
  
Plus, as human-like as chatbots can be, they're not humans, and some worry that they could take the place of real-life relationships.  
  
TOBY WALSH: We might think that we're having a deeper, more meaningful relationship with these chatbots than is actually possible, because they're not they're not human, they're not like your best friend at the end of the day, they're just a computer.   
  
Google says kids should still be supervised while using chatbots and reminded to use their own intelligence when dealing with AI.  
  
HITANSH: Humans should have their natural instinct to figure something out, instead of not knowing what to do because there's no AI.  
  
ELSIE: Or just be careful with it. Don't use it all the time, and don't go crazy with it.

# Sport

The Central Coast Mariners have defeated Melbourne Victory 5-4 in the A-league Women's Championship Grand Final. While Izzy Gomez gave the Mariners the lead just after half time…

COMMENTATOR: Isabel Gomez puts the Mariners in dreamland!

… Victory managed to catch up levelling the score to 1-all. But a penalty kick from Bianca Galic helped the Mariners claim the silverware. It's their first A-League women's title.

Now to Formula One. Australia's Oscar Piastri has finished third at the Italian Grand Prix at Imola ending his winning streak. He started in pole position, but Max Verstappen managed to squeeze past him on the first corner.

COMMENTATOR: And Verstappen roars around the outside to take the lead in spectacular fashion!

Piastri was trailing behind in second place until his teammate Lando Norris snuck ahead. Max Verstappen held on to the lead until the very end claiming victory.   
And more than one thousand, two hundred runners from 52 countries have taken part in a marathon on The Great Wall of China. It's considered one of the world’s most challenging marathons with participants having to conquer more than five thousand steps but the view's pretty good.

RUNNER: It actually flew by, and there was so much to see, and the people were amazing and the scenery and the wall. And, yeah, it just took my breath away.

# World Football Day

Reporter: Tatenda Chibika

*INTRO: Did you know this Sunday is World Football Day? If not, well, that's understandable. It was only declared by the UN last year to recognise the role that soccer plays in bringing people together around the world. Here's Tatenda with more.*

KID: I've been playing soccer for eight years.  
  
KID: I started six months, yeah about six months, I used to crawl with the ball around the house.  
  
KID: I don't know what sport I would play without soccer.   
  
Tatenda Chibika, Reporter: Whether you call it soccer or football, the beautiful game is the most popular sport in the world played by billions of people from more than 200 countries.   
  
And for many, it's more than just a game.   
  
ANNOUNCER: The Arab world unites, the African continent believes.  
  
It's a way to connect with people, no matter where they're from.   
   
KID: My favourite team would be Manchester United because Ronaldo used to play for them and he used to be a star.  
  
KID: Liverpool, because my dad goes to them and Celtic because my granddad played for them.  
  
In fact, soccer has had such a big impact on the world, that the United Nations decided it deserved an official day. Last year, it declared May 25th, World Football Day.  
  
Dennis Francis, Former General Assembly President: My friends that is precisely why we need football, why we must embrace any tool that has the potential to heal wounds, bridge divides and lift people’s spirits even in the face of adversity.

The date wasn't chosen randomly. It marks the anniversary of first game of the football tournament at the 1924 Paris Olympic Games. 22 countries competed in the event which is seen by many as the first global football competition.   
  
Of course, the story of soccer goes back much further than that. Many ancient civilisations had their own kicking games, like in China, where they played Cuju which means 'kick ball' or Australia's own Woggabaliri which was invented by First Nations people.   
  
However, soccer as we know it, started in 19th century Britain. The Brits had played different versions of the game for hundreds of years but there were no official rules until 1863 when several clubs came together in this tavern and formed the Football Association creating a rulebook that everyone could follow. From there, soccer took off.   
  
It's pretty easy to see why it was so popular, the rules are easy to understand, and you don't need a lot of special equipment just a ball and some open space and anyone can join in.   
  
As the British colonised other parts of the world they took the game with them and by the early 1900s, there were so many teams and leagues, it was hard to keep up. So, in 1904 FIFA was created in Paris to oversee international competitions and in 1930, it created the World Cup which today is the biggest sporting event on the planet.  
  
Announcer: Tim Cahill has scored the nation's first ever World Cup finals goal.  
  
While soccer is the number one team sport played here in Australia, in terms of popularity, it takes a backseat to other forms of footy. Although, some reckon that's changing.   
  
Announcer: Her we go, Stadium Australia is a Colosseum tonight, the biggest match in the history of football in this country.  
  
A record number of Aussies tuned in to watch the Matilda's play in the World Cup semi-finals in 2023 and experts say it's helped get even more kids into soccer.   
  
KID: There's a lot of World Cups. There's a lot of crazy games and that like a lot of mad goals, yeah that's very inspiring.  
  
KID: Makes me feel like I'm playing in that game, like watching.  
  
KID: Makes me just wanna be like them and experience actually giving young players like me signatures.   
  
So, whether you're cheering on your heroes, or having a kick with your friends, these guys say there's a lot to love about the beautiful game.   
  
**Closer**

Well that's all we have for this week, but we'll be back with more before you know it. In the meantime, there's Newsbreak and BTN High and all sorts of other stuff to see and do on our website. Have a great week and I'll see you soon. Bye.