

Questions for discussion

Episode 24 25th August 2015

Asking the People

- 1. Name a topic that Australians have voted on in the past.
- 2. What issue does Tony Abbott want Australians to vote on soon?
- 3. A referendum means making a change to Australia's _____
- 4. What is a constitution?
- 5. What needs to happen for a referendum to be successful?
- 6. When was the most recent referendum held and what was it about?
- 7. What is a plebiscite?
- 8. When have plebiscites been held before in Australia?
- 9. Some people think Australians shouldn't vote on changing the marriage laws. Why?
- 10. Do you think Australians should vote on changing the marriage laws? Why or why not?

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

Nepal Revisited

- 1. Before you watch the BtN story, record what you know about the earthquakes in Nepal.
- 2. Describe the devastation caused by the earthquakes that hit Nepal four months ago.
- 3. Who does Ishy help to take care of?
- 4. Where have they been living since the earthquake?
- 5. What does the red sticker on the building mean?
- 6. What is the capital of Nepal?
- 7. Children in Kathmandu are going to school in ______
- 8. How has tourism been affected since the earthquake?
- 9. How are governments and charities around the world helping people in Nepal?
- 10. What do the people in Nepal still need to help rebuild?

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

Wave Hill

- 1. Discuss the main points raised in the Wave Hill story with another student.
- 2. Where is Wave Hill?
- 3. Who were the Aboriginal stockmen working for?
- 4. How long were the Aboriginal stockmen on strike?
- 5. Why did they go on strike?
- 6. Which Prime Minister handed back land to the Gurindji people?
- 7. In which year was the land handed back?
- 8. Who was Vincent Lingiari?



- 9. How did the Wave Hill walk-off help Aboriginal land rights?
- 10. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BtN story?

Check out the <u>Wave Hill resource</u> on the Teachers page Do the <u>quiz</u> on the BtN website

Op Shops

- 1. What is the main point of the story?
- 2. What sorts of things do people give to op shops?
- 3. What is `op' short for?
- 4. Where does the money made from op shops go?
- 5. What are the benefits of op shops?
- 6. What do op shops need?
- 7. Why did Lauren decide to volunteer at an op shop?
- 8. Describe the work volunteers do at op shops.
- 9. About how many items are donated by Australians each year to op shops?
- 10. What was surprising about this story?

Vote in the Behind the News online poll

Young Author

- 1. What is the name of Hannah's book?
- 2. How old was she when her book was published?
- 3. What is her book about?
- 4. Why did Hannah write a children's book?
- 5. How did the principal support Hannah?
- 6. What did the publisher Anouska say they are looking for in a children's book?
- 7. How does Hannah describe the experience of getting a book published?
- 8. If you were to write a children's book, what would it be about?
- 9. What do you think makes a good children's book?
- 10. How are you celebrating Book Week?

Check out the Young Author resource on the Teachers page





Teacher Resource

Episode 24 25th August 2015

Wave Hill



FOCUS QUESTIONS

- 1. Discuss the main points raised in the *Wave Hill* story with another student.
- 2. Where is Wave Hill?
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- 5. Why did they go on strike?
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- 7. In which year was the land handed back?
- 8. Who was Vincent Lingiari?
- 9. How did the Wave Hill walk-off help Aboriginal land rights?
- 10. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BtN story?



ACTIVITY

Class discussion

After watching the BtN *Wave Hill* story, respond to the following questions:

- What did you SEE in this video?
- What do you THINK about what you saw in this video?
- What does this video make your WONDER?
- What did you LEARN from this story?
- How did this story make you FEEL?
- What QUESTIONS do you have about this topic?

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KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about the contribution that Vincent Lingiari has made to Australian society. Students will explore the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.



Civics and Citizenship - Year 5

How laws affect the lives of citizens, including experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (ACHCK025)

History - Year 6

Experiences of Australian democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, migrants, women, and children (ACHHK114)

The contribution of individuals and groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and migrants, to the development of Australian society, for example in areas such as the economy, education, science, the arts, sport. (ACHHK116)

Use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies (ACHHS125)

Develop texts, particularly narratives and descriptions, which incorporate source materials (ACHHS124)

Let's talk about rights

Working in small groups, respond to the following questions, and then share your ideas with the class.

