

Pacific Islands Forum

1. Discuss the *Pacific Islands Forum* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Where is Tuvalu? Find using Google Maps.
3. What countries are in the Pacific Islands? Name one.
4. What two countries are part of the forum that aren't in the Pacific Islands?
5. How often is the Pacific Islands Forum held?
6. What topics do they talk about at the forum?
7. Why are the people of Tuvalu worried about climate change?
8. What is the average height of the islands in Tuvalu?
9. Complete the following sentence. Pacific Islanders wanted the leaders at the forum to sign an agreement that included banning _____ mines.
10. What questions do you have after watching the BTN story?

Recycling Solution

1. Before watching the BTN story discuss what you know about recycling.
2. What recycling goal is Ashlee's school trying to achieve?
3. Why are some overseas countries not accepting Australia's recycling anymore? Give one reason.
4. Complete the following sentence. A lot of our recycling is now ending up in _____.
5. Who did Ashlee interview in the BTN story?
6. What is the Australian Government going to do to help solve the issue?
7. What do you think can be done to solve the problem?
8. What questions do you have about recycling for the leaders of Australia?
9. Investigate how your school recycles and deals with waste. What improvements could be made?
10. How did this story make you feel? Discuss in pairs and then share your thoughts with the class.

Check out the [Recycling Solution resource](#) on the Teachers page.

History of Libraries

1. What is your favourite book at the moment? Discuss with another student.
2. How long have we had libraries?
3. What were the books in the Library of Ashurbanipal made from?
4. Where was the Library of Alexandria built? Find using Google Maps.
5. What year was Australia's first public library built?
 - a. 323BCE
 - b. 1854
 - c. 1954
6. Complete the following sentence. Libraries are usually funded by _____ governments.
7. How have libraries changed over time?
8. What type of technology is available at the library in the BTN story?
9. Illustrate an aspect of the BTN story.
10. What do you like about libraries? Discuss as a class.

Check out the [History of Libraries resource](#) on the Teachers page.

Spinifex Gum Choir

1. Briefly summarise the BTN *Spinifex Gum Choir* story.
2. Where in Australia is the choir from? Find using Google Maps.
3. What musicians are working with the choir?
 - a. Cat Stevens
 - b. Cat Empire
 - c. Stray Cats
4. What issues does the choir sing about?
5. Where has the choir performed?
6. What is the purpose of their song 'Dream Baby Dream'?
7. How can you add your voice to their song 'Dream Baby Dream'?
8. What is the choir going to do when they go to Canberra in September 2019?
9. How did the story make you feel? Discuss in pairs.
10. What questions would you like to ask the singers in the choir?

Hyenas

1. What zoo did Olivia go to in the BTN *Hyenas* story?
2. What species of hyena featured in the BTN story?
 - a. Spotted hyena
 - b. Striped hyena
 - c. Brown hyena
3. Which continent do hyenas live in? Find using Google Maps.
4. What do you call a group of hyenas?
5. Complete the following sentence. Hyenas are a _____ dominated society.
6. How did the 'The Lion King' movie portray hyenas?
7. Hyenas are intelligent animals. True or false?
8. What is the closest relative to hyenas?
9. What three words would you use to describe hyenas?
10. Illustrate an aspect of the BTN *Hyenas* story.

Get your class involved in BTN's [Ask A Reporter](#). This week's topic is Hyenas.



Recycling Solution

Focus Questions

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2. What recycling goal is Ashlee's school trying to achieve?
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4. Complete the following sentence. A lot of our recycling is now ending up in _____.
5. Who did Ashlee interview in the BTN story?
6. What is the Australian Government going to do to help solve the issue?
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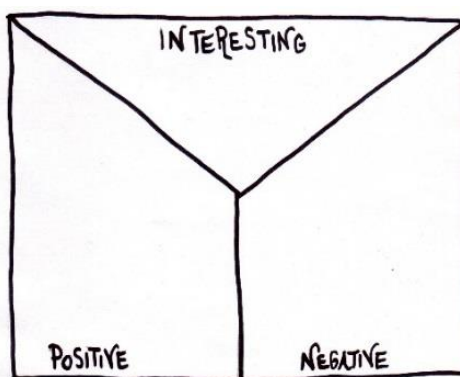
Activity

Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN *Recycling Solution* story. After watching the story, ask students to reflect on and organise the information into three categories.

