



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.

### Iran History

1. Discuss the BTN Iran History story as a class.
2. Locate Israel and Iran on a map.
3. What year did the Iran Revolution start?
4. Who rules Iran?
5. Why are Israel and its allies worried about Iran?

### Upsetting News

1. Briefly summarise the BTN Upsetting News story.
2. Stories make the news because they ...
  - a. Are unusual
  - b. Happen all the time
3. What are some things you can do if you are feeling overwhelmed by the news? Give one example.
4. Who can you talk to if you are feeling worried about what you've seen in the news? Give 2 examples.
5. Find a good news story in your community that you can share with the class.

### NAIDOC Week Anniversary

1. What do the kids in the BTN story do during NAIDOC Week? Give an example.
2. What year did NAIDOC Week start?
3. What is the name of the protest which was held by Indigenous Australians on January 26, 1938?
4. What is the theme for NAIDOC Week 2025?
5. What did you learn watching the BTN story?

### BMX Racer

1. Summarise the BTN story.
2. What type of BMX competition does Penny compete in?
  - a. Big tricks

#### EPISODE 18

24 June 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.

- b. Racing
  - c. Dirt jumping
- 3. How many days a week does Penny train?
- 4. Where are the BMX World Championships being held this year?
- 5. What did you like about the BTN story?



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# End of Term Review

## Activity: Reflect on the News

What have been some big news stories this year? As a class or in small groups, brainstorm a list. Which stories from this year have been important to you? Check the [BTN website](#) to refresh your memory!

Students will choose their top 5 news stories and create their own quiz to test their classmates. Students' quizzes should cover a range of categories, for example, Science, the Environment, Technology, Arts, Health, Sport, World Events.

Students can visit the [BTN stories page](#) and the [BTN subjects page](#) for a range of news topics to browse through. News stories can be a mix of local, national and world news. Students will give reasons why they think these are the top 5 news stories.

Students can include a range of quiz styles, for example:

- Multiple choice, true or false or fill in the blank.
- Use photos or pictures.
- When an answer is revealed, provide extra information to explain the answer.

Students can make their quizzes in [Kahoot](#) or [Quizizz](#). Make it fun, engaging, and educational!

## Activity: What Makes Something 'News'?

Students will investigate what makes an event newsworthy. Before starting this activity, brainstorm some ideas as a class.

Watch BTN's [What makes the news, news?](#) video as a class. In this video we look at the news values that determine which stories we see and hear about and which ones we don't and how those news values can subtly shape the way we see the world.

Students will choose a range of current news stories (up to 5 news stories) and evaluate why the story is in the news and what makes it newsworthy? Students can use a T-chart to organise their information.

### EPISODE 18

24 June 2025

#### KEY LEARNING

Students will reflect on the news this year and learn more about what makes a good news story and create their own news report.

#### CURRICULUM

##### English – Year 6

Compare texts including media texts that represent ideas and events in different ways, explaining the effects of the different approaches.

##### English – Year 7

Analyse and explain the effect of technological innovations on texts, particularly media texts.

##### Media Arts – Years 3-4, 5-6

Plan, produce and present media artworks for specific audiences and purposes using responsible media practice.

## Activity: Good News Stories

BTN has featured lots of good news stories this year, some of them showing kids doing amazing things. Choose one of your favourite stories below or visit BTN's website to see more. Respond to the following questions:

- What is the story about?
- Why did you choose this story?
- Why do you think BTN chose to feature this story?
- Describe the main issue/message in the story.
- What makes this story interesting?
- What questions do you have about the story?



[World Football Day](#)



[School Support Dog](#)



[Ngani Cafe](#)



[Hudson's Hike](#)



[Formula One Dreams](#)



[Mother Language Day](#)

## Activity: Rookie Reports

Many BTN stories feature young people, whether they're reporting on a news event affecting them or telling us about an issue or topic they are passionate about. Students will visit the BTN website to explore the latest [Rookie Reports](#). Students will choose one story that interests them the most and then respond to the questions below.

- What is the story about?
- Why did you choose this story?
- What words would you use to describe this story?
- Describe the main issue/message in the story.
- What makes this story interesting?



## Activity: Make Your Own News Report

Have you ever dreamt of being a news reporter? Students will produce a short video about someone who's doing something great, doing something interesting or helping others in their community. It could be a friend, family member, schoolteacher, or themselves. Alternatively, you could encourage students to research an issue that affects their local community. Use [this checklist](#) to decide on a story to cover.

