

## Questions for discussion

Episode 19  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2016

### Crossbenchers

1. Discuss the BtN *Crossbenchers* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Who is the Prime Minister of Australia and which party does he represent?
3. How long did it take to get an election result?
4. How many senators are there in Australian Parliament?
5. For the Government to successfully pass a new bill, the \_\_\_\_\_ has to vote on it.
6. Who will the government need the support of to pass new bills?
7. Explain what a crossbencher is.
8. Name two crossbenchers that have been elected to the Senate.
9. Earlier this year the Government called a Double Dissolution. What does that mean?
10. What did you learn watching the BtN story?

Check out the [Election Results resource](#) on the Teachers page

### Greyhound Ban

1. What was the main point of the story?
2. What did an ABC report into the greyhound industry find?
3. Which state has decided to ban greyhound racing?
4. Australia is one of only \_\_\_\_\_ countries in the world where greyhound racing still happens.
5. Why do some people want greyhound racing banned?
6. Describe Jacinta's involvement in greyhound racing.
7. Why is Jacinta against banning greyhound racing?
8. If the ban goes ahead, what will happen to ex-racing dogs?
9. Why does Michaela say greyhounds make great pets?
10. Do you think greyhound racing should be banned in Australia? Give reasons for your answer.

Check out the [Greyhound Ban resource](#) on the Teachers page

Vote in the Behind the News [online poll](#).

### Pokémon Go

1. Briefly summarise the BtN *Pokémon Go* story.
2. In your own words, explain how the game works.
3. Describe the popularity of Pokémon Go.
4. What is augmented reality?

5. Pokémon Go uses GPS. What does that mean?
6. Finish the following the sentence: Apart from gaming, augmented reality could be used in things like...
7. Why do you think Pokémon Go has been successful?
8. What are the benefits of playing Pokémon Go?
9. What are the disadvantages?
10. What did you learn watching the BtN story?

Do the [quiz](#) on the BtN website.

### Abacus Championships

1. Discuss the BtN Abacus story with another student.
2. What is an abacus?
3. What were the kids in the BtN story competing in?
4. How does an abacus help with maths?
5. Name three facts about the history of abacuses.
6. One of the most popular types of abacus is the...
7. The kids in the BtN story don't just learn to use the abacuses quickly, they also learn how to use the same counting technique in their \_\_\_\_\_.
8. What do the kids say are the benefits of using an abacus?
9. What was surprising about this story?
10. How has your thinking changed since watching the BtN Abacus story?

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

### Drought Aid

1. Before you watch this story, record what you know about drought.
2. Where does Callan live?
3. Callan's family farm was affected by \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What did a surprise visitor bring to Callan and his family?
5. Why was the delivery important to them?
6. How did this story make you feel? Discuss with another student.

Write a message of support to Callan and post it in the comments section on the story page.

## Teacher Resource

# Crossbenchers



## FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the BtN *Crossbenchers* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion.
2. Who is the Prime Minister of Australia and which party does he represent?
3. How long did it take to get an election result?
4. How many senators are there in Australian Parliament?
5. For the Government to successfully pass a new bill, the \_\_\_\_\_ has to vote on it.
6. Who will the government need the support of to pass new bills?
7. Explain what a crossbencher is.
8. Name two crossbenchers that have been elected to the Senate.
9. Earlier this year the Government called a Double Dissolution. What does that mean?
10. What did you learn watching the BtN story?



## ACTIVITY

### What do you see, think and wonder?

After watching the BtN *