

**EPISODE 35**  
5th December 2023

**KEY LEARNING**

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

**CURRICULUM**

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

**English – Year 5**

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

**English – Year 6**

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

**English – Year 7**

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

Teacher Resource

**Focus Questions**

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

# Aussie News 2023

1. Who became the new British king in 2023?
2. What was the result of the Voice to Parliament referendum?
3. Where was the 2023 Women’s World Cup held?
4. Who did the Matildas’ play against in the Women’s World Cup semi-final?
   1. Spain
   2. England
   3. Canada
5. What extinct Australian animal are scientists trying to resurrect?

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

# World News 2023

1. What extreme weather events occurred in 2023? Name two.
2. Which country became the 4th country to successfully land a spacecraft on the moon?
3. On October 7th a terrorist attack in Israel sparked a war in which territory?
4. What is ChatGPT?
5. What former US president was put on trial in 2023?

# Rookie Reporters 2023

1. What were kids protesting about in 2023?
   1. Homework
   2. Climate change
   3. ChatGPT
2. How does ADHD affect Lacy?
3. What projects did kids work on in the Kids in Space program?
4. What was your favourite rookie reporter BTN story this year? Give reasons for your choice.
5. If you could make a rookie report, what would it be about?

# BTN Bloopers 2023

1. What do you think was the funniest moment on BTN this year?
2. Choose your top 3 stories from BTN this year. Briefly explain why you chose the stories.
3. What topics or issues would you like to see reported on BTN next year?
4. What changes would you make to BTN?
5. Choose your favourite story on BTN this year and write a summary of the story.



**EPISODE 35**  
5th December 2023

**KEY LEARNING**

Students will choose their favourite stories from BTN in 2023.  Students will explore what news values are and why they are important.

**CURRICULUM**

**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.

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 ways text structures and language features shape meaning and vary according to audience and purpose.

Compare the text structures and language features of multimodal texts, explaining how they combine to influence audiences.

**Media Arts – Years 5 & 6**

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

Teacher Resource

**2023 Year in Review**

# Activity: Reflect on 2023

What was your best memory of a news event in 2023? Students can have a look through the BTN archives to remind them of the stories BTN covered this year.

Students will choose their top 5 news stories for 2023 and create their own quiz to test their classmates. Students’ quizzes should cover a range of categories, for example: environment, arts, health, finance, sport, education, politics, or entertainment.

Students can visit the [BTN subjects page](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/subjects) 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 for 2023 (1-2 sentences for each news story).

**Make your quiz**

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

* Multiple choice
* True or false
* Fill in the blank
* Use photos or pictures
* When an answer is revealed, provide extra information to explain the answer.

A group of colorful speech bubbles with a white letter

Description automatically generated

Students can make their quizzes in [Kahoot](https://kahoot.com/student-centered-learning/) or [Quizizz](https://quizizz.com/?lng=en). Make it fun, engaging, and educational!

**Further investigation**

Students will choose one of the 5 news stories from 2023 and investigate if there have been any updates on the story. Describe using your own words.

# Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of keywords that relate to understanding the news. Here are some words to get them started. Students will create their own class glossary of keywords and terms. Students can use illustrations and diagrams to help explain each keyword.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FAKE NEWS | BIAS | MEDIA LITERACY | SOURCE |
| DEEPFAKE | CREDIBLE | JOURNALIST | MISINFORMATION |

**Activity: How Do You Consume the News?**

Hold a class discussion to find out where your students get their news from and how they engage with the news. Use the following questions to guide the discussion:

* What does it mean to consume the news?
* Where do you hear, see, or listen to news?
* What news are you most interested in?
* What news are you least interested in?
* When are you most likely to learn about the news?
* How has social media changed the way we consume the news?
* Monitor your news consumption using the [News Diet Challenge toolkit](https://www.abc.net.au/education/media-literacy/news-diet-challenge/12012232).

**Other resources**

[News champions](https://www.moadoph.gov.au/learn/activities-and-resources/news-champions) – students share their opinions on media and the news.