- How did this story make you feel?
- Imagine how you would feel if someone took something very important and valuable from you (for example, a favourite belonging or your home). Describe your emotions.
- What if they told everyone it didn't belong to you in the first

place so they were allowed to take it? What if that same person was in a position of power over you so you were powerless to do anything about it?

- Why is this belonging important to you? Describe.
- Would you be prepared to fight for your belonging if someone tried to take it away? What rights do you have?
- What could you do about the situation? What actions could you take?
- Why is it important to stand up for justice? Can people make a difference?

Further research - the Wave Hill 'walk-off'

- · What is a strike?
- Think of reasons why people strike.
- What were the people protesting about at Wave Hill in 1966?
- How long did they strike for?
- Who supported them on their strike?
- What did the Wave Hill 'walk-off' achieve?



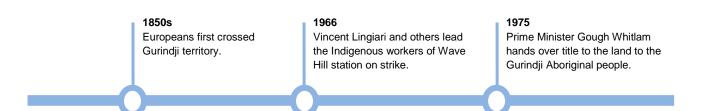
Create a timeline of events

Create a timeline outlining the struggles by the Gurindji for ownership of their ancestral lands. Include dates from 1966 to 1981 and from time before European settlement. Include other significant events that have influenced land rights decisions in Australia (for example, The Mabo Case).

Find out what Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam did on 16 August 1975 and why it is considered a milestone in the struggle.

After finishing your timeline, explain why the Wave Hill walk-off was such an important event in the fight for land rights.

Learn more about the Wave Hill walk-off at ABC Splash



Students can create their timeline in any way they choose. An interactive timeline creator is available at the *Read Write Think* website http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/timeline-30007.html



ACTIVITY

Who am I? What do I stand for?

Find out as much as you can about Vincent Lingiari using a range of primary and secondary sources (internet, newspapers and books).

Biography Organiser

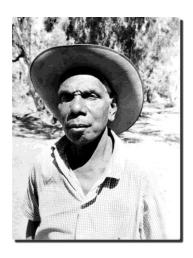
Use the <u>Biography Organiser template</u> to structure your biographical information on Vincent Lingiari.

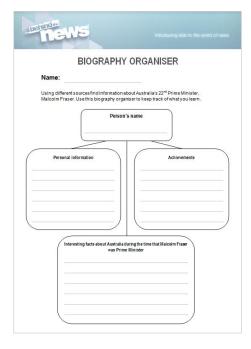
Some possible research questions include:

- Who is Vincent Lingiari?
- Where is he from? Locate using Google Maps
- When was he born?
- What did he achieve?
- What were his challenges?
- How do we recognise his achievements?
- How has he made an impact on Australian people's lives?
 What difference did he make?
- · What do you admire about Vincent Lingiari?
- What was life like for Australians during this period? Think about fashion, music, influential people and major events.

Present your findings in an interesting way.

- Give a presentation on Vincent Lingiari's achievements
- Create a portrait
- Design a poster
- Make a "Did you know?" for other students.
- Write a letter thanking them for their achievements and how it has changed Australia.
- · Create a timeline highlighting significant events







Poetry and lyrics – feel, think and wonder

As a class, listen to Paul Kelly's song "From Little Things, Big Things Grow". Alternatively take it in turns to read out the song lyrics.

In small groups respond to the following questions, and then share your ideas with the class.

- What do you think this song is about? What do the lyrics mean?
- How does this song make you feel? Describe your own emotions.
- What does this song make you wonder?
- Why do you think Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody called their song "From Little Things, Big Things Grow? Explain in your own words.



Songs that help us understand history

Can you think of other songs that help us understand Australian history?

Choose one of the following songs, or choose one of your own, and conduct further research to find out what the song is about. Create a book of songs and background information to keep in your school library.