What information in the story was...?

- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting



Activity

Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN *Recycling Solution* story as a class and record the main points on a mind map with 'recycling' at the centre. Students will then respond to the following and share their ideas as a class.

- How did this story make you feel? Make of a list of words that describe how you felt after watching this story.
- Think of three questions you would like to ask about the story.

Key Learning

Students will reflect on ways that recycling and waste is managed at their school. Students will explore how kids are making a difference on an environmental issue.

Curriculum

Geography – Year 4

The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably.

HASS – Year 4

Reflect on learning to propose actions in response to an issue or challenge and consider possible effects of proposed actions.

HASS – Year 7

Reflect on learning to propose personal and/or collective action in response to an issue or challenge, taking into account different perspectives, and describe the expected effects.

The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably.

Science – Year 4

Science knowledge helps people to understand the effect of their actions.

Science – Year 5 & 6

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

Science – Year 7

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







Remember that good questions are open-ended (have no right or wrong answer and can't be answered with a 'yes' or 'no').

- What would you ask the Prime Minister on the topic of recycling if you had the opportunity?
- What does recycling mean to you? Leave your comment on the BTN *Recycling Solution* story page.

Activity

Six Hat Thinking

As a class, use Edward De Bono's *Six Hat Thinking* to explore the recycling problem in Australia. Students will take it in turns answering questions in relation to what they already know about the issue, what they have learned from the BTN *Recycling Solution* story and what else they want to learn about the topic. Ask students to respond to the following questions:

 feelings and emotions	How did the <i>Recycling Solution</i> story make you feel?
 facts and information	What do you know about recycling? What have you learnt from the story?
 positives	Were there any positives from the story? If so, what were they?
 negatives	What are some of the negatives or challenges that you learnt from the story?
 creativity	Why is it important to find out more about the issue?
 thinking about thinking	What questions were raised during this activity? What do you want to learn further about this topic?

Reflection

After this activity, ask students to reflect on what they have learnt. Students can include details about how their thinking on this issue has changed and why they think we should act.

Activity

Recycling test

As a class, brainstorm the different types of waste produced at your school, for example:

- Paper
- Plastic – lunch wrappers, drink containers etc
- Food scraps
- Plant clippings
- Electronic items – mobile phones, computer screens etc
- Batteries
- Printer cartridges
- Newspapers

Do your students know which of these items can be recycled? Test your students by asking which items can be recycled and which recycling bin it should be placed. Students can go to this [website](#) to learn more about recycling and test their recycling skills.

Activity

Reduce your waste

Do your part to make a change and challenge yourself by having a 'waste-free lunch' or 'nude food' for a day or a week.

- Think of ways that you can avoid or reduce the amount of packaging you use. For example, putting food in reusable containers instead of disposable bags, and avoiding pre-packaged food.
- Did you find this challenge difficult? Why or why not? Explain.
- How has this challenge impacted on your thinking?
- What can you do to take action?
 - Reduce the amount of packaging
 - Buy food that has little or no packaging (wherever possible)
 - Buy food in bulk and put into reusable containers
 - Write to food companies asking them to reduce the amount of packaging or change to environmentally friendly packaging.



Activity

Kids making a difference

Students will investigate ways they can make a difference to the problem of plastic pollution. Working in pairs brainstorm some solutions to the problem. For example, conducting a beach clean-up or reducing the amount of plastic packaging they use. They can take a look at kids who are making a difference on an environmental issue. Watch BTN's [Straw no More](#) story.



BTN has featured kids who are passionate about the issue with these stories: [Plastic Ocean Campaigner](#), [Plastic Bag Ban](#) and [War on Waste School](#). Discuss ways to present the information. Some ideas include:

- Make a news report. Visit the [BTN Rookie Reporter page](#) for some ideas.
- Create a website using [Wix](#)
- Create a podcast using [Podomatic](#), [Buzzsprout](#) to share with the school community.

Useful Websites

Recycling Problem – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/recycling-problem/11229340>

Chinese Recycling Ban – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/chinese-recycling-ban/10521842>

War on Waste School – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/war-on-waste-school/10522784>

Plastic Pollution Problems – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/plastic-pollution-problems/10488932>

Recycling – ABC Education

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!topic/495996/recycling>

History of Libraries

Focus Questions

1. What is your favourite book at the moment? Discuss with another student.
2. How long have we had libraries?
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6. Complete the following sentence. Libraries are usually funded by _____ governments.
7. How have libraries changed over time?
8. What type of technology is available at the library in the BTN story?
9. Illustrate an aspect of the BTN story.
10. What do you like about libraries? Discuss as a class.