[Use The News: An introduction](https://www.abc.net.au/education/media-literacy/use-the-news-how-to/11532950) – looks at ways to use the news in the classroom.

**Activity: Get Your News Daily**

A person with curly hair and a colorful background

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Watch BTN every day! BTN Newsbreak is a great way to kick off the morning routine. You can watch Newsbreak anytime on our website or by subscribing to the [BTN YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/behindthenews) channel.  Head to the [BTN website](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/) for all the details.

# Activity: Kids on BTN

Many BTN stories this year featured young people, whether it was reporting on a news event affecting them or telling us about an issue or interest they were passionate about. Students can choose one of their favourite stories below or visit BTN’s website for a range of [rookie reports](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/rookie-reporter). Students will then respond to the following questions:

* What is the story about? Summarise it.
* Why did you choose this story?
* Describe the main issue/message in the story.
* What makes this story newsworthy?
* What makes this story interesting?
* What questions do you have about the story?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Career Kids - Behind The News  [Career Kids](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/career-kids/103010616) | Rookie Reporter: Melody tells us about Cystic Fibrosis - YouTube  [[Cystic Fibrosis](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/cystic-fibrosis/102363756)](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/bird-calling-competition/101612022) |
| BTN Rookie Reporter: Olly's Fishing Lure Business - YouTube  [Fishing Lure Business](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/fishing-lure-business/102456992) | Rainbow Laces - Behind The News  [Rainbow Laces](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/rainbow-laces/101978728) |

# Activity: What’s Important to You?

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

Health

Arts and Culture

Community

Family

Sport

Education

Cyber Safety Change

Environment

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

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

**Activity**

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

**Write a Letter**

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

**Create an Artwork**

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

**Write a Poem**

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

# Activity: Class Poll

Hold a poll in your class. Students will conduct their own opinion poll on an issue that BTN covered in 2023, see below for some examples. Working in groups, students will need to decide who their sample group will be and how many people will be polled. What method will they use to conduct the poll? (Face to face interviews or written responses). Ask students to graph the opinion poll results and then reflect on the results.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Shark Nets - Behind The News  [BTN Shark Nets](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/shark-nets/102871250) | Roald Dahl Changes - Behind The News  [BTN Roald Dahl Changes](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/roald-dahl-changes/102012970) | New Olympic Sports - Behind The News  [BTN New Olympic Sports](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/new-olympic-sports/103010614) |
| Prime Energy Drink - Behind The News  [BTN Prime Energy Drink](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/prime-energy-drink/102043342) | AI Jobs - Behind The News  [BTN AI Jobs](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/ai-jobs/102456458) | Monarchy Relevance - Behind The News  [BTN Monarchy Relevance](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/monarchy-relevance/102331614) |

# Activity: BTN Behind the Scenes

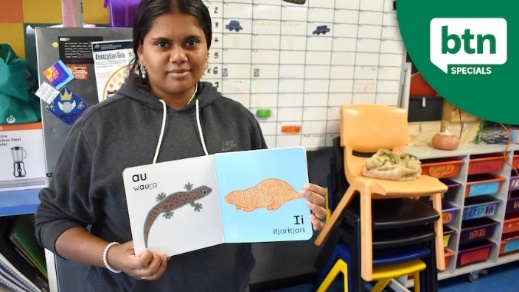
The [BTN Behind the Scenes](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/behind-the-scenes-at-btn/13676622) video gives a snapshot into the making of a BTN episode. Students can watch the video and then answer the questions below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Behind the Scenes at BTN - Behind The News | * When putting a show together, BTN looks for stories that are… * Who decides what stories will go on BTN? * What might happen on a BTN filming day? Give an example. * Why do you think BTN stories involve a lot of dressing up? * Who is responsible for making animations and graphics on BTN? * What is the role of an editor on BTN? |