Song	Background
<i>"Treaty"</i> By Yothu Yindi	
"Took the Children Away" By Archie Roach	
"Beds Are Burning" By Midnight Oil	



Visual literacy

Aboriginal land rights was an issue that Gough Whitlam tackled while he was Prime Minister.

On August 16, 1975, Gough Whitlam returned traditional lands in the Northern Territory to the Gurindji people. This brought an end to their long struggle to reclaim their traditional country. The ceremony to officially hand back the land to the Gurindji people took place on August 16th, 1975 at Daguragu. Whitlam made a short speech before taking some sand and pouring it into the hands of Vincent Lingiari, the leader of the protest movement.

Show students the above image and hold a class discussion.

- What is happening in this photo?
- Why is this photograph symbolic? Consider that it is a reminder that all Australians share the same land and the same hopes.
- How does this image make you feel? Describe your emotions.

Learn more about land rights by watching BtN's Mabo Day and Land Rights stories.







ABC News – Gough Whitlam's Wave Hill handback celebrated by Indigenous elders 40 years on http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-16/gough-whitlams-wave-hill-hand-back-celebrated-after-40-years/6700704

ABC Splash – Vincent Lingiari the leader Digibook http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/digibook/618856/vincent-lingiari-the-leader

ABC – Gurindji Strike – The Wave Hill walk-off http://www.abc.net.au/archives/80days/stories/2012/01/19/3411481.htm

The Learning Foundation – Making a difference: Vincent Lingiari http://streaming.lawley.wa.edu.au/students/TLF/DVD/los/L5208/index.html

Australian Geographic – On this day – Wave Hill indigenous protest http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/blogs/on-this-day/2013/08/on-this-day-wave-hill-indigenous-protest



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Encourage your students to be active and informed citizens by watching our 10 minute news program each day. Go to the BtN homepage and click on the 3News link.







Teacher Resource

Episode 24 25th August 2015

Young Author



FOCUS QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the name of Hannah's book?
- 2. How old was she when her book was published?
- 3. What is her book about?
- 4. Why did Hannah write a children's book?
- 5. How did the principal support Hannah?
- 6. What did the publisher Anouska say they are looking for in a children's book?
- 7. How does Hannah describe the experience of getting a book published?
- 8. If you were to write a children's book, what would it be about?
- 9. What do you think makes a good children's book?
- 10. How are you celebrating Book Week?



ACTIVITY

Mind map

As a class brainstorm as many words you can think of that relate to books and record your responses on a mind map. For example:

- Genres
- Character
- Fiction
- Non-fiction
- Author
- Narrative
- Plot
- Publisher



As a class brainstorm what makes a story engaging and compelling. For example:

- genres that you find exciting like adventure or science fiction
- · strong characters
- · exciting action
- a surprising plot
- details about a place you've never been



KEY LEARNING

Students will investigate how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing. Students will write and illustrate their own picture book.



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 (ACELT1605)

English - Year 5

<u>Create</u> literary texts that experiment with structures, ideas and features of selected authors (<u>ACELT1798</u>)

English - Year 6

Identify, describe, and discuss similarities and differences between texts, including those by the same author or illustrator, and evaluate characteristics that define an author's individual style (ACELT1616)

Analyse strategies authors use to influence readers (ACELY1801)

English - Year 7

Create literary texts that adapt features encountered in other texts, for example, narrative viewpoint, structure of stanzas, contrast and juxtaposition (ACELT1625)

Experiment with text structures and language features and their effects in creating literary texts, for example, using rhythm, sound effects, monologue, layout, navigation and colour (ACELT1805)





Creative writing – story starters

Encourage your students to use their imagination, and use one of the following story starters to write a creative short story.

Ever wonder what happens at the zoo at night?

- What do the animals get up to when there are no humans are 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.
- It can be a short story or a series, a comic strip or a newspaper article.

Do not open this box. It will lead to all kinds of unusual activities!

- Using illustrations, in comic strip format, tell your own story. Your first drawing will be a box with the words "DO NOT OPEN THIS BOX!"
- Your second drawing will include the box with the lid open. What is coming out of the box?
- Include dialogue to accompany your illustrations. This will form the start of your story.

