

Bushfire Season

1. Discuss the *Bushfire Season* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Which part of Australia were there bushfires recently?
3. How would you describe the bushfires?
4. Approximately how many bushfires having been burning?
5. What is different about this year's bushfires?
6. Much of NSW and QLD has had an above average amount of rain this year. True or false?
7. How does climate change affect events like bushfires?
8. Which typically cold countries have had bushfires this year?
9. What is the name of the bushfires that devastated Strathewen in 2009?
10. What is a bushfire plan?

Check out the [Bushfire Season resource](#) on the Teachers page.

Fish Rescue

1. Retell the BTN *Fish Rescue* story using your own words.
2. Why are fish in parts of the Murray River being moved?
3. What type of bacteria killed many fish in the Murray-Darling Basin earlier this year?
4. Which Australian states does the Murray-Darling River system span? Find using Google Maps.
5. The Murray-Darling River system is the largest in Australia. True or false?
6. How much of Australia's food supplies come from the Murray Darling-Basin?
 - a. 1 quarter
 - b. 1 third
 - c. 1 half
7. Why have there been arguments between farmers, states and towns in relation to the Murray-Darling River system?
8. Name one native fish species found in the Murray-Darling River system.
9. What is a hatchery?
10. What do you think should happen? Should farming or the environment take priority?

Check out the [Fish Rescue resource](#) on the Teachers page.

E-Cigarette Warning

1. What did the BTN *E-Cigarette Warning* story explain?
2. Describe the ads that the Australian government has paid for to teach us about the dangers of smoking.
3. What percent of 12-17-year-old Australians smoke daily?
 - a. 1%
 - b. 10%
 - c. 27%
4. Complete the following sentence. 1 in 10 young people in Australia have tried an _____.

5. E-cigarettes don't contain tobacco. True or false?
6. Give an example of a law in Australia about e-cigarettes.
7. What is it about e-cigarettes that makes them appealing to some kids?
8. What health issues are being reported in the US which some think are related to vaping?
9. What type of ban is being planned in the US in relation to e-cigarettes?
10. What questions do you have about the BTN story?

Peace Games

1. Discuss the BTN *Peace Games* story as a class and record the main points of discussion.
2. Who invented the World Peace Game?
3. How would you describe the World Peace Game?
4. What is the aim of the World Peace Game?
5. What type of roles are assigned to people playing the World Peace Game?
6. Complete the following sentence. At the beginning each country is given a _____.
7. Give an example of an issue that needs to be solved during the game.
8. What did the kids in the BTN story learn from playing the World Peace Game?
9. What world issues are most important to you? List your top 3.
10. What did you like about this story?

Magpie Season

1. Briefly summarise the BTN *Magpie Season* story.
2. Describe some of the experiences people have had during magpie swooping season.
3. When during the year is magpie swooping season?
4. Why are magpies protective during magpie season?
5. How long does magpie season last?
 - a. 6 days
 - b. 6 weeks
 - c. 6 months
6. Describe magpies' behaviour during magpie season.
7. Magpies are really smart. Give an example.
8. What is one of the best ways to avoid being attacked by a magpie?
9. How can you protect yourself if you enter an area that may have magpies?
10. Illustrate an aspect of the BTN *Magpie Season* story.

Teacher Resource

Bushfire Season

Episode 27
17th September 2019

Focus Questions

1. Discuss the *Bushfire Season* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Which part of Australia were there bushfires recently?
3. How would you describe the bushfires?
4. Approximately how many bushfires having been burning?
5. What is different about this year's bushfires?
6. Much of NSW and QLD has had an above average amount of rain this year. True or false?
7. How does climate change affect events like bushfires?
8. Which typically cold countries have had bushfires this year?
9. What is the name of the bushfires that devastated Strathewen in 2009?
10. What is a bushfire plan?

Activity

Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN *Bushfire Season* story as a class. Ask students to record what they know about bushfires. What questions do they have? Use the following questions to help guide discussion:

- What are your first thoughts and images that come into your mind when you think about bushfires?
- What is a bushfire? Come up with a class definition.
- How do bushfires start? (Think about fuel, weather and geographical conditions).
- Where were the recent bushfires in Australia?



Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN *Bushfire Season* story. Students may want to use pictures and diagrams to illustrate the meaning and create their own glossary. Here are some words to get them started.

Bushfire	fuel	Fire triangle
Bushfire plan	Fire Danger Rating	ember

Key Learning

Students will learn more about the science of bushfires and the importance of bushfire survival plans.

Curriculum

HASS – Year 5

The impact of bushfires or floods on environments and communities, and how people can respond.

Science – Year 6

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

Sudden geological changes and extreme weather events can affect Earth's surface.

Activity

Bushfires Explained

Students will watch the ABC video the [Science of Bushfires Explained](#) and answer the following questions:

- Since the 1970s fire seasons have been starting...
- What causes fires?
- What three things does fire need to start?
- Fire travels more slowly up a slope than down. True or false?
- What is an ember attack?
- What is the most common way houses catch fire?
- What happened in the Yarloop fire in 2016?
- What type of tree is extremely flammable?



Activity

Bushfire Research

Students will be exploring bushfires in more detail. They can develop their own key questions to investigate or respond to one or more of the questions below. Students can complete the following KWLH organiser to explore their knowledge and consider what they would like to know and learn.

<i>What do I <u>k</u>now?</i>	<i>What do I <u>w</u>ant to know?</i>	<i>What have I <u>l</u>earnt?</i>	<i><u>H</u>ow will I find out?</i>

Here are some possible questions for students to research:

- Research the difference between low, medium, high and extreme bushfire risk situations. Think about temperature, wind conditions, how dry it is and when it last rained.
- What is radiant heat and how is it dangerous in a bushfire? What steps can be taken to reduce the risks of radiant heat?
- How can the impact of bushfires on people and places be reduced?
- What is the Fire Danger Rating system? How is the fire danger rating decided upon?
- Research a major bushfire occurrence in Australia. Include the following information in your investigation: Where the fire started, what caused the fire and the damage it caused.

Students can present the information in one of the following ways:

- A 'Did You Know' Facts sheet
- [Prezi](#) presentation
- Oral presentation
- An infographic using [Canva](#)

Activity

Bushfire Plan

Students will learn more about bushfire survival plans. Watch the [short video](#) then hold a class discussion about making a bushfire survival plan. Ask students to respond to the following questions:

- What is a bushfire survival plan?
- Why is it important to have a bushfire plan?
- Who should have a bushfire plan?
- What sort of information should be in a bushfire plan?
- Why is it important for the whole family to be involved making the plan?



Students will research the four steps to get ready for a bushfire. They are:

- **Discuss** what to do if a bushfire threatens your home.
- **Prepare** your home and get it ready for bushfire season.
- **Know** the bushfire alert levels.
- **Keep** all the bushfire information numbers, websites and the smartphone app.

The [NSW Fire Service website](#) has more information about what to do to be well prepared for a bushfire.



1. DISCUSS



2. PREPARE



3. KNOW



4. KEEP

BTN Bushfire Plan story

Students in the [BTN Bushfire Plan](#) story have a bushfire plan for their school in a high bushfire risk area. Watch the BTN story and answer the following questions:

1. Why is it important for schools in high risk areas to have a bushfire plan?
2. Describe the environment surrounding the school in the *Bushfire Plan* story.
3. What do you think makes a place more prone to bushfires?
4. What is the most vital part of any bushfire plan?
5. What alerts the students that there is a bushfire near their school?
6. What is a refuge? Illustrate.
7. List some of the items that are in the school's bushfire supply kit.
8. Is your school in a high-risk bushfire zone? Find out if your school has a bushfire plan.



Useful Websites

Bushfire Plan – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/bushfire-plan/10529444>

Spring Fires – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/spring-fires/10529528>

Plan for an emergency: Bushfire – ABC Emergency

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/emergency/plan-for-an-emergency/bushfire/>

Bushfire survival plan – NSW Rural Fire Service

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/bush-fire-survival-plan>

Teacher Resource

Fish Rescue

Episode 27
17th September 2019

Focus Questions

1. Retell the BTN *Fish Rescue* story using your own words.
2. Why are fish in parts of the Murray River being moved?
3. What type of bacteria killed many fish in the Murray-Darling Basin earlier this year?
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8. Name one native fish species found in the Murray-Darling River system.
9. What is a hatchery?
10. What do you think should happen? Should farming or the environment take priority?