# Activity: BTN Specials

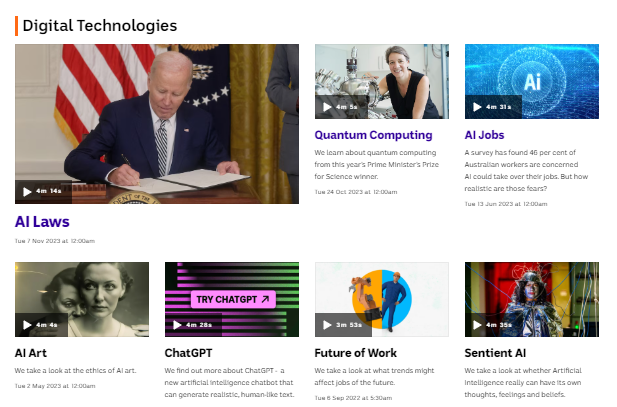
In this [Artificial Intelligence](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/ancient-egypt-special/102556134)special, we look at the controversy over ChatGPT, an AI chatbot that can generate realistic, human-like text.  We look at the issue of artificial intelligence being used to create art. And some people are worried artificial intelligence could take over their jobs. [Video](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/artificial-intelligence-special/102555860) | [Teacher Resource](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/75b47565de05c83851bb4416293bb9ce)

In this [Ancient Egypt](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/ancient-egypt-special/102556134)special, we learn about the recipes used by the ancient Egyptians nearly 3,000 years ago to make mummies. We explore the life of King Tutankhamun and how the young pharaoh became one of the most famous ancient Egyptians. We also take a look at an exciting discovery; a 4,000-year-old funerary temple containing ancient treasures. [Video](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/ancient-egypt-special/102556134) | [Teacher Resource](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/d56cd19170f3343fd6ad4ec2b0d2daaa)

This BTN special explores [First Nations language and culture](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/first-nations-languages-and-culture-special/102555634). We meet a teenager who’s illustrated a picture book written in Pitjantjatjara and take a look at a website designed to help people learn Kaurna, the original language of the Adelaide Plains. We also visit students at a school in NSW who interviewed Elders and heard their stories. [Video](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/specials/first-nations-languages-and-culture-special/102555634) | [Teacher Resource](https://live-production.wcms.abc-cdn.net.au/d4652cd507a1342a5b690987b67d976e)

View a range of [BTN Specials](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/all-btn-specials/13437568)

# Activity: Topics and Curriculum Areas

Visit BTN’s website to explore our [Topics and Curriculum Areas](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/subjects). These collections of BTN stories are linked to the Australian Curriculum and cover topics which are useful for project research. Explore BTN’s collection which focuses on [Digital Technologies](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/digitaltech/13310406).

After watching any one of the BTN videos ask students to respond to the discussion questions (to find the discussion questions and teacher resources go to the related BTN Classroom Episode and download the Episode Package).

# Useful Websites

* [BTN Classroom Stories](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/collection/classroom-collection/10566126) – BTN
* [Newsbreak Stories](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/collection/newsbreak/13989262) – BTN
* [BTN Specials](https://iview.abc.net.au/show/btn-specials) – BTN iView
* [Media Literacy Week 2023](https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/media-literacy-week/103010608) – BTN
* [What Makes News, News?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJiXvvrFlw8) – BTN Media Literacy