1. Choose someone in your community that you want to feature in your news report. Watch some of BTN's [Rookie Reports](#) for inspiration.
2. Write your story – Find out what makes a good feature story [here](#). Celebrate the persons' strengths in your writing. Share your story with the class.
3. Plan your report – Story board your news report on paper.
4. Make your news report – Check out the videos below for a range of tips on how to make a news report.



[Recording great audio](#)



[Shooting the story](#)



[Conducting interviews](#)

**Filming tips** - In [this video](#), Nat from BTN explains all about filming, framing and the rule of thirds.

### Make a podcast

Think about making a class podcast to tell stories about what's happening in your community. Watch these BTN stories to hear from school kids who make their own podcast.



BTN [Kids' News Service](#)



BTN [Podcast Kid](#)



BTN [Fictional Podcasts](#)



## Activity: Get Your News Daily



Watch BTN every day! BTN Newsbreak is a great way to kick off the morning routine. You can watch Newsbreak anytime on the BTN website or by subscribing to the [BTN YouTube](#) channel. Head to the [BTN website](#) for all the details.

## Useful Websites

- [BTN Classroom Stories](#) – BTN
- [Newsbreak Stories](#) – BTN
- [BTN Specials](#) – BTN iView
- [BTN Subjects](#) – BTN



Teacher Resource

# BTN Transcript: Episode 18- 24/6/2025

Yaama. I'm Jack Evans and you're watching BTN. Here's what's coming up. We celebrate 50 years of NAIDOC, find out who this year's NBA champions are, and we meet an up-and-coming BMX star.

## Iran Strikes

Reporter: Justina Ward

*INTRO: But first today to Iran, the US has bombed underground sites where it believes Iran was working on nuclear weapons. It's a huge deal that's caused controversy in the US and overseas. Here's Justina.*

After Israel began bombing Iran on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, there was one big question that a lot of people were asking.

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: I may do it, I may not do it. I mean nobody knows what I'm going to do.

Then on Sunday, we got an answer to that question.

DONALD TRUMP: A short time ago, the US military carried out massive precision strikes on the three key nuclear facilities in the Iranian regime, Fordo, Natanz, and Esfahan.

They were sites where spies said Iran had been working on the technology and materials it needed to make nuclear weapons.

DONALD TRUMP: Tonight, I can report to the world that the strikes were a spectacular military success. Iran's key nuclear enrichment facilities have been completely and totally obliterated.

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU, ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER: President Trump acted to deny the world's most dangerous regime the world's most dangerous weapons.

There's been an ongoing debate about whether or not Iran is creating a nuclear weapon. In fact, back in March the US spy chief said Iran was not building a bomb. And the Iranian government has repeatedly said its program is for nuclear power not nuclear weapons.

But many others, including the US president, say it's a real threat. The US' decision to enter the conflict has been very controversial. A number of US politicians are angry President Trump attacked a foreign country without asking Congress first and some of President Trump's own supporters aren't happy he's getting involved in a conflict started by Israel. Especially considering he made a big deal about being anti-war in his election campaign. And promising to...

DONALD TRUMP: Turn the page forever on those foolish, stupid days of never-ending wars.

But others don't see these strikes as starting a war but ending one and taking the chance to protect US allies from a terrible threat.

DANNY DANON, ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO THE UN: The United States, the leader of the free world, removed the greatest existential threat facing the free world.

Some world leaders have supported the attack.

PENNY WONG, AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER: The world has long agreed Iran cannot be allowed to get a nuclear weapon, and we support action to prevent that and that is what this is.

But others, including the UN, have criticised the President and called for an end to the violence. Iran has said it will defend itself.

ABBAS ARAQCHI, IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER: By all means necessary.

And has launched more bombs at Israel and there are worries it, or its allies, could target sites controlled by the US. There are also some worries about whether bombing nuclear sites could cause radiation to leak into the environment.

Australians have been told to leave Iran and in Israel schools and workplaces have been closed. It's a really tense situation and has many around the world on edge.

## Iran History

Reporter: Michelle Wakim

*INTRO: Of course, it's a really worrying time for people in Iran and Israel and their loved ones overseas. Michelle went to talk to a young Iranian here in Australia and found out more about the history of tension between Israel and Iran.*

ARMITA: I feel very out of control, I feel very stressed for my family there. It's kind of affecting my studies a little bit in year 12, it's also affecting me emotionally.

For people like Armita, it's been a tough few weeks, watching the news and worrying about loved ones in Iran.