Activity

Discussion

Before watching the BTN *Fish Rescue* story...

- What do you already know about the Murray and Darling Rivers?
- Who and what do you think relies on the Murray and Darling Rivers? Brainstorm and record your thoughts as a class.
- What species of native animals live in the Murray-Darling Basin?
- Do you have a connection to a river or significant body of water in your area?

After watching the BTN *Fish Rescue* story...

- Brainstorm a list of words and terms that relate to the BTN *Fish Rescue* story. Use these words and terms to make your own sentences about the issue. Here are some to get you started.

○ River system	○ Connection
○ Murray Darling Basin	○ Drought
○ Native species	○ Agriculture
○ Food supply	○ Crops and livestock
○ Disagreement	○ Blue-green algae
○ Business	○ Farmers
○ Irrigation	○ Livelihood

Key Learning

Students will explore the importance of native species found in the Murray-Darling Basin. Students will explore Aboriginal culture and their connection with the land through artwork.

Curriculum

Science – Year 4

Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive.

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

Science – Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Science – Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

Science – Year 7

Interactions between organisms, including the effects of human activities can be represented by food chains and food webs.

Classification helps organise the diverse group of organisms

Geography – Year 5

The influence of people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, on the environmental characteristics of Australian places.

The environmental and human influences on the location and characteristics of a place and the management of spaces within them.

Activity

Research Project

Students will research the Murray Cod a native species found in the Murray-Darling Basin and create a profile. Alternatively, students can choose another native species that can be found in the Murray-Darling Basin to research. Students can use the following structure to help guide their research.

Research project – Murray Cod	
Scientific and common name	
Classification	
Describe its appearance What does it look like (shape, size, colour, special features)?	
Locate where this species can be found using Google Maps – Describe its habitat.	
How does it survive in its environment? What are some of its adaptations?	
Conservation Status If this species is threatened or endangered, what are its threats?	
Interesting facts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is your favourite thing about this species?• What surprised you about your research?	
Photograph or illustration	

Activity

Haiku poetry

Write a haiku poem focusing on one or more of the themes explored in the BTN *Fish Rescue* story. Use [Read Write Think's Haiku Starter graphic organiser](#) which allows students to brainstorm a list of words about their chosen theme.

<p>Name: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Haiku Starter</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry. Typically, haikus are written about nature, but they can be about any topic. Haikus have a very specific syllable structure. The first line of every haiku has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the last line has 5 syllables.</p> <p>Use the space below to brainstorm, plan, and write your own haiku.</p> <p>Choose Your Topic:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Brainstorm Words</p> <p>Brainstorm a list of words about your topic. Next to each word, write the number of syllables in the circle.</p> <table border="0"><tr><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td></tr><tr><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td></tr><tr><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td></tr><tr><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td></tr><tr><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td><td>_____ ○</td></tr></table> <p style="text-align: right;">(continued)</p>	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	_____ ○	<p>.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Haiku Starter (Continued)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Write Your Draft</p> <p>Now that you have brainstormed some words about your topic, you can draft your haiku below. You do not have to use only the words from your brainstormed list, but each line will need to form either 5 or 7 syllables. Be creative!</p> <p>Title: _____</p> <p>Line 1 (5 syllables)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Line 2 (7 syllables)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Line 3 (5 syllables)</p> <p>_____</p> <p><small>readwritethink Copyright 2011 READWRITE. All rights reserved. ReadWriteThink materials may be reproduced for educational purposes.</small></p>
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Source: [Read Write Think](#)

Activity

Aboriginal art

Yvonne Koolmatrjie is an Australian artist and weaver of the Ngarrindjeri people, from South Australia's Riverland. Koolmatrjie uses a style of traditional weaving from South Australia's Coorong region and the Murray River. Her works are heavily influenced by the natural surrounds of the Murray River.

As a class watch the following videos to learn more about Yvonne Koolmatrjie's artwork and her connection to the Murray River. Students will then respond to the focus questions.