Teacher Resource

**Super Quiz Questions**

These quiz questions are to be used in conjunction with viewing BTN’s Year in Review 2023 program. **Pause** the videoafter each question to allow time for students to answer.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **QUESTIONS** | **Your answers** |
| 1. Do you know the name of this world leader? |  |
| 1. How many criminal court cases is former US president Donald Trump facing?   A. 1  B. 4  C. 7 |  |
| 1. What do these three people have in common? |  |
| 1. Which bird was crowned New Zealand’s Bird of the Century?   A. Southern brown kiwi  B. Kea  C. Pūteketeke |  |
| 1. Why did the artist behind this photo forfeit his prize when it won a major photography competition?   A. It was taken by someone else  B. It wasn’t really a photo  C. It wasn’t supposed to be black and white |  |
| 1. Can you name this man who was the head of a famous Aussie business? |  |
| 1. What were these emergency workers looking for in WA back in February?   A. An escaped criminal  B. An escaped zoo animal  C. A radioactive capsule |  |
| 1. Will Australia’s next $5 bank note feature the King? |  |
| 1. The Queensland island of K’gari was officially given a name change this year. What was its old name?   A. Dingo Island  B. Fraser Island  C. Phillip Island |  |
| 1. Which of these iconic Aussie products turned 100 this year?   A. Vegemite  B. Milo  C. Tim Tams |  |
| 1. This Aussie kids TV show had a significant birthday this year. How old is BTN?   A. 25  B. 55  C. 105 |  |
| 1. What was Matt Perry’s character on Friends?   A. Ross  B. Joey  C. Chandler |  |
| 1. Who wrote the song 'Nutbush City Limits’? |  |
| 1. Which film won Best Animated Feature Film at this year’s Academy Awards? |  |
| 1. Which US artist made history this year by winning more Grammy’s than anyone else, ever?   A. Taylor Swift  B. Beyonce |  |
| 1. What’s the name of Taylor Swift’s record-breaking tour? |  |
| 1. Which of these sports was added to the 2028 Olympic Games?   A. Darts  B. Squash  C. Croquet |  |
| 1. Which country won the men’s Rugby World Cup?   A. Australia  B. New Zealand  C. South Africa |  |
| 1. Who won the 2023 Cricket World Cup? |  |
| 1. What’s the name of Australia’s netball team? |  |
| **TOTAL SCORE:** |  |

**Answers**

1. Xi Jinping, the President of China
2. 4
3. They all served as prime minister of New Zealand this year
4. Pūteketeke
5. It wasn’t really a photo
6. Alan Joyce
7. A radioactive capsule
8. No
9. Fraser Island
10. Vegemite
11. 55 years old
12. Chandler
13. Tina Turner
14. Pinocchio
15. Beyonce
16. Eras
17. Squash
18. South Africa
19. Australia
20. The Diamonds



Teacher Resource

**BTN Transcript: Episode 35 – 5/12/2023**

Oh, hey. You’re a bit early. I’m just getting ready, but that’s OK. Come on over. Today is a very special episode of BTN because it’s the last one for 2023. So, I thought we’d do something a little bit different. I’m going to take you on a behind-the-scenes tour of BTN. A behind, behind the news if you like. Thanks, Elizabeth. We’ll also have a look back at the year and the big news stories that happened here in Australia and overseas. We’ll see some of the amazing young people that we’ve met this year and I’ll even let you see some of our bloopers. Well, as long as they’re not too embarrassing.

# World News

Reporter: Jack Evans

*INTRO: Let’s kick things off right here in the studio. Yeah, yeah, I know you’ve seen it all before, right? But have you seen it from this angle? No! Didn’t think so. This is where I come every week to help bring you Behind The News. But I’m going to hand it over to Jack now who’s going to remind us of some of the biggest moments from around the world in 2023.*

JACK EVANS, REPORTER: Well, it's been another 365 days around the sun, on our little planet that we call Earth and this year I reckon it's fair to say it was hot. As in temperature-wise. this year was really hot. In fact, experts declared it the hottest year on record.   
  
ANTONIO GUTERRES, UN SECRETARY-GENERAL: The air is un breathable, the heat is unbearable, and the level of fossil fuel profits and climate inaction is unacceptable.  
  
We got more serious warnings about global warming and saw some of the effects. With many countries experienced severe heat waves.  
  
BELGIUM TOURIST: It's really, really hot.  
  
DANISH TOURIST: It's so hot. The sweat is also, we're not used to the sweat in Denmark.  
  
PARK VISITOR: It's burning, burning sensation.  
  
There were wildfires in many places around the world including Hawaii, Europe and North America. The extreme weather also came in the form of floods and severe storms. It wasn't just extreme weather causing havoc. Massive earthquakes devastated parts of Turkiye and Syria; and then Morocco.  
  
BAHIJA: My family has a house in Marrakech in Morocco, which is about 60 kilometres away from the epicentre of the earthquake. Yeah, so they're all over there. They're all safe, thankfully.   
  
