

Questions for discussion

Episode 11
6th May 2014

Budget

1. Explain, in your own words what the Budget is.
2. When is the Federal Budget being announced?
3. Which of the following: Health, Education, Welfare, Defence, Aid and Research, Transport and Communication do you think needs the most money? Why?
4. Who is the Federal Treasurer?
5. Describe what a deficit is and what a surplus is.
6. Do you think it's important to spend a large part of the budget on Defence. Why or why not?
7. Why are health and education NOT on top of the list?
8. Explain what Welfare is.
9. Why is the government considering making cuts to Welfare?
10. Put yourself in the Treasurer's shoes. How would you spend the budget? Explain your choices.

Write a message about the story and post it in the comments section on the story page.

Sherpas

1. What is Alyssa's goal?
2. Why do some people want to climb Mt Everest?
3. How many Sherpas died in the recent avalanche?
4. Mount Everest is the world's third highest mountain. True or False.
5. In which mountain range would you find Mt Everest?
6. How old is Alyssa?
7. Sherpas are native to which country?
8. Name the Sherpa who climbed to the top of Mt Everest with Sir Edmund Hillary.
9. Describe what a Sherpa does.
10. Alyssa says '*the Sherpas are like our family over there.*' Why do you think she says this?

Check out the BtN *Sherpas* teacher resource on the Teachers page
<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/teachers.htm>

Vote in the BtN poll. Go to <http://www.abc.net.au/btn/polls.htm>

Asthma

1. How old is Jack?
2. How long has Jack had asthma?
3. When did Jack start to notice the symptoms of his asthma?
4. Which body organ is mostly affected by asthma?
5. In your own words, describe what happens to Jack when he's having an asthma attack.
6. About how many people in the world have asthma?
7. Where is it most common? Why do you think that is?
8. What are some of the ways Jack keeps on top of his asthma?
9. Describe in your own words how a 'puffer' works.
10. Why do you think it's important to have a day dedicated to 'Asthma'?

Check out the BtN *Asthma* teacher resource on the Teachers page
<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/teachers.htm>

Skateistan

1. What have you learned as a result of watching this story?
2. Skateistan is using skateboarding to do what?
3. How old is Fazilla and what does she sell?
4. In which city does Murza live? Do some research and find out what are some of the important things about this city?
5. Why do you think a lot of kids in Afghanistan don't get to go to school?
6. Who came up with the idea of Skateistan and what prompted it?
7. How has Skateistan helped to change the lives of so many kids?
8. How many Afghani kids now use the skate park each week?
9. Why is it such a big deal that 40% of the skaters are girls?
10. In Afghanistan, many girls aren't allowed to do lots of things boys can. Is this fair? Explain your answer.

Write a profile of Afghanistan, including information about its population, languages, geography and flag.

Quolls

1. Where are the quolls being released? Name the state and region.
2. To which traditional lands association does Vince belong? Why is he proud?
3. Quolls are extinct everywhere but _____.
4. Explain why the quolls have become extinct in so many areas of Australia.
5. How many quolls have been released to begin with?
6. Why do you think they've released mostly female quolls?
7. Why is it important to reintroduce native animals to places they once thrived?
8. Dr David Peacock says "*The quoll has teeth, you know, pointed teeth, sharp teeth. It's a hunter, it's a predator.*" Why does he make this point? Explain the importance of this feature of the quoll.
9. Why are the quolls fitted with radio collars?
10. Which animal is the biggest threat to the quolls making it in their new environment?

Do the *Quolls* quiz on the BtN website <http://www.abc.net.au/btn/quiz.htm>