Art Gallery of South Australia – Yvonne Koolmatrjie

[Link to video](#)

1. How does Yvonne Koolmatrjie feel when she visits the Murray River?
2. How did Koolmatrjie learn to weave?
3. Yvonne said she has to “keep the culture alive”. What does this mean?
4. Write down three things that you learnt about Yvonne Koolmatrjie.

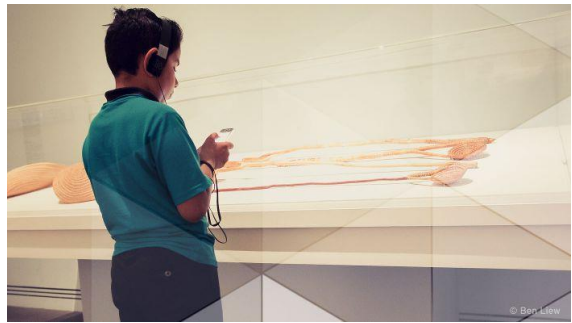


Art Gallery of SA - YouTube: [TARNANTHI 2015 Focus Exhibition - Yvonne Koolmatrjie](#)

BTN – Indigenous Art

[Link to video](#)

1. What have the kids made for the Tarnanthi art exhibition?
2. Who did the students interview as part of their research?
3. Describe Yvonne Koolmatrie's artworks.
4. Where does Koolmatrie collect the materials used in her artworks?



[BTN Indigenous Art](#)

Students will use the internet to find artworks made by Yvonne Koolmatrie that are inspired by the Murray River. Students will choose one piece that they are interested in to explore in detail and respond to the following.

- What is it? Describe what the artwork looks like using as much detail as possible.
- What natural materials are used to make this artwork (what is it made from)? Research what the Indigenous names are (in the Murray River area) for the materials used in the artwork.
- What story does Yvonne Koolmatrie tell through the artwork?
- Draw a picture of the artwork.
- Make an imaginary animal using materials found around your school or home. Display as an exhibition at your school. Write a short story about the animal you have made, what it is made from and the story it tells.

Activity

Class quiz

Complete this quiz as a class or individually to test students on what they have learnt about the Murray-Darling Basin. Students will then create their own quiz on the Murray-Darling Basin and test their classmates.

1. In which state does the Murray River end?
 - a. South Australia
 - b. Victoria
 - c. New South Wales
 - d. Queensland
2. What is the Ngarrindjeri name for the Murray River?
 - a. Ngurunderi
 - b. Murrundi
 - c. Ponde
 - d. Thukeri
3. Carp are a native species.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. Murray Cod swim upstream to have babies.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Locks on the Murray River help control the...
 - a. Temperature
 - b. Water quality
 - c. Fish population
 - d. Water level
6. The more native fish in the Murray River, the better the water quality.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Answers to class quiz

- 1a. South Australia
- 2b. Murrundi
- 3b. False
- 4a. True
- 5d. Water level
- 6a. True

Useful Websites

A 'Noah's Ark' rescue to prevent fish 'Armageddon' gets underway in regional NSW – ABC News
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-09-12/menindee-fish-transfer-noahs-ark-relocation/11502430>

Murray-Darling Warning – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/murray-darling-warning/10790804>

River Kids – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/river-kids/10524662>

Basin Plan Problems – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/basin-plan-problems/10522718>

River Kids Special – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/campaigns/river-kids-special/10559652>

Controlling Carp – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/controlling-carp/10525346>



BTN Transcript: Episode 27 – 17/9/19

Hey there. Amelia Moseley here with your last BTN episode of the term. Here's what's coming up. We find out about the race to rescue Aussie native fish. Meet some kids who are learning to solve the world's problems. And get some tips on how to stay safe from swooping magpies.

Bushfire Season

Reporter: Cale Matthews

INTRO: All that soon. But first today to the bushfires which are still burning in parts of New South Wales and Queensland. The states have had their worst start to the fire season ever and it's got Aussie authorities worried that there could be worse to come. Let's find out more.

CALE MATTHEWS, REPORTER: Smoke filling the air, the landscape painted orange with flames. These were the terrifying scenes that confronted people in many communities along Australia's East Coast last week.