Choose a character from one of your favourite books

- Imagine the character's life events.
- Describe the character, including personality traits, motivations, feelings and actions.
- Put the character in a new situation that you have imagined.
- Write a short story detailing the events.
- Tell the story in an adventurous and humorous way.
- Include illustrations to match your story.
- Alternatively, write a prequel or sequel which includes a character from one of your favourite books.

Interactive story generator

- Visit the <u>Scholastic Story Starter website</u> to help with this activity.
- Use the prompts to explore the themes of Adventure, Fantasy, or Sci-Fi. Or choose Scrambler, for random word combinations.
- Story Starters gives ideas for character, plot, and setting. If you want
 to change your writing prompt, pull the lever and it will serve up a new
 prompt, either piece-by-piece or all at once.
- Write a short creative writing piece. You can choose to use the notebook, letter, newspaper, or postcard templates for your writing.

Write a collaborative story

- Use the online story generator to create several story starter templates.
- Break students up into small groups and distribute one starter to each student.
- Each student writes the first two lines of their story.
- Encourage students to write in an open-ended way that invites the addition of new plot points and story details.
- After writing two sentences, each student passes their sheet to the student on the left.
- Then, students add two sentences to their new story, and so on.



Once small groups have completed several short stories, ask each group to share their favourite one by reading it aloud to the class.

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, 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.



What makes a good picture book?

Bring in your favourite picture book from home (or borrow one from your school library) and respond to the following questions.

- How does the author make the story engaging?
- What words are used to engage the reader?
- What do the pictures tell you that the words don't?
- How are the characters moods and emotions shown?
- What is the structure of the book?
- Who is the target audience?

Share your responses as a class. What information is similar or different? What have you learnt about picture books?

Draft your story

Draft your own picture book. Fold an A3 sheet of paper into four and label the segments setting, characters, plot and resolution. Use this to list ideas you have for your story and create a draft using these ideas.

Setting	Characters
Plot	Resolution

Other elements you will need to think about when drafting your story include:

- Who is your audience and what language and vocabulary will you use?
- What is your story theme?
- What research will you need to do before writing your book?
- What is the story's structure?

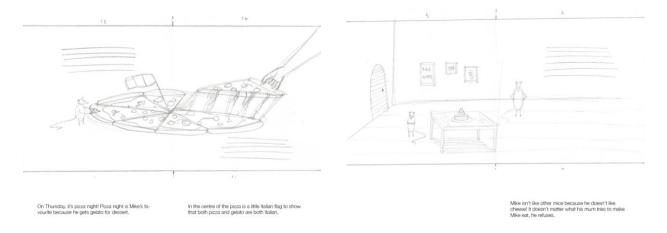


Storyboard

Examine your story and determine the most appropriate medium to illustrate it. For example, drawing, painting, collage, photography or computer generated. Plan your pictures using a story board format.

- What will be shown in the pictures that aren't included in the words?
- How do the pictures and words work together?

Visit the BtN Young Author story page to see Hannah's storyboard



Bring your story to life

Produce your picture book and offer it to your school library for other students to read.



Book Review

Choose a book that you have read this year then write your own book review.

- What are the themes in the book?
- What did you like or dislike about the book? Why?
- 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.
- Tip: Think about the audience you are trying to reach. Use effective vocabulary and accurate and persuasive language.
- Class activity. Hold your own class book club. Everyone will read the same book, either individually or as a class and then discuss the story.







The Children's Book Council of Australia – Book Week 2015 http://cbca.org.au/bookweek.htm

Behind the News – Book Week http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4067162.htm

Behind the News – Writing Lesson http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4191119.htm

I Don't Like Cheese http://idontlikecheese.com/the-book/



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BtN: Episode 24 Transcript 25/08/15

Coming up:

- Find out how these kids in Nepal are faring four months after a massive earthquake devastated their country.
- An op shop insider tells us some of the grossest stuff that she's ever seen donated.
- And meet the author who published her first book at just 12!