Activity

Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN *History of Libraries* story as a class using the following questions to guide discussion:

- What is your favourite book at the moment? Tell a classmate about the book you are reading and what you like about it.
- Why do we have libraries? Make a list of reasons.
- Why is it important to have libraries?
- What's your favourite thing about going to the library?

Activity

Glossary

Ask students to brainstorm as many words as they can think of that relate to books and reading and record their responses as a class. Below are some words to get them started:

Illustrator	Setting	Non-fiction
Genre	Character	Author
Narrative	Theme	Plot

Key Learning

Students will explore the history of libraries and why they are important. Students will create their own creative story including developing storylines, characters and settings.

Curriculum

English – Year 4

Discuss how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing and hold readers' interest by using various techniques, for example character development and plot tension

Create literary texts by developing storylines, characters and settings

English – Year 5

Create literary texts using realistic and fantasy settings and characters that draw on the worlds represented in texts students have experienced

Create literary texts that experiment with structures, ideas and stylistic features of selected authors

English – Year 6

Create literary texts that adapt or combine aspects of texts students have experienced in innovative ways

Activity

Book Review

Students will choose a book they have read this year or a [Book of the Year](#) winner for 2019 and then write their own book review. Students will respond to the following:

- Write a concise description of the plot.
- Who are the main characters in the book?
- What are the themes in the book?
- What did you like or dislike about the book?
- Would you recommend the book to other kids your age? Why or why not?
- Include an illustration with your review. It could be a sketch of the front cover or one of the characters from the story.
- Write a letter to the author of the book explaining your views on the book and asking any questions you have about the book.



Activity

Book Club

Hold your own class book club! Students will read the same book, either individually or as a class and discuss the story in small groups. Choose a comfortable setting for students to sit before starting the group discussion. Consider having refreshments, like juice and biscuits, for students during the discussion.

Below are some discussion starters for your class book club:

- How would you describe the author's style?
- Who was your favourite character in the book? What did you like about them?
- Imagine what the character looks like and draw a picture of the character. Compare with other student's drawings.

Activity

Comparison

Students will choose and explore two stories written by the same author. Students will then compare the stories and find similarities and differences.

	text 1	text 2
subject or theme		
characterisation		
text structure		
plot development		
tone		
vocabulary		
sense of voice		
narrative point of view		
visual techniques		

Activity

Favourite book

Students will choose their favourite book and complete one of the following activities:

- Redesign the front cover of one of your favourite books. Explain why you chose the design.
- Create a poster that encourages people to read one of your favourite books.
- Rewrite the ending of your favourite book. Explain why you chose to end it the way you did.

Activity

Creative writing

As a class, make a list of useful tips for story writing. Include tips on how to build character development, plot tension and narrative. Students will choose one of the following activities to help start the creative writing process.

- Write your own short imaginative piece about a baby and a dinosaur. Start by brainstorming possible scenarios. Remember to bring danger in from where the reader is least expecting it. Experiment with different narrative structures such as flashback and multiple perspectives. Consider making a quick [8-page mini-book](#) from one piece of paper to present your story.
- Ever wonder what happens at the zoo at night? What do the animals get up to when there are no humans watching them? Write a story which is as wild, crazy or as funny as you like. It can be science fiction, fantasy, adventure, or even a realistic story written from the animal's point of view.
- Spark a story! Look through recycled newspapers or magazines for interesting pictures. Alternatively choose your favourite realist painting. Look for pictures that catch your eye and provide strong visuals of characters and settings. Choose one picture to help spark a story. Respond to the following questions: What's happening in the scene, when is it happening, who are the characters, what are they doing? Once you have brainstormed some ideas, begin writing your story about the picture.