And then there were human made disasters. Wars continued in many places, including Ukraine which marked one year since Russia invaded and on October 7th a terrorist attack in Israel sparked a war in Gaza.   
  
2023 brought big changes for world leaders. Some were sworn into new positions of power.

MAN: God save the King.

Others, or at least one, were put on trial. There were meetings and greetings, a few dramas and a bit of a kerfuffle over this spy balloon.

AI GENERATED KING CHARLES: Some of you may know I have long been a fan of the game of Minecraft.

The other big news story of the year was AI and how it could change the world for better or worse.   
  
SAM ALTMAN, OPENAI CEO: My worst fears are that we cause significant harm to the world.   
  
ChatGPT burst onto the scene, leaving us speechless. Which is fine because ChatGPT will write it for us. Yeah, AI taking over our jobs became a very real concern for a lot of people in 2023 including writers and actors who went on strike for months.   
  
FRAN DRESCHER, SAG-AFTRA PRESIDENT: We are the victims here, we are being victimised by a very greedy entity.  
  
But don't worry because there have been plenty of things that have kept us entertained here on Earth and beyond. India became the 4th country to successfully touch down on the lunar surface.

MAN: Soft landing on the moon.

Oh, and thanks to a couple of impressive space telescopes, we were gifted some images that were out of this world or rather images of other worlds.   
  
Oh, and I almost forgot, 2023 was the year COVID-19 was declared no longer a global health emergency. But that doesn't mean Covid has gone completely. In fact, cases have been on the rise. So, when you're out enjoying your summer make sure you take extra precautions.

# Super Quiz

Do you know the name of this world leader? It’s Xi Jinping, the President of China. This year he was elected by his party for another 5 year term, making him China’s longest-serving leader since Chairman Mao.

How many criminal court cases is former US president Donald Trump facing? 1, 4 or 7? It’s four, which means he could be spending most of his election campaign next year in court.

DONALD TRUMP: So I just want to tell you I’m an innocent man, I did nothing wrong.

What do these three people have in common? They all served as Prime Minister of New Zealand this year. Jacinda Ardern was elected back in 2017 and again in 2020 but in January she decided to step down, passing the job on to Chris Hipkins who lost the election to Christopher Luxton in October.

CHRISTOPHER LUXTON: I gotta tell you it’s a great start to the day when you’ve got a national government and you’ve got the All Blacks winning again.

Speaking of kiwis and elections. Which bird was crowned New Zealand’s Bird of the Century? Was it the Southern brown kiwi, the Kea or the Pūteketeke? It was the Pūteketeke which won the public vote by a landslide - thanks to the involvement of a British American comedian.

JOHN OLIVER: We are now the official campaign managers for the Pūteketeke, which is what I am right now.

Why did the artist behind this photo forfeit his prize when it won a major photography competition? It was taken by someone else; it wasn’t really a photo, or it wasn’t supposed to be black and white? It wasn’t really a photo it was an AI generated image. The artist behind it, Boris Eldagsen, admitted that he was being cheeky submitting it, but wanted to start a conversation about the role of AI in art.

# Aussie News

Reporter: Joe Baronio

*INTRO: Welcome to our Control room. While I’m over in the studio our lovely director Lyndal here is busy pushing all the right buttons, making sure I’m in focus and playing out our stories. Speaking of which, let’s take a look back at some of the biggest stories out of Australia this year.*

Joe Baronio, Reporter: Australians all let us rejoice for we got a new king this year. Now, I know, I know, that was a very British thing, but it caused a big stir for lots of people down under too.   
  
PERSON: We've been waiting for 70 years for a coronation, most people don't know what one is, but they will tonight.   
  
PERSON: Well, we're quite excited, we've come down to do our little part and celebrate.   
  
But not everyone here was so excited.   
  
Reporter: What's the big occasion on TV for you today?   
  
PERSON: Uh the footy. The footy more than the coronation.   
  
And some people used the moment to call for Australia to ditch the monarchy and become a republic.  
  
PERSON: The A.R.M. is marking the coronation of King Charles the Third with a good-natured gathering to protest the day.  
  