Hi, I'm Nathan and welcome to BtN! You can see all that later but first:

Asking the People

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

INTRO: After weeks of debate about whether to change Australia's marriage laws, the Government now says that asking the people is their preferred option. But how? Well the two options being talked about are a referendum or a plebiscite. Here's Matt to explain the difference.

What do these things have in common? The Queen, our national anthem, and military service? Well, they're topics that all Australians have voted on in the past. And soon, there's a chance we could be having our say on another topic - whether or not to change marriage laws to allow same sex couples to get married. It's an issue a lot of people have very strong opinions about, so Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, says the decision shouldn't be just up to politicians. He reckons the whole country should vote on it.

TONY ABBOTT, PRIME MINISTER: This government wants the people to decide.

But in recent weeks, there's been a bit of disagreement on how that vote should take place.

SCOTT MORRISON, MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES: Everyone's views should be considered equally in this debate and that's why we need a referendum.

CHRISTOPHER PYNE, MINISTER FOR EDUCATION: There's no legal basis for a referendum.

GEORGE BRANDIS, ATTORNEY GENERAL: The way to do it would be through a plebiscite.



The two options being discussed are a referendum and a plebiscite. They're both ways of asking Australians what they think, but they're actually a bit different.

Here in Australia, a referendum means making a change to our constitution. The constitution's a set of rules that explains how Australia works. So changing it is really serious stuff. Everyone over 18 has to vote. It's always a yes or no question. And for a referendum to be successful, most of Australia has to vote yes, and most of the voters in at least four states have to vote yes as well.

When that happens, it's a big deal. The most recent referendum was back in 1999, on whether Australia should become a Republic. Spoiler alert, it didn't.

A plebiscite is a little bit simpler. It doesn't affect the constitution. There are no strict rules about how they have to be run. And even if everyone votes yes, nothing has to be changed. It's mostly a way for the government to get an idea of what people think. But plebiscites can still be really important.

Back in the First World War, plebiscites were held on conscription, which is whether or not the government should be able to make people serve in war. That idea was rejected. And in 1977, a plebiscite even helped pick what would eventually become our national anthem. Although in all the years since, some of us still haven't learnt the second verse.

But this debate isn't just about the best way to ask people what they think, because some people argue we shouldn't be asking in the first place. For starters, a change to the constitution isn't needed to change marriage laws, parliament already has that power. Plus, either a referendum or a plebiscite could cost a lot of money, more than 100 million dollars. And some say there's no need for a vote anyway, because polls show most Australians support same sex marriage. So they think that putting it to a vote just delays things for those that have been calling for these changes for a long time.

So it's an issue that's a lot more complicated than deciding between these two voting options.

The Wire

To other news now and the PM has made a big trip to the Torres Strait. That's a collection of 270 islands scattered in the stretch of water between Australia and Papua New Guinea. And Tony Abbott's the first Aussie PM to visit in 18 years. Today he paid his respects at the grave of Eddie Mabo who was famous for campaigning for Indigenous land rights.

But over the next few days he's hoping to spend some more time with locals. And find out about some of the issues Torres Strait Islanders are facing.

Melbourne has been voted the most liveable city in the world for the fifth year in a row! It got a near perfect score in a liveability survey, which is based on things like health care, education, safety, culture and the environment.



Australia's best young portrait painters have been recognised at the Young Archies Awards. The 5-8 year old category went to Daniel from Horsley who painted his sister. Marium from Arncliffe also drew her sister and she won in the 9 to 12 year old category.

While 15-year-old Ellie from High Range took out her section with this painting. Congratulations to all the winners!

Nepal Revisited

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: It's now been 4 months since the country of Nepal was hit by a massive earthquake. In the days and weeks after we checked in to see how kids were being affected. Now we're going back. Have things returned to normal? Or is there still a lot more that still needs to be done there? Here's Amelia.

Ishy: Hi BTN,

I'm Ishy! I live here in Nepal just outside the capital city of Kathmandu.

And for the past four months we've been trying to rebuild the orphanage building after massive earthquakes hit the country.