Useful Websites

Book Week 2019 – The Children's Book Council of Australia

<https://www.cbca.org.au/cbca-book-week>

Book Week – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/book-week/10527822>

Young Author – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/young-author/10525934>

Teen novelist – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/teen-novelist/10522576>

Writing Club – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/writing-club/10524206>



BTN Transcript: Episode 23 – 20/8/19

Hey. Amelia Moseley here and you're watching BTN. Let's see what's coming up. Our rookie reporter talks to the PM about Australia's recycling problems. We celebrate Book Week with a trip to the library and Liv finds out why hyenas have an image problem.

Pacific Islands Forum

Reporter: Olivia Mason

INTRO: But, first up today to the Pacific Islands. Last week Australia's Prime Minister joined a bunch of other leaders in Tuvalu, for a big meeting called the Pacific Islands Forum. One of the main issues they discussed there was climate change and how it's affecting Australia's many island neighbours. Let's find out more.

Welcome to Tuvalu, a South Pacific country with beautiful reefs, white sandy beaches and a rich and colourful culture. This is where Australia's Prime Minister and a bunch of other leaders spent a lot of last week. But it wasn't for a holiday. They were here for the Pacific Islands Forum.

The Pacific Islands are a group of thousands of islands and atolls here in the Pacific Ocean, including dozens of different countries like Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu, PNG and of course Tuvalu. As close neighbours, Australia and New Zealand are also part of the forum which is held every year to talk about things like trade, education, and tourism and most importantly for a lot of people here, climate change.

It's a massive issue here in Tuvalu. The average height of the islands here is less than 2 metres which means any rise in sea level is seriously bad news. In fact, a lot of people are worried the whole country will disappear in the next century. And it's not just Tuvalu. Experts say rising seas and extreme weather will have a devastating affect all around the Pacific.

TIMOCI, UNICEF AMBASSADOR: I want the whole world to know that climate change is real. It is like a thief in the night it will not only steal but kills and destroys.

Timoci lives in Fiji which has seen many bad cyclones and extreme weather events, something scientists say will get more frequent and more extreme as global temperatures rise.

TIMOCI, UNICEF AMBASSADOR: It is important for me to take action against climate change to inspire or to encourage other young generations. I want them to know that their voice can also be heard by the world leaders.

For years, Pacific Islanders have been pleading with bigger and more developed countries including Australia to take serious action. And that was their main message here in Tuvalu.

ENELE SOPOAGA, PRIME MINISTER OF TUVALU: You are concerned about saving your economy's situation in Australia. I am concerned about saving my people in Tuvalu.

They wanted the forum leaders to sign an agreement that included cutting carbon emissions and banning new coal power plants and coal mines. But that wasn't something the Australian Prime Minister was prepared to do. Coal is an important industry here that employs a lot of people and while the Prime Minister acknowledged the threat of climate change to the Pacific he said he had to look after the interests of Australians. Eventually, a new agreement was written so Australia would sign.

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA: I'm pleased that we were able to reach the agreements that we have and that provides a platform for going forward.

Mr Morrison also promised \$500 million dollars of aid money would go towards helping Pacific Islanders deal with climate change but while that was welcome, Tuvalu's Prime Minister said he was disappointed.

ENELE SOPOAGA, PRIME MINISTER OF TUVALU: No matter how much money you put on the table it doesn't give you the excuse not to do the right thing that is cutting down your emissions including not opening your coal mines.

In fact, a lot of Pacific leaders criticised Australia and said we should be doing more. While the forum is over for another year, many people here in the Pacific are hoping that their message won't be forgotten.

TIMOCI, UNICEF AMBASSADOR: I want everyone to know that we need to work together. We need to act and walk the talk.

Did You Know?

Did you know there are around 25,000 islands in the Pacific? That's more than the total number of islands in the rest of the world's oceans combined, although most of them are uninhabited which means no-one lives there.

This Week in News

There have been incredible scenes from Hong Kong over the weekend. Nearly 2 million protesters marched through the streets in one of the biggest rallies the territory has ever seen. People there have been protesting for about 11 weeks now. Many of them are worried about China having more influence over Hong Kong. You see, while the city's technically part of China it has its own laws and government. And many want to make sure it stays independent.

There are also worries about what's going on over in Kashmir. It's a region in the Himalayas which is controlled partly by India and partly by Pakistan with a little bit controlled by China. There's been fighting in the past over which country it belongs to. For a long time India's government has let its part of Kashmir have its own government and laws. But now it's taken that independence away. While it's made many people in India happy, it's having a big effect on people in Kashmir. Many of them don't want to be a part of India and to try to prevent violence, India's put it under temporary lockdown with tens of thousands of soldiers patrolling the streets.