Jacqui Lambie, Independent Senator: It's about time we stood on our own two feet. We don't need a king and queen to do that, we can actually do it all by ourselves.  
  
Speaking of changes to Australia's government, this was the year that we got to vote on whether to change the constitution to give indigenous people a permanent voice to parliament, and Aussies, young and old all across the country took to the streets, screens, and well, everywhere in between to express their views.   
  
PERSON: A yes vote is the only vote that can result in real change for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and I reckon Australians are up for it.   
  
Jacinta Nampijinpa Price, Shadow Minister for Indigenous Australians: We shouldn't be creating separate classes of people in this country.   
  
In the end, Australia voted no, and while some said it was the right decision.  
  
Peter Dutton, Opposition Leader: It's clear obviously that the referendum has not been successful, and I think that's good for our country.   
  
It was devastating for others.  
  
PERSON: I cry for my people; I cry for my community.   
  
PERSON: I think that there will be a period of grief.  
  
Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister: The truth is that no referendum has succeeded without bipartisan support.   
  
As usual, this sunburnt country saw its share of natural disasters, like fires and floods, and sometimes both at the same time. Aussies came together to help each other through tough times. But nothing brought us all together like the Matildas. At the first Women's World Cup to be held in Australia, the Tillies excited.  
  
PERSON: Go Matildas.  
  
And inspired fans.  
  
PERSON: I'm Matilda, and I want to be a Matilda when I grow up.   
  
All while smashing TV records. With more than 11 million Aussies tuning in to the Semi-final against England, making it Australia's most-watched program since ratings began. And even though they didn't win the cup, they won our hearts.   
  
PERSON: I play soccer myself and I recently had an injury so it's just like inspired me to keep going and get back up.   
  
There were plenty of other things to celebrate too, like victories and birthdays, and the possible resurrection of this extinct marsupial.   
  
Andrew Pask, Researcher: It would be a world first an incredible achievement I think for the whole planet.   
  
Oh, and remember that time the prime minister became a BTN reporter?  
  
Anthony Albanese: Today I am a guest presenter on Behind the News.  
  
Not really. Anyway, it's been another big year for Australia. Full of ups and downs, and everything in between. So, for now...  
  
Anthony Albanese: That's Anthony Albanese, guest reporter for Behind the News, closing down now.

# Super Quiz

Can you name this man? Hint, he was the head of a famous Aussie business. It’s Alan Joyce. He was the CEO of Qantas for 15 years but stepped down this year as the airline faced criticism for its treatment of workers and customers during COVID-19.

ALAN JOYCE: Over the past few months, too many of you have had flights delayed, flights cancelled or bags misplaced.

What were these emergency workers looking for in WA back in February? An escaped criminal, an escaped zoo animal or a radioactive capsule? It’s a radioactive capsule. It was part of a piece of equipment belonging to a mining company that was transporting it by truck, and it was only about the size of a pea so finding it wasn’t easy. Luckily, authorities did track it down south of the mining town of Newman on the Great Northern Highway.

Will Australia’s next $5 banknote feature King Charles? The answer is no. According to the Royal Australian Mint which announced that it would replace the Queen’s image with an Indigenous designer when it releases its new notes.

The Queensland Island of K’gari was officially given a name change this year. What was it known as before? Dingo Island, Fraser Island or Phillip Island? It was Fraser Island but to its traditional owners, the Butchulla people, it always was and always will be K’gari.

Which of these iconic Aussie products turned 100 this year? It was Vegemite. Vegemite was inspired by Britain's Marmite which was hard to get here after the First World War, so food businessperson Fred Walker decided that Australians needed their own version of the spread.

Meanwhile this iconic Aussie kids TV show had a significant birthday this year. How old is BTN? 25, 55 or 105? BTN is 55 years old. Happy birthday us.

**Rookie Reporters**

Reporter: Ella Germein

*INTRO: OK, time to say hi to everyone in the office. Hey everyone. Hey. As you can see, it takes a whole team of people to make BTN every week and it also takes you. So, let’s have a look at some of the incredible stories from kids this year.*

Yep, you guys certainly were busy doing all sorts of interesting, amazing and inspiring things. You helped us see some the year’s biggest stories through your eyes.  
  