ARMITA: Obviously it's kind of a warzone, um, the main capital is in shambles, people are in distress. All of the social and western social medias are down. I tried calling my dad like multiple times, kept getting cancelled, and that was like for 3, 4 days I couldn't reach them.

While Armita and her mum live in Australia, her dad and the rest of her family live in northern Iran. Since the bombing started, internet and phone access has been patchy. Foreign journalists aren't often allowed into Iran so there's not a lot of news about what it's like for people on the ground. But officials say hundreds of people have died.

It's also been a scary time for people in Israel, where Iranian missiles have hit homes and killed more than 25 people.

ALEX: It's really scary, in the middle of the night, right, you're sleeping, you're having dreams, and then just get waken up by this nyeow nyeow, right, across the whole city and you know you gotta run straight away, you're in the bunker right, like 5 seconds later, you just hear explosions.

Alex's family has been spending time in a bomb shelter. Others are camping in underground car parks to stay safe. While this is the worst violence between Iran and Israel in years, there's been tension between the two countries for a long time.

They weren't always enemies. In fact, for decades their leaders worked together behind the scenes. At that time Iran was ruled by a Shah, or King, with close ties to the US and UK.



He wanted Iran to be more like western countries and promoted education and gender equality. He also brutally punished people who disagreed with him, banned religious dress and, with the help of the US and UK, helped stage a coup against a popular prime minister. By the late 70s, many Iranians were angry and wanted change.

There was a revolution. Iran became an Islamic Republic ruled by religious leaders who enforced strict Islamic law. They didn't like that the Shah had been cooperating with the likes of the US, UK & Israel and have made it clear they're strongly against what they say are outsiders interfering in the region.

Since then, Iran's leaders have repeatedly called for Israel's destruction and supported groups who oppose Israel and the US including groups which have been accused of terrorism. Adding to all that tension is the issue of nuclear weapons. Experts say Israel has them although it's never formally admitted it. Iran has a nuclear power plant and enriches uranium to use as fuel, but Iran's also been accused of secretly working on nuclear weapons.

For Israel, the US and much of the rest of the world, that's been a big worry for a long time. Now, some are still hoping there's a chance that Iran's leaders will negotiate. But others, including some Iranians, are hoping for new leaders.

Some experts worry about what effect it would have on Iran, and the whole region, if its government was overthrown. There's also been criticism of Israel for the way it has attacked Iran.

STÉPHANE DUJARRIC, SPOKESPERSON FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, UNITED NATIONS: I condemn this tragic and unnecessary loss of lives and injuries to civilians.

It's a worrying time for a lot of people, but Armita says she and many Iranians hope that whatever changes happen, they'll be for the best.

ARMITA: I think it's important to shine a light upon the fact that there is that hope for people and that's what we stay and that's the whole positive side we can hope for.

## Upsetting News

Reporter: Wren Gillett

*INTRO: As you might have noticed, there's been quite a bit of upsetting news around recently, and it's pretty easy to feel a bit overwhelmed. So, this week Wren went to talk to an expert to find out how you can stay informed and look after yourself at the same time.*

RUBY: The news makes me feel a bit sad. Cause what's been like going on.

CLARA: It's a little bit upsetting and like bordering on depressing due to, like global warming, climate change and like the wars.

HAMISH: Where like kind of suffering and they don't have much food or water and they're like some people are getting injured.

KINYANJUI: It's sad to watch and like, listen to what's happening.

WREN GILLETT, REPORTER: If the news has been getting you down recently. Well, it's not just you. From natural disasters to political turmoil, famine and war; there's a lot of bad stuff going on. Researchers have found that seeing things like these can trigger feelings of anxiety and fear, especially in kids.

WREN: So, how do we keep up to date and look after ourselves at the same time?

AMBER OWEN, PSYCHOLOGIST: I think it's really important to make sure that you implement a whole lot of strategies to help you manage that distress that you might feel about bad news stories.

Amber is a psychologist, and she says it can help to understand a bit about how our brains work.

AMBER OWEN: So, we know that humans have this real negativity bias and that is that we're wired to notice the bad stuff more than the good stuff. Unfortunately.

It's actually an instinct that helped our ancestors to survive. Because bad news is often important news. But it can make us feel like things are more negative than they actually are. And remember, stories make the news *because* they're unusual. If they happened all the time, they wouldn't be headlines.

AMBER OWEN: The next thing I'd really suggest is that you focus on what is within your control.

When you're watching big world events unfold, it can be pretty easy to feel overwhelmed and powerless. So, Amber suggests focusing on the things you *can* do.