And scientists in the Arctic say they've made a pretty scary discovery, plastic snow. They found tiny pieces of plastic in ice core samples, and they say it may have been carried in the atmosphere and come back down in snow. While more study's needed they say it's another reminder of how big the problem of plastic pollution is.

Recycling Solution

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: Now to some news about recycling. We've told you before that Australia's been having some problems in that department since some overseas countries said they didn't want to do our recycling for us anymore. It's something that's been worrying a lot of people, including 11-year-old Ashlee. So, she's gone to get some answers. Check it out.

ASHLEE: Hi BTN. I'm Ashlee. And I'm on a mission to find out what's going on with the stuff we've been putting in here.

I guess you could say I know quite a lot about rubbish already. My school is big on not wasting waste. We've even set a goal to get rid of all of our school bins in the next five years. But for now, we spend a lot of time making sure every scrap goes where it should.

ASHLEE: But lately I've been hearing that Australia has a big recycling problem.

Lots of Aussies probably don't realise that once it's picked up a lot of our recycling is shipped overseas to be sorted and turned into something that can be sold over there. But recently, some of the countries we've been selling our waste to have said they don't want it anymore either because it's too dirty and gross or because it's too expensive to sort out. And apparently heaps of our recycling is now ending up in landfill.

ASHLEE: It made me worried that we're doing all this work for nothing.

I needed answers and I decided to go right to the top.

ASHLEE: Get me the Prime Minister. Please.

ASHLEE: Hi Prime Minister.

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: Hi Ashlee it's great to be here with you.

ASHLEE: Thank you for coming to talk to me. I've just got a couple of question about recycling and Australia.

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: Fire away.

ASHLEE: We do a lot of recycling at school and now I'm learning that a lot of it goes to landfill. Are people wasting time recycling?

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: I think that there's a bit of a promise being broken. See when you put that little plastic bottle in the bin, well you think it's going to be recycled and just about 12% of all plastics are recycled all around Australia in total so that's not good enough, we've got to fix that.

Mr Morrison explained that he'd recently had a big meeting with State and Territory government leaders and they'd agreed to eventually stop sending recycling overseas. Instead, they'll work towards doing it all here. There are already recycling businesses here in Australia that turn rubbish into not rubbish, and the Federal Government says it'll put 20 million dollars towards getting more of those going.

ASHLEE: Is 20 million dollars enough to fix the problem?

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: No it's not, we're currently spending 167 million and we're gonna have to spend a lot more than that and we will be doing that. But it's not just what governments have to spend, it's what companies are going to spend.

ASHLEE: Could you do more to encourage big businesses to create less waste in the first place?

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: Yes, and I think we can all do that. And part of that is what we expect when we go to the shops and what we buy and the things we use, whether we use reusable cups or all these sorts of things. That's what at the end of the day, changes what big business do, what you decide to do. I think kids can be optimistic that over your lifetime and even in a short period of time you'll see a lot of things change and you'll drive a lot of that change because people want to do it for you.

ASHLEE: Prime Minister thank you so much for coming to BTN. I've got lots of answers and it's been really interesting.

SCOTT MORRISON, PRIME MINISTER: Thank you Ashlee.

ASHLEE: Well, there you have it. It looks like Australia's still got a bit of work to do to sort out our waste problem, but in the meantime, we're going to keep doing our bit for the environment.

History of Libraries

Reporter: Jack Evans

INTRO: Way to go Ashlee. Now while the Prime Minister was in the BTN studio we took the chance to sit down and ask him some questions sent in by you, the kids of Australia. We'll be showing that on next week's show so make sure you check it out. But for now, let's head to the Library. As you probably know this week is Book Week, so Jack went to get some costume inspiration and find out more about the history and future of these book lending institutions.

JACK EVANS, REPORTER: Well, my favourite book is The Day My Bum Went Psycho, but I don't think that's a very appropriate costume for Book Week. Oh, I don't know Jas, if only there was a place filled with books that I could borrow, read, return. Oh, it just hit me, the library. I've really got to stop throwing my phone.

DIONNE, LIBRARIAN: Hi I'm Dionne.

JACK: Hi I'm Jack.

DIONNE: Welcome.