Maui Child: On August 8th, there was a hurricane and a wildfire.  
  
Maui Child: We could see five cars behind us, our cars were getting devoured from the smoke, and we just barely made it out.   
  
Moroccan Girl: Marrakesh isn't known for its earthquakes so there was a big sense of shock. They all just ran out of their house as quickly as they could.

YOUNG MAYOR: So, for the election I’m feeling excited, but also there’s a lot of great people here with some really, really good points.

YOUNG MAYOR 2: I’m definitely going to be engaging with my community a lot more in my area of Dapto and then also in the broader community, so I’m going to try and do some events in Wollongong and just try and connect with people as much as I can.  
  
Boy: Once I found out that this was supposed to be the year of accessibility I sort of felt that feeling when like this is not acceptable.  
  
Your shared parts of your culture.

Teenager: My mob has been coming here forever, today we have four generations here.

TEENAGER 2: All our Jumu mob welcomed the, like, other tribes, different tribes from different areas come together.

TEENAGER 3: Everybody can come together and dance and do more fun activities.  
  
You helped us understand what it was like to be you.  
  
MELODY: I'm going to tell you about cystic fibrosis. My body is always working extra hard to do everything it needs to do to keep me going, so I'm also way more likely to get sick.  
  
The good news is there's research going into treating and even finding a cure for CF.   
  
LACEY: Hi, my name is Lacy, and I am going to the gym, I have something called. It can make it more difficult to do some things, like learning at school, doing homework and sometimes talking to people. Some people with ADHD take medication which can help them a lot.  
  
You showed us that the future is in good hands.  
  
Girl: What do you want to be when you grow up?  
  
KIDS: Kids in space.   
  
Student: We're trying to build a habitat on the moon   
  
Student: Our project is called SOS which stands for Small Organism Sanctuary  
  
Student: It doesn't matter if you’re experienced at robotics or just starting out, it’s really good for everyone.  
  
Student: We are making small CO2 powered miniature cars like this one, and our aim is to get the fastest car with the best aerodynamics.  
  
You kicked plenty of goals in more ways than one.  
  
Girl: I hope to, like, one day play for the Matildas.  
  
Girl: I’ve always fell in love with softball.  
  
Girl: I want to be, like, an F1 Driver for Ferrari.

Girl 2: I kind of want to be an engineer in it.  
  
BOY: I'd love to go to the Commonwealth Games.  
  
Girl l: I think the coolest thing that’s happened is me landed the 720 in competition.  
  
And you inspired us with your creativity.  
  
BOY: I’ve wrote and illustrated my own book called the 'The Love Hearts Explore Exmouth' .  
  
STUDENT: My name is Lexi, I’m 12 years old, and I'm a young Archie Finalist.

PRESTON: When the trailer came out, I was like, hey, why don't I recreate this in Lego?

MILES MORALES: I’m Brooklyn’s one and only Spider-Man.

Not expecting that much. But then it absolutely blew up. Honestly, it feels super incredible.

LEGO SPIDER-MAN: Beep-beep. Miguel, it’s Peter.

To have my work finally noticed and on the big screen for everyone else to enjoy.

LEGO SPIDER-MAN: Beep-beep.

TIGGY HEART ECKERSLEY: My name is Ticky Heart Eckersley and I’m 10 years old. I have just become the youngest ever winner of a Golden Guitar.

AWARD PRESENTERS: Song of the year goes to Star of the Show.  
  
It felt amazing to win. Thank you!

**Super Quiz**

We said goodbye to some famous faces this year, including actor Matt Perry, who was best known for his role on the sitcom Friends. Do you know what his character’s name was? Ross, Joey or Chandler? It was Chandler.

More than 5800 Australians set a record this year by dancing the Nutbush, a song that was written by which late singer. It was Tina Turner, who died in May at the age of 83.

Do you know which film won Best Animated Feature at this year’s Academy Awards?