AMBER OWEN: It might just be like a single act of kindness or it might be engaging with your community, or it might even be thinking about on a global scale what you can do to help support the cause that you're distressed or worried about.

And remember, even in bad situations, there's usually something good to focus on.

AMBER OWEN: If you can look out for the helpers for those volunteers, the doctors, the communities that are banding together, it really does give you a sense of hope and help you to understand that there is always good in the world even within these bad news stories.

Amber also says it's important to remember that feeling upset about what you see on the news is totally normal. In fact, it's a good sign.

AMBER OWEN: I sometimes say to people, don't forget that you wouldn't wanna be a person that wasn't distressed by these things, right? Like that would say that you don't care.

And chances are, the adults in your life are feeling the same way.

AMBER OWEN: You might also find out that they find things distressing as well, and that can really help you feel validated and normal in the face of these really uncomfortable things that happen in our world.

She says it can really help to talk to someone, whether it's a friend, family member, a teacher or an organisation like Kids Helpline.

WREN: And remember, if you feel like you need to, you can always take a break from the news.

KINYANJUI: Sometimes I just take deep breaths and like, I don't know, think about something else more happy.

RUBY: To make myself feel better, I usually think about my dog and his name's Quinn.

CLARA: Once you get older, there will probably be more upsetting news and if you already know how to deal with it, then when you get older, you'll still know how to deal with it. So, it's really important to keep

those skills.

## News Quiz

World leaders are meeting in The Hague this week for a NATO summit. Do you know what the A in NATO stands for? Is it American, Atlantic or Allied? It's Atlantic. NATO is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and it's a military alliance involving 32 countries. This year there's a lot to talk about, including the war in Ukraine and, of course, Iran.

Another important international meeting was held in Canada last week. Do you know what it's called? The G7, the G8 or the G20? It's the G7, or group of 7, an informal collection of countries that come together every year to talk about things like trade and security. This year Australia was one of the extra countries who were invited to participate, although the Prime Minister's first meeting with Donald Trump was cancelled when the US President left early following Israel's strikes on Iran.

The US president's family has just announced they're selling a Trump branded what? Mobile phone, television or car? It's a gold Trump smartphone.

Indonesia's Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki erupted last week, spewing ash 10 metres into the air. Do you know which island the volcano is on? Bali, Flores or Java? It's on the island of Flores. People living near the volcano were evacuated but no one was hurt.

And do you know the outcome of this SpaceX test launch? Did the spacecraft make it into orbit, did it crash, or did it explode? Yeah, it exploded. No one was hurt, except the Starship Spacecraft. I don't think it's fixable. Although SpaceX owner Elon Musk did send out this tweet.

## NAIDOC Week Anniversary

Reporter: Wren Gillett

*INTRO: Now to a very important week that's coming up, NAIDOC Week, which this year will mark its 50th anniversary. Wren found out about NAIDOC's history and what it means to Indigenous Australians.*

SOPHIA: During NAIDOC week, my family and I, we go to the march and then go to the NAIDOC ball as well.

DYLAN: We normally go there, we'll do the march. Hopefully we'll go with some of our friends.

KYLE: We do special Aboriginal movement as well, like we do dancing.

FELICIA: And then my dad usually takes us camping to places like the APY lands.

For kids like these guys, NAIDOC Week is something to look forward to every July.

FELICIA: NAIDOC Week is a week to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders culture, history, achievements and successes.

SOPHIA: NAIDOC Week is for people to like to know about their mob, or people that are not Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people to support or learn more about if they don't know about it.

And its roots go back a long way.

FELECIA: I remember it started as a protest to change the date of Australia Day because the 26th of January

because that was the day they lost their home to colonisers.

This is the year it began, 1938. Australia was marking 150 years since the arrival of the First Fleet, and there were huge celebrations, including a re-enactment of the event at Sydney Cove.

But for many First Nations people, this was nothing to celebrate. It was a reminder of the day their land and sovereignty was stolen, and the beginning of years of discrimination and loss. So, that same day, a group of Indigenous Australians organised a protest. They called it the Day of Mourning, and it's thought of as one of the first major civil rights gatherings in the world.

The Day of Mourning became an annual event. From 1940 until 1955, it was held annually on the Sunday before Australia Day and was known as 'Aborigines Day'. Then it was shifted to the first Sunday in July, when it became less of a protest and more of a celebration of culture and survival.