JAYME-LEE: It honestly looked like an apocalyptic scene, like everyone was just like packing up and leaving and a lot of people were rushing together to try and figure out what's going on.

This was the worst ever start to New South Wales and Queensland's fire season. More than 130 fires burned across the states, destroying at least 26 homes.

TANE: At the time we had some stuff on standby, but we were all racing around the house, my sister was grabbing the memories type stuff, it was all a team effort but it was pretty scary it was all very real.

Of course, bushfires are not unusual in Australia. But this year is different. We have never seen this before in recorded history, fire weather has never been this severe in spring. Some of the fires are also happening in unexpected places. Like rainforests which are usually, well, wet. See in much of New South Wales and Queensland, winter rainfall has been much lower than usual, the red on this map shows below average, and the dark red is the lowest on record, while temperatures they've been high, the orange is above average.

While really hot and dry years do sometimes happen, most experts agree that we'll be seeing a lot more of this in the future.

JACKIE TRAD, ACTING QUEENSLAND PREMIER: With an increasing temperature with climate change then what the scientists tell us is that events such as these will be more frequent, and they will be much more ferocious.

Already this year, the world's sweated its way through the hottest ever June. There were fires in typically cold places like Alaska, Siberia and Greenland, and the smoke could even be seen from space. Experts say authorities all around the world need to be prepared for stronger, more frequent fires. But ordinary people need to be ready too.

That's what's happening here at Strathewen Primary School in Victoria. In 2009, the Black Saturday bushfires ripped through Strathewen, devastating the entire town.

SCARLETT: We lost quite a few people that day, so it's good for kids to know now how to act, how to react, if something like that comes through again and I really hope it won't.

Now, they're working on their own fire plan, that is designed by kids for kids. They say kids can play a really important role in preparing for bushfires, but often aren't included in plans.

SCARLETT: Adults generally don't really listen to kids, so if we can tell them what we can learn at a young age, we can continue that through our life.

The students learn how fire danger warnings work and what to do in a fire, they then use this knowledge to teach other kids. Tomorrow's fire danger rating is severe and a total fire ban, we put our bushfire survival bags in the car.

SCARLETT: All around the world people have experienced natural disasters like hurricanes, tsunamis, so if they experience another terrible fire like Black Saturday, they can really know what to do, they can really take charge, get out safely and be safe.

Quiz

What's the highest fire danger rating in Australia? Is it:

Extreme
Catastrophic or
Disastrous?

It's catastrophic. Extreme used to be the highest but an even higher rating was brought in after the Black Saturday bushfires in 2009.

Fish Rescue

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: Now to the Darling River in New South Wales where there was a massive rescue mission last week to save native fish. You might remember earlier this year when heaps of fish died in the Murray-Darling and there are worries it could happen again this summer. Let's find out more.

This is a big ol' fishing expedition in New South Wales. But don't worry little guys, you're not going to end up on a plate. It's a rescue mission, a modern-day Noah's Ark. Except without the ark and the two-by-two thing and the flooding. Fish like water, but you get the idea.

MATTHEW MCLELLAN, DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES: We managed to reach 100 fish in one day so hopefully we can do that every day and that would put us up around 400 fish for the week.

It's a massive effort to save as many fish as possible from what the New South Wales government has described as a fish Armageddon. Sounds ominous and it kinda is. You might remember seeing pictures like this earlier in the year.

OLD BTN STORY: There's another that's perished.

Up to a million fish died in parts of the Murray-Darling because of algal blooms, a type of bacteria that leeches the oxygen out of water.

MATTHEW MCLELLAN, DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES: Fish are like us, they need oxygen and as that water quality deteriorates, often oxygen is something that gets depleted and disappears. So basically, yeah, the fish will more or less suffocate.

The algae grows when that water isn't flowing properly, and scientists say it's one of the signs of a river system in crisis. The Murray-Darling stretches all the way from Queensland, through New South Wales and the ACT, then down to Victoria and South Australia. And it's Australia's biggest and most important river system, bringing life to the hot, dry centre of the country.