JACK: There's a lot of books here.

DIONNE: Yeah there's heaps and heaps of books and lots more.

JACK: Do you think there might be a book here that can give me some inspiration for a costume?

DIONNE: Yes, I do. Do you want to go and have a look?

JACK: Yeah.

DIONNE: Excellent.

Libraries have been around for a long time, a really really long time. Go back around 2700 years and some would say this was the first one, The Library of Ashurbanipal, filled with thousands of clay tablets. The first library that was open to the public was the Library of Alexandria built in Egypt in 323BCE. Unfortunately, it was kinda, sorta accidentally burned down by a guy called Julius Caesar. We'll save him for another story. But the idea of a public place where people could access information and stories kinda took off. Here in Australia the first public library was built in Victoria in 1854 and by the middle of last century public libraries were popping up all over the country, usually funded by state governments. Back then they were super important, because without internet and smart phones and everything else, they were sort of the only place you could go to get information for say school projects. But of course, that's not the case anymore.

JACK: So, this library is pretty different to the ones I had growing up. How have libraries changed?

DIONNE: Yeah look it's really interesting, I think there are lots of things that are the same. So obviously books are still a big part of it. But now there's a lot more technology. So, whether that's computers or virtual reality, maker spaces, spanners, tools whatever, you can get it all at the library now.

This library even has a 3D printer, a media room for all your visual and audio needs, as well as plenty of spaces you can sit back, relax and read, well, a good book.

Dionne says while the internet and ebooks have had a big effect on libraries around the world. Australia's libraries have managed to stay relevant by being flexible and adapting to new technology.

DIONNE: I think in the future we'll still provide access to information which is fundamentally what we're about. It probably doesn't really matter if it's a physical book or if it's digital. So really what we're here for is to make sure everyone has access to that information and if it's through your phone or if it's through a book, that's our role and if we weren't doing it who would be.

JACK: Plus, it's a great place for kids to come and get some inspiration for Book Week.

DIONNE: Yes, it is, it absolutely is. I think Book Week is a really fun time of year for everyone and you can read a book and get inspired or you can get a costume.

JACK: And on that note I think I know what my costume is.

DIONNE: Oh, what is it?

JACK: I'll show you

DIONNE: Excellent. What are you?

JACK: Uh, I'm a thesaurus.

DIONNE: What kind of dinosaur is that?

JACK: Um, I think they're a verb-avor. I hope I win.

DIONNE: Yeah, I don't know about that.

Quiz

What's the best-selling fiction book of all time? Is it:

Don Quixote
Lord of the Rings or
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

It's Don Quixote which is by a Spanish author named Miguel de Cervantes. It was first published in 1605 and since then more than 500 million copies have been sold.

Spinifex Gum Choir

Reporter: Jack Evans

INTRO: Speaking of stories you're about to meet some young Aussies who've had an incredible year. They've been travelling around the country sharing the stories of Indigenous Australians through song as part of a project called Spinifex Gum. Let's find out more.

SHANEEQUAH: Spinifex Gum means to me, it's like a group of girls who have a voice for others that don't really speak up or can.

Spinifex Gum is a musical project that combines the talents of a choir from Cairns, Marliya and two very talented Aussie musicians, Felix and Ollie from The Cat Empire. If you don't know who they are I bet your parents will.

ASHLEIGH: It was based from a dream that Felix Rubil had one day, and it became a reality to speak about problems that Indigenous men and women face and especially the youth side of it.

RUBY: Five years ago, we went on a trip to Karratha and that's where we first met Felix like in the Pilbara and stuff like that and then the next year in Sydney that's when he introduced the songs to us and we sang them and ever since then it's just been going up and up.

For the past 12 months they've been touring the country together, performing at some pretty impressive venues with some pretty impressive musicians.

RUBY: We've performed in Melbourne, Adelaide, Dreamtime at the G, so the MCG, the Sydney Opera House and the Invictus Games.

SHANEEQUAH: I guess it's been mind blowing to know that you're actually there on the stage and to well just perform and sing your heart out.

They recently performed at Garma where they also ran a workshop with some of the youth up there.

RUBY: The workshop was pretty cool. We did a warm up first. You know we went through what we usually go through like a normal rehearsal and then we did our *Dream Baby Dream* thing.