AMELIA MOSELEY, REPORTING: The last time we met Ishy, life was pretty scary. A 7.8 magnitude earthquake had recently destroyed big parts of his country and killed thousands of people. Many aftershocks had struck too, making recovery difficult.

Four months on, there are still reminders of the earthquake all over the place. But locals like Ishy are trying to get life back to normal as best they can.

Ishy helps take care of more than 50 orphan kids. They've been living in this temporary home, which they built from bamboo a month after the quake.

Ishy: All the children, they live there and we sleep there, we eat there and we spend most of our time down in the cottage.

Nepalese. Kid: Our house is damaged and we are very, we are very worried.

They still can't afford to fix their damaged orphanage and the government has put this red sticker on it, which means the building is too dangerous to use.

Ishy says heavy rains and flooding are making it worse too.

Ishy: The boys are working behind me just to make sure that the water doesn't go inside the building and we desperately need enough funds to repair the building.



But there is some good news. The kids of Ishy's orphanage couldn't go to school for a long time after the quake, but now they're going again and they couldn't be happier about it!

In the centre of Kathmandu, these kids are lucky enough to be going to school again too, but only in tents in the middle of the square.

Aid organisations have been putting up as many tents as possible, but there are too many kids to teach.

School kid: Pretty bad.

Reporter: Why is it bad?

School kid: Because there are many people started coming and we are a problem.

Out in the suburbs, these kids are still homeless, living in tent cities with hundreds of other families. Their villages were destroyed, so their parents moved here to find work - but it isn't easy. Nepal was a popular spot for tourists, but since the earthquakes, it's been quiet and that's making recovery even harder.

Many governments and charities around the world are still helping people here by sending things like food, clean water, tents and medicine. But they need other things too like builders, tools and supplies to rebuild homes and businesses. And many of those things are in short supply or the price for them has gone up dramatically.

Ishy says it's important other countries don't forget the people of Nepal now that four months have passed since the earthquake.

Ishy: If people in Australia could help us to raise funds then that would be greatly appreciated.

Because while things are starting to improve, many of their worries aren't going away anytime soon.

Quiz 1

Okay, let's go to our first quiz now. Nepal has the highest mountain on earth, called Mt Everest. How high is it?

Is it 848m

8,848m

Or 80,848m

The answer is 8,848m



Reporter: Carl Smith

INTRO: This week marks 40 years since a very important moment in our nation's history called the Wave Hill walk off. It was a turning point for Indigenous Australians and led to the return of vast amounts of land to its traditional owners. Here's Carl with the full story. But first a warning to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers this story contains images of people who've died.

Gough Whitlam: I solemnly hand to you these deeds as proof in Australian law that these lands belong to the Gurindji people.

This moment, 40 years ago, is one of the most famous in Australian history.

Paul Kelly song: and through Vincent's fingers, poured a handful of sand. From little things, big things grow.

It's the moment former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam handed back ownership of this land to Aboriginal leader Vincent Lingiari. It happened in 1975. But the journey to get here was incredibly difficult and it started many years earlier on August 23rd 1966.

News reporter: These Aboriginal stockmen are on strike, this is the Wave Hill mob.

At the time Wave Hill in the Northern Territory was the biggest cattle station in the world. It was controlled by the British landowner, Lord Vestey.

News reporter: The British beef baron who owned 20 square miles of the Northern Territory.

The Gurindji people, who had lived on the land for generations before the British arrived, were working for Vestey. But the conditions were tough. They weren't paid well and they wanted their land back. So their leader Vincent Lingiari said it was time to act.

Vincent Lingiari: And I said, "What was it before Lord Vestey born and I was born?" It was blackfella country.

He, along with 200 Aboriginal workers, walked off the job and set up camp at an important sacred site called Dagurago, on Wattie Creek. That moment came to be called the Wave Hill walk off, and the Gurindji people said they wouldn't move until the land was returned to them.

People across Australia joined the campaign to return land to Aboriginal people. Finally after years of hard work they saw some progress.