The farms here provide about a third of Australia's food supplies, and a lot of them are irrigated with water taken from the river. But for decades there have been arguments between states, farmers and towns over how the water is shared around, especially in times of drought. States downstream have accused states upstream of taking too much water out for growing things like cotton and nuts and leaving others without enough water and hurting the river.

That's why in 2007 Australia's government created a plan to take care of the river, and an agency to oversee it. But some say it hasn't worked. In the past few weeks there've been protests along the river with farmers saying they're being left to suffer with no water, even though the river is flowing, and that the water still isn't being shared fairly.

Some experts also reckon the Basin plan hasn't done enough to protect the river from the effects of climate change. The Basin Authority says that's not true, and the federal government says it's the drought that's causing the problems, and only rain can fix it. In the meantime, the New South Wales government has announced a 10-million-dollar fish rescue package to try to make sure what happened last summer doesn't happen again.

So that's why the whole Noah's Ark thing is going on. Hundreds of native fish like golden perch and Murray cod, some up to 25 years old, are being scooped up and relocated. Our fishy friends will go to other, healthier parts of the river, or to hatcheries, where they'll be cared for until the water starts flowing again. While many are hoping it'll help, others say a lot more needs to be done to save the river, and everything and everyone that depends on it.

This Week in News

The world's oil supply has been hit with a very big blow. Drone attacks at two Saudi Arabian petrol processing plants caused huge fires that turned the sky red in the nearby city of Abqaiq. This is what the smoke looked like from space. Saudi Arabia is the biggest exporter of petroleum in the world and the fires knocked out half of the country's entire production and while they're under control now, experts reckon there'll be a big jump in petrol prices around the world. While there's some debate over who's behind the attack, rebels in nearby Yemen say they did it as payback for Saudi Arabia's involvement in a war that's going on there.

The UN's Secretary General Antonio Guterres has visited the Bahamas. People in the region are cleaning up the damage left behind by deadly Hurricane Dorian. A lot of them are staying in shelters because many houses have been completely destroyed. Mr Guterres says that seeing the destruction was horrifying and he's asking the international community to help the Bahamas and work together to stop climate change.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL, ANTONIO GUTERRES: If we don't reverse this situation we'll see tragedies like this one multiplying and becoming more and more intense.

And loads of people headed to tiny South Australian town of Lucindale on the weekend for Triple J's One Night Stand music festival. Lucindale is usually home to just 500 people, but 15,000 were there for the free event.

KID: It's very weird because it's normally really small, when I', driving into Lucindale there is only one car and now there's like 20 or more.

They were treated to some top Aussie acts and some pretty special moments, like when G Flip invited her Dad up on stage.

G FLIP: I'd like to welcome my Dad Mr Flip.

Then there was Ocean Alley teaming up with Meg Mac for Partner in Crime and of course the Hilltop Hoods had the crowd dancing through to the end of the night.

E-Cigarette Warning

Reporter: Matthew Holbrook

INTRO: There's been a lot of talk recently about e-cigarettes. While you're not allowed to buy them if you're under 18 there are worries that a growing number of young people are using them, and some health experts are worried there could be some serious health risks that we don't even know about yet. Over in the US it's led the State of New York to announce a ban on flavoured e-cigarettes. Check it out.

Yep, this is really gross. And it's meant to be. Over the years, the Australian government's paid for ads like this to teach us about the dangers of smoking. And it's mostly worked. The number of kids and young people smoking has been falling for years. Now just 1 per cent of 12-17-year olds in Australia smoke daily. But there are worries that more young people are picking up a different habit.

LIBBY JARDINE, CANCER COUNCIL: 1 in 10 young people in Australia have tried an e-cigarette, and of those, one third had used an e-cigarette in the past month.

E-cigarettes first came on the scene in the noughties. They don't contain tobacco or some of the other chemicals that are in cigarettes, and some people say it's helped them quit smoking. But that doesn't necessarily mean they're safe. Which is why Australia has strict laws about them. They're only allowed to be sold to people over 18. It's also illegal in Australia to sell vaping juice that contains nicotine. That's the poisonous chemical in cigarettes that makes them addictive. They're not allowed to be advertised, either. But there are worries the packaging and the flavours make them appealing to kids.

