

Questions for discussion

Episode 26
9th September 2014

Weapons Worries

1. Which types of planes are being used?
2. What exactly are the planes doing?
3. Why do the people in this part of Iraq need aid?
4. What does I.S. stand for?
5. Who has asked for Australia's help?
6. Which country is helping with airstrikes?
7. Prime Minister Tony Abbot has decided to send in Australian combat troops. True or False.
8. Explain why some people don't want Australia to deliver weapons to Iraq.
9. What are some of the reasons countries have supplied weapons to other countries during war?
10. Do you think Australia should get involved in a war in the Middle-East? Explain your answer.

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

Flag Day

1. What is the study of flags called?
 - a. Symbology
 - b. Patrology
 - c. Vexillology
2. When was National Flag Day?
3. When was the Aussie flag first flown?
4. What does the Union Jack represent on the Australian flag?
5. What's the other main symbol on the flag and what does it symbolise?
6. How old is the Australian flag now?
7. Should Australia make a new flag? Explain your answer.
8. In the United Kingdom, which country is deciding whether to become an independent country?
9. Finish this sentence. A lot of people think the current flag doesn't represent _____.
10. Design your own Australian flag using three symbols and explain what they represent.

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

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

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

STEM Changes

1. What does S.T.E.M. stand for?
2. If you want to be a fighter jet pilot or a Hollywood animator what skills of a high level do you need?
3. Who is Australia's Chief Scientist?
4. What is the Chief Scientist worried about?
5. The year 8 kids are doing a science experiment and having fun. What are they learning about?

6. One of the boys says "I reckon it's important to study science because it opens up a lot of _____."
7. What are some of the changes the Chief Scientist would like to see in teaching Maths and Science in schools?
8. One of the girls in the advanced maths course wants to go into medicine, what does the other girl want to be?
9. Make a list of at least 10 jobs that require maths and science skills.
10. Is learning science and maths important? Explain your answer.

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Theatre Cuts

1. Describe what 'grassroots' means when talking about 'grassroots theatre programs'.
2. Which is the company in Adelaide that's facing closure?
3. How long has this company been running?
4. Which Aussie Actor started his career at this Adelaide theatre company?
5. Why do you think Ed, one of the students, says theatre is important for people who want to express themselves and are shy?
6. How much money from the government does the theatre company need to run until the end of the year?
7. What are some of the strategies the kids have come up with to fight for their theatre group?
8. What are the benefits of kids learning drama?
9. What do you think Claire, the tutor at the theatre, means when she says it's as much about the history as the future?
10. Name three things you learnt watching the *Theatre Cuts* story.

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

Train Kid

1. What does Jayden transform into on the weekends?
2. Which famous railway in South Australia just celebrated its birthday?
3. How old is the railway?
4. Locate the railway site on a map.
5. What are the carriages made out of?
6. What is Jayden's job on the historic steam engine?
7. How old is Jayden and how long has he been obsessed with trains?
8. Describe how steam engines run.
9. Who are the other members of Jayden's family who work or used to work with steam trains?
10. Why do you think it's important to keep the old steam trains running?

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