Gough Whitlam: We will legislate to give Aborigines land rights.

The strike lasted eight years. One of the longest strikes in Australia's history! But finally in 1975 it ended with this simple gesture.



Gough Whitlam: We are determined that Aboriginal Australians everywhere will be helped by it.

Vincent Lingiari: (Subtitled) Everybody has come together from long way away. We're going to show them, make them understand our way. We're all friendly now! We all mates! We all mates.

Now 40 years later, thanks in part to the walk off, Aboriginal people are recognised as the owners of big parts of Australia.

And every year in August people still say thank you to those who fought for Aboriginal land rights.

Michelle Donald: If it wasn't for Vincent Lingiari and my Dad, and the other fellas we wouldn't have anything.

Maurie Ryan Japarta: without your land, you're nobody. This land is and always will be blackfella land.

Quiz 2

Okay, next up we're going to take a closer look at op shops for National Op Shop Week. But first a quiz about them. What is the 'op' in op shop short for?

The answer is Opportunity.

Op Shop Week

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: And 'opportunity' shops around Australia are celebrating their national awareness week this week. So we thought it was a great opportunity to head down to one to find out what happens to your stuff when you donate. Here's Amelia with the details.

AMELIA MOSELEY, REPORTING: We all have things we probably don't need any-more, like books you've read a million times, clothes you've definitely grown out of, or toys you never play with!

TWINS: We have quite a few clothes from when we were younger that we obviously don't use anymore.

BOY 1: I probably don't need my baby clothes or toys or any games that I had.

While all this stuff might seem useless now, it could mean a lot to someone else.

BOY 2: I'll be giving my stuff to Vinnie's and hopefully they'll be sold to other people that need them.



Opportunity shops, which you probably know as op shops, help people by selling all sorts of second-hand things at cheap prices. The money they make then goes towards other charity work that helps a growing number of Australian people in need.

But the benefits don't stop there! Instead of ending up at the dump, unwanted goods get another life; so, op shops are actually a form of recycling.

BOY 1: When they're finished with it, they can do it again. And then when the next people are finished with it they can do it again and it keeps going on and on.

But to keep up all the good work, op shops need a hand.

Reporter: Hey Lauren, how's it going? So you're in high school, but you're volunteering at this op shop right? So tell me why'd you decide to do that?

Lauren: Well I decided that instead of sitting around during the school holidays, I'd actually get out and help some people, you know, do something good for the world kind of thing.

Reporter: Well tell me, do you want to show me what you actually do at the op shop.

Lauren: Well a lot of the stuff we actually do is out the back, so..

Reporter: OK let's go.

Lauren: So this is the sorting room where we do tagging, sorting out what we need; all the nice clothes that are going to go out to the store.

Every year, Australians donate about two billion items to op shops.

Lauren: So the original tag on the little material bit, stick it through and you just press and you pull.

Reporter: I didn't do it. Oh no, I failed.

Lauren: Well that's how it's supposed to look.

But even with so many donations, op shops still struggle to get enough stock to sell because a lot of it is more trash, than treasure. In fact, charities lose millions of dollars a year paying to dispose of all of the dodgy donations they're given.

Lauren: There's been a few times when we've just got umm clothes that come in that are kind of smelly and wet.

Reporter: Gross! Nobody wants that.

Op shops can only sell good quality items that are clean and in good condition. And a lot of op shops aren't allowed to accept any electrical goods, because they could be faulty.

Lauren: It's really important we get you know bedding, pillows and toys for the kids, teddies and cooking ware is really important as well.



Op shops say volunteers like Lauren are super important and stores couldn't run without them. While Lauren says it's one of the best things she's done.

Lauren: It's a great experience and everyone should get into it because you get to meet a lot of nice people, get to make new friends and it's just a great experience!

And even if you can't volunteer, remember, you can still bag some bargains or find your old favourites a nice new home.

Poll

Okay so that's how op shops work but do you actually buy from them? Let's find out.

Have you ever shopped at an op shop?

Head to our website to place your vote.