MICHELLE JONGENELIS, DR CURTIN UNIVERSITY: If you were to put them next to lollies or packages for popcorn you wouldn't be able to tell the difference, so the vials are very, very colourful, they're really enticing towards the adolescents and young adults.

Many see that as a big problem. Experts say there's a lot we don't know about the health effects of vaping. Recently in the US there have been lots of reports of people getting lung diseases, which some think are related to vaping. They have different laws over there about e-cigarettes, and while it's not known exactly what caused so many people to get sick, America's Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, is planning to ban the sale of all flavored e-cigarettes, except for the ones that are tobacco flavoured. Authorities say it's to protect young people.

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: We have a problem in our country. It's a new problem, it's a problem nobody really thought about too much a few years ago and it's called vaping, especially vaping as it pertains to innocent children. And they're coming home and they're saying, 'Mom I want to vape.'

Back in Australia, there are no changes planned to e-cigarettes, but experts say the best advice is to simply stay away.

Peace Games

Reporter: Olivia Mason

INTRO: You're about to see some kids who spent last week trying to save the world. They were taking part in the World Peace Games. It's a very special sort of board game that was invented by a teacher from the US who's showing that kids are actually really good at solving the world's biggest problems. Here's Liv.

The news can be full of complicated problems. You might wonder how do we even begin to solve these issues. How do we stop people fighting? And how do we create world peace?

OLIVIA MASON, REPORTER: They're questions that top world leaders struggle to deal with pretty much every day. But what if I asked you to find the answers?

Well, I'm not going to ask you to do that, but this guy might.

JOHN HUNTER: I'm John Hunter the inventor of the World Peace Game and actually the CEO of the World Peace Game Foundation.

The World Peace Game is kinda like a board game but it's also way more than that.

JOHN HUNTER: Oh my. The World Peace Game is a gigantic structural geo-political simulation and essentially we have a number of different countries pitted against each other in every way; politically, socially, militarily and economically and they're pitted against each other on four different levels - outer space, aircraft level, ground and sea, and undersea level and the children who are playing the roles of cabinets and agencies in the world have to sort through all of this chaos and actually create solutions to solve some of world's toughest problems.

At the beginning of the game, the participants get detailed documents explaining the problems they have to solve and get assigned different roles within the game. There's prime ministers, chief financial officers, and a heap of different staff in organisations like the United Nations and the World Bank. And then, they have to work together to figure it all out.

KID: So basically each country has a budget from the beginning and you win the game by each country's budget being higher than before and all 23 crises solved.

John says he came up with the game when he first started working as a teacher and had to teach his students about what was going on in Africa.

JOHN HUNTER: I thought how am I gonna do that it's a very complex place but I thought I'd make a game of it.

Since then, it's grown to include problems facing the entire world.

JOHN HUNTER: We have everything from ethnic and religious and minority rights and problems, religious struggles, we have breakaway republics, we have water and famine issues, we have poverty, we have pollution, we have fishing rights issues, everything we have in the world, cyber warfare all of that is in the World Peace Game. We just sort of rip it from the headlines and modify it appropriately for children, and in a bloodless way they always, always, always save the world.

John says that while it is possible to lose the game, that's never happened and he reckons it shows that kids are actually pretty amazing at this stuff, and while it's difficult, these guys say it's really fun.

KID: It's helping me to understand more of the values and things you need to learn for life.

KID: I think it's a big challenge to solve the problems in the world obviously there's a lot more problems than just on this game board behind me.

KID: It's the best feeling in the world when you solve a crisis, and everyone is just jumping around like yay we solved a crisis. I think for generations to come this is gonna be the game that is helping to bring up new leaders and all people who want to save the world.

Did You Know?

Did you know Malala Yousafzai was the youngest person ever to win a Nobel Peace Prize? She was 17 when she was awarded for her work promoting girl's education although 16-year-old Greta Thunberg has been nominated this year, so there could be a new record.

Sport

Australia has missed out on an Ashes outright win, going down to England in the last test. An impressive batting performance by the English left the Aussies chasing a huge 399 to win, but they didn't get off to a good start. It was time for another match saving knock from Steve Smith, right until this.