Dream Baby Dream is kinda like a protest calling for the government to respond to the Uluru statement from the heart, which among other things called for a Treaty between the Government and Australia's First Peoples as well as giving Indigenous people a bigger voice in Parliament. To get the message across, Felix came up with the idea of literally bringing as many voices as possible to Canberra by performing a song with voices collected from all over Australia.

ASHLEIGH: So, on our website, Spinifexgum.com, you can add your voice into *Dream Baby Dream* just by singing along. It doesn't matter if you're a good singer like us or if you just sing in the shower casually and you think your pretty good.

SHANEEQUAH: We will take it to Canberra when we go down there in September and we will present it to the parliament house the governor I think and yeah, we just really want that change to happen.

Sport

The second test of the Ashes has ended in a draw between England and Australia, but one of the biggest talking points was this very scary moment in the first innings.

COMMENTATOR: Oh dear.

Steve Smith fell to the ground after being struck in the neck. Thankfully, Smith got up OK but the next day he wasn't feeling well and became the first ever player to be pulled out of an international match under new concussion rules.

The Bledisloe Cup will stay in New Zealand after the All Blacks wiped out any hope of the trophy making a trip across the Tasman. The Aussies had high hopes after smashing their Kiwi rivals in the first match in Perth, but the All Blacks hit back with a vengeance on Saturday beating the Wallabies 33 to nothing at Eden Park in Auckland. New Zealand has held the cup since 2003.

Hyenas

Reporter: Olivia Mason

INTRO: Now, finally today if I asked you to think of the cutest animal at the zoo your first thought might not be hyenas. Some reckon these creatures have a bit of a reputation problem partly thanks to a certain movie about singing lions. So, Liv went to meet some zoo keepers hoping to change that.

They're quick, can chomp up a bone pretty fast and they're definitely not camera shy. These are spotted hyenas. I've come here to Monarto Zoo in South Australia to learn more about these interesting African animals. For example, did you know that hyenas live in really big families called clans and the ladies are in charge.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: They're what we call a female dominated society, so they have an alpha female rather than having an alpha male.

So move over Lion King, looks like we've got a Hyena Queen in the house. Speaking of which.

OLIVIA MASON, REPORTER: So, a certain movie that comes to mind that's given the hyenas a bit of a reputation.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: I've heard The Lion King is giving them a little bit of a bad rap.

Like many people, this was my first impression of hyenas as a kid and these guys aren't exactly the nicest or the smartest characters, and while in the new movie, Shenzi, Banzai and Ed look a lot more realistic, they're still, well, the bad guys.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: I guess most people's impression of hyenas before they actually meet them is that they're quite snarly, nasty, smelly, stinky sort of animals that sort of skulk around and aren't very nice. In reality they are very different to that. I guess they don't have that level of aggression that they're always shown to have. They're quite placid and quite mild most of the time.

Jon also says, unlike the cartoon versions real hyenas are super smart.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: We're talking on a level of some primate species. They pick things up as quickly as what primate species would in terms of training and conditioning.

OLIVIA: Really.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: So that's how we like to sort of measure their level of intelligence.

In fact, the zoo has to work hard to keep these clever little fur balls stimulated. Today, Jon is training Forest to show the keepers different body parts through the mesh, so the zoo can get nice and close to do checkups. Here's another interesting fact, hyenas aren't dogs or cats.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: They're in their own family but they are closely related, or their closest relative is the mongoose.

OLIVIA: I never would have picked mongoose, there you go.

They're also related to meerkats. Which means these guys are cousins, kinda. Jon says a lot of visitors are really surprised when they see how different hyenas are to the ones in *The Lion King*.

JON ALLON, MONARTO ZOOKEEPER: All the time people say they're just not what I thought they were. They are very different, and I think I love hyenas.

OLIVIA: I think I might be one of those people Jon.

Well, turns out hyenas are full of surprises and you probably shouldn't believe everything you see in the movies.

Ask a Reporter

Who knew hyenas were that adorable. Too cute. And if you want to know more about them you can tune in to Ask A Reporter on Friday.

Closer

Well that's it for today. I hope you've enjoyed the show. And if you want more well you're in luck because we've got heaps more stories on our website. There are also new episodes of BTN Newsbreak every weekday and you can check them out on TV, online and if you're 13 or over you can even subscribe to our YouTube channel. Have a great week and I'll see you soon. Bye.