GEPPETTO: People are sometimes afraid of things they don’t know.

It was Pinocchio.

Which US artist made history this year by winning more Grammys than anyone else, ever? Was it Taylor Swift or Beyonce? It was Beyonce. Queen B now has 32 Grammys after taking home best Dance/Electronic music album for Renaissance.

BEYONCE: I want to thank God for protecting me.

Taylor Swift also broke a whole heap of records in 2023, including the highest-grossing concert tour of all time. What’s the name of her tour? It’s the Eras tour.

Which of these sports was added to the 2028 Olympic Games? Darts, Squash or Croquet? It’s squash, along with Lacrosse, baseball, softball, flag football and cricket.

STUDENT: Great thing to have a chance at winning a medal and compete for one. Many great athletes that have played cricket haven’t had that chance.

Which country won the men’s Rugby World Cup this year? Was it Australia, New Zealand or South Africa? It was South Africa.

What about the 2023 Cricket World Cup? It was Australia.

What’s the name of Australia’s netball team which also took home a word cup this year? It’s the Diamonds.

**Bloopers**

Reporter: Joe Baronio

*INTRO: OK, here’s a part of BTN that not many people get to see. It’s where we store all of our weird props and costumes that help us tell our stories. Oh, and don’t forget the wigs. Yeah, and also the wigs. As you can see, we do have a lot of fun filming BTN, but things don’t always go according to plan, as Joe is about to show you. Wait, where are you going? I want to see it too. He’ll be fine.*

SIMON, CAMERAPERSON: ChatGPT, mark it. Ooh, that's my finger.   
  
Yeah, you all get to watch the finely tuned masterpieces from BTN every week.  
  
JOSH: But. Have you ever wanted to know how it all c…Hmm.  
  
I think he was going to say, "comes together". Well, we start by making sure we look our best.

AMELIA: Do you reckon it’s fine? I’ll just leave it. No-one will see it, will they?

Then it's show time. When we nail all our lines in one take.  
  
JUSTINA: BTN, it's Santa. We, oh yeah, we’ll do that again.

NAT: Chicken. Ooh. Chicken.

JACK: Oh, well, yeah. Good on you, mm-mm, New Zealand.

MICHELLE: What's the line? Ladies and gentlemen.  
  
THOMAS: I'm a vampire from Transylvania and I hope to get it right next time.   
  
JUSTINA: What do ya mean? Mine some more.  
  
JOSH: Gahh, we, ahah I forgot what my line is sorry.   
  
AMELIA: Orangutan habitats. Habituts. Keep it together, Amelia.

JOSH: AYYYYY.

Alright, alright. You got us. We don't always nail it.

JACK: In a movie I wouldn’t be looking at the camera.  
AMELIA: Who cares about jobs when AI might, blalalalahhh...  
  
JACK: Labubaladululula  
  
MICHELLE: Blehlupluplul...  
  
JUSTINA: Blehlululup. Doo doo doo doo doo dooo doooo.   
  
NAT: Shh.

Sorry about that. But look, it isn't always our fault.

JOE: Hello.

GIRLS: Hi!

JOE: Got some fans here.

GIRLS: Hi!

JOE: It’s almost like people know who we are.

JACK: I feel like I’m earning my paycheck today, aren’t I?

CALE: We can cut that. Don’t worry about that one.

BOY: Put that one in.

JUSTINA: WAAAAH!

JACK: Why I order…

JOSH: AAAAAAH! How’s that?

JOE: That’s because … DAMN! Oh, I hate the wind. Whose idea was this?

AMELIA: Well that’s the show for today, I hope you’ve enjoyed it. We’ll be back ahh Amelia. I don’t know what I’m saying.

JACK: Well, that was something.

**Closer**

Well, that’s it. I hope you enjoyed this behind-the-scenes tour and I hope you’ve enjoyed watching BTN this year. I know our whole team has had the best time bringing it to you. We’ll be back in 2024 along with Newsbreak and BTN High. And in the meantime, just have the best holidays, and we’ll see you soon. Bye.