In 1957, NADOC was formed, which stood for 'National Aborigines Day Observance Committee'. Its job was to help organise the demonstrations and find other ways to help draw attention to issues facing Indigenous people. Although it wasn't until 1974 that all members of the committee were First Nations. They decided the event should last longer than a day, and the following year, the very first NADOC week was held. And the rest as they say, is history.

GARY FOLEY, ACTIVIST: These children are who we're fighting for in the long run, because if we get land rights, not if, when we get land rights, it'll belong to them and their children.

Each NAIDOC Week has its own theme, and this year's theme is 'The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy'.

FELICIA: It means how it's talking about us and the kids of the youth and how we're going to be the next strong ones.

DYLAN: When we get too old, the next generation can carry on and keep going like that.

KYLE: There wasn't that much people that were, like respecting us, like as Aboriginal people like a long time ago, but now more that we're like now more people getting to know us like more people are actually starting to like Aboriginal people now, so like we can actually have like, an ongoing culture.

SOPHIA: It's been around a lot and has beautiful things like art and dances and culture. It's good to keep it going.

FELICIA: My hopes for the future are to stop discrimination and for everybody to be considered equal.

## Quiz

What does the I in NAIDOC stand for? Indigenous, Islander or Inclusion? It's Islander. The I was added to NAIDOC in 1991 to recognise Torres Strait Islander people.

## Sport

Not one, not two, but three. That's how many times Minjee Lee has won a major after she stormed to victory at the Women's PGA Championship with a 3 shot lead making her the fourth ever Aussie to win three or more golf majors.

Alright, it's NBA time. Game 7 of the finals went down between Oklahoma City Thunder and the Indiana

Pacers. But during the first quarter, yep. Pacers star Tyrese Haliburton went down with a serious leg injury forcing him to leave the game, while the Pacers managed to keep up their, well, pace. It was the Thunder who stormed home winning their first NBA Championship in franchise history, with Shai Gilgeous-Alexander snagging MVP.

And come on now, no sport segment is complete without our very own Arisa Trew. The 15-year-old stole the show at the X Games in Osaka, snapping up her 7th gold, tying her with Gui Khury for most X Games gold won by a teenager, making her one of X Games' "winningest", yes that's a word, female skateboarders of all time.

## BMX Racer

Rooker Reporter: Penny

*INTRO: Finally, today we're going to meet Penny, an 11-year-old BMX racer from Adelaide who's about to take on the world in Denmark. Check it out.*

Hey BTN, my name's Penny and I've been racing BMX for five years.

There's BMX freestyle which is doing big tricks and jumps and but BMX is actually racing against people and trying to get the best time and be in front of everyone.

My Dad inspired me because he was a professional track and road racer when he was younger and one day, during Covid, I think it was, he brought us to the Happy Valley BMX track and me and my family really liked it. It's very good having a family like that, because you can talk to them about things you need help with and if you're feeling scared about something and they know you can do it, they'll encourage you to do it.

When I turned eight I went to the national championships for the first time and I got a bit scared because I was racing against people from different states and I was getting, like, a bit nervous between every race. But once I got on the track, I was fine.

I do about six days a week of training. I get rest days sometimes if I'm like sick or I'm injured or something. You have to use long sleeve, like jerseys and long sleeve pants, and you have to wear a full face helmet and gloves. They're requirements because if you have a bad crash and you whack your head, you'll have a better chance of not getting concussed or anything.

It's a very welcoming sport, you've got nice people all around you who'll help you if you need help and if you have a bad crash, anybody will, like, come and help you.

My most recent competition was Mighty 11s, which is a race that there's an Australian team and a New Zealand team, and they race against each other as teams. Try and win. That's really all that goes through my head. You've got split second decisions to try and do when you're racing.

All my medals and trophies all together, I think I have about 85 to 90 of them, but I have not counted.

I'm going to the World Championships in Copenhagen, which is in Europe. I'm going there for the World Championships. It's where you're racing everyone from the world in your race category. It'll be very fun to race against other 11-year-old girls, 'cause I don't get to get that opportunity a lot. I usually have to race against the boys, cause there's, like, not a lot of 11-year-old girls to race against. I'm nervous. But I'm also very excited because I get to go over to Copenhagen and race against other people.

I would say it's a very cool experience and it's a great sport to get into, you should definitely come and try it.

## Closer

Well, that's all we have for you this week and this term. You're all about to head off on school holidays so we're taking a break too, but Newsbreak will still be here every weeknight. And, as always, you can jump online to check out more stories and specials and heaps of other stuff. Have a great holiday. Stay safe and we'll see you soon. Bye.