COMMENTATOR: Oh, what a catch. That's the golden ticket.

Matthew Wade provided a glimmer of hope for Australia scoring his 4th century, but spinners Jack Leach and Joe Root were too much for the Aussie batsmen. No big deal though, the Series was tied meaning that the Ashes trophy is staying with us. Phew.

And the Boomers have been out boomed, falling to France in the bronze medal match at the FIBA World Cup. Patty Mills got off to a flyer for Australia and with Joe Ingles cooking early too the Boomers had one hand on the bronze. But French star Nicholas Batum had other ideas. And these last quarter daggers from Andrew Albicy meant the Aussies had to settle for 4th, again.

Enough of this losing business though, Aussie star Liz Cambage has advanced to the WNBA semi-finals. The Las Vegas Aces defeated the Chicago Sky on the back of Cambage's 23 points 17 rebounds and 6 blocks. But it was this final second play from Dearica Hamby that secured the Aces win.

Magpie Season

Reporter: Matthew Holbrook

INTRO: Finally today, as you know, Spring is here and in Australia that means having to be on the look-out for swooping magpies. While they're only trying to protect their nests, they can be a serious hazard. So, Matt found out what you can do to protect yourself.

MARCO. One day I was going for a walk I went to the park there was a lot of trees. Magpies were obviously living in there and they started swooping me. I started running and they stole my hat.

JAY: They were going really fast, a big one as well and came behind us hit us in the back of the head.

ELLA: And they hit our helmets and it kind of hurt. I was really scared.

FATIK: All of a sudden my magpie swooped down and took my hat.

MARCO: So I got a branch and I scared the magpies away by waving the branch and when I stopped I thought it was safe, they swooped down again and scratched my head multiple times until I ran out of the vicinity of the area.

Yeah. We've all got an upsetting magpie story.

MATT: They beat the Tigers by 39 points in last year's Preliminary Final. One of the toughest days of my life. Sometimes I hate September.

MARCO: Yeah, scarred me mentally and physically.

Me too, Marco. Me too. Except he's talking about magpie season. Spring. It's the time of year when baby magpies start hatching, and it's thought adult magpies, particularly daddy magpies, are a little protective of their chicks. And they must worry that us two-legged predators are trying to eat them or something. But we're not. Probably. Anyway, magpie season usually lasts for about 6 weeks. So, if you spend a lot of time outside, you should probably be on the lookout around now for an angry magpie or two, because these birds can be really dangerous. People have reported being cut and bruised or even suffering really serious eye injuries.

FATIK: Aggressive. Mean.

MARCO: They don't really sneak up on me. They're very loud but you don't know which direction they're coming from. You hear them, you know they're coming, but you don't know where they're from.

And if you've ever felt like there's a certain magpie that just really hates you, you may be right. These birds are really smart. A Queensland study found magpies can recognise faces and remember who they've encountered before. So, what can you do about magpies? Well, experts say one of the best ways to avoid being attacked is to stay away from dangerous locations entirely. But if you can't avoid them, apparently dressing and acting weirdly, really weirdly, with masks and stuff can help discourage attacks. And these guys have a few extra tips of their own.

SAM: Yeah, in reality, just run, bolt off.

JAY: Have sharp objects if they come. Yeah.

SIENA: If you're walking around maybe use an umbrella or something to stop from getting swooped.

ELLA: Before you go make sure you check the areas that may have magpies not visit there or maybe put zip ties on your helmet.

Yep cable ties and drawing or sticking eyes on the back of your helmet might scare them away. Generally doing things that will protect you, like wearing a hat, sunglasses and getting off your bike if you're riding are all good ideas, too. Alternatively, you could just stay indoors, and re-watch the 2017 AFL Grand Final.

MATT: Go Dusty. Go Boys.

Closer

Oh Matt. Well that's it for this week and this term. Now because it's our last episode for the term, there won't be any Ask a Reporter this week. But there will be Newsbreak episodes every weekday, so you can stay up to date with the news over the holidays and of course you can jump on our website or our YouTube channel if you're 13 or over. Have an awesome break and I will see you very soon. Bye.