Now last week we asked you if you enjoy studying maths.

And it seems most of you are happy to add and subtract whenever your teachers want!

As always thanks for having your say

The Score

Time for the biggest plays of the week now!

Here's sport:

The Aussie's might've lost the Ashes but they've managed to salvage a bit of pride in their Fifth and final test match against England. Australia bowled out the home side for 286 winning by a massive innings and 46 runs. The win was Captain Michael Clarke's last for the national side so he was given a guard of honour and a standing ovation from the crowd.

The Diamonds have enjoyed a hero's welcome at Parliament house after taking out the Netball World Cup last week. School kids and politicians from both sides of parliament came together to congratulate the players on a great victory.

ABBOTT: Today we salute our world champion netball team, the Diamonds, not only the Commonwealth games medallists but world cup winners thanks to an absolutely thrilling victory over New Zealand.



Ex NRL player Jarryd Hayne has already impressed in his quest to make it in American Football or Gridiron. In only his second trial game since leaving the rugby league, he pulled out some amazing runs for the San Francisco 49ers.

"G'day mate! He does this a couple more times we're all going to be eating vegemite up here!"

And a 4 year old boy has accidentally ended up right in the middle of a rugby game. It was a charity match between NSW and QLD. And the players decided to just go with it. They handed him the ball chased him down the field and after dodging several tackles he managed to get a try.

Young Author

Reporter: Matthew Holbrook

INTRO: Schools all over the country are celebrating Book Week this week, so we thought we'd join in the fun by introducing you to Hannah. Hannah wrote and had her own book published at just 12 years old. Now it's been read by kids all over the world. Here's Hannah to tell you how she did it.

HANNAH: Hi, I'm Hannah Chandler and I'm the author of 'I Don't Like Cheese'. Today I'm going to talk to you about how at the age of 12, I was fortunate enough to get a book published. I Don't Like Cheese is a story about a mouse named Mike who thinks he doesn't like cheese. So the little girl of the house, Ashley, brings him foreign cuisine every night, until she goes on a holiday and Mike is forced to eat cheese. Now we're going down to my primary school where this whole story began.

HANNAH: I'm here with my primary school principal, Mr Holland, who was the motivation behind 'I Don't Like Cheese'. How did it come about that you asked me to write a children's story?

MR HOLLAND, PRINCIPAL: Your teacher at the time in Year 5 told me about your interest in writing and that you were a very talented writer. And the idea just came to mind to set you that challenge of writing a book. I remember you presented it to me in Book Week. This was the original version of 'I Don't Like Cheese', with illustrations from your friend Jordan. And the story itself was fantastic.

TEACHER (reading book): This house is home to the walker family but they're not the only family who lives here.

I thought this has got to go further. All I did was jump on the internet and google a bunch of Australian publishers. There was a list of over 200 and I just sent them out with a bit of hope that one of them would be interested and find it as exciting as we did.



HANNAH: Shortly after I gave my book to Mr Holland, the local media ran a story in the newspaper, and I did an interview with Kids' Book Review. We're now going to talk to Anouska Jones, the publisher at Exile, and how she discovered my book.

ANOUSKA JONES, EXILE PUBLISHING: We're looking for books that have a great message, great characters, and a great story. When I read your manuscript it ticked those boxes for me.

TEACHER (reading book): It didn't matter what type of cheese his mum gave him, Mike refused to eat it.

ANOUSKA JONES: It all worked together to be a good book for our list so I gave you a call.

HANNAH: Once Exile selected Lauren as the illustrator we had the opportunity to meet up and discuss our ideas for Mike. I really loved seeing the book come to life, but the most amazing experience was getting to hold my book in my hands for the first time. Since the age of three I've always wanted to become an author and I would tell my mum stories, which she would write down. For anyone else out there who has a dream keep at it, because you never know what could happen.

Closer

And that brings our show to an end. But the fun will continue on Friday in our weekly #AskaReporter session!

This week's topic will be Matt's 'Asking the People' story. If you'd like your school to get involved there are instructions on our website. Thanks for joining us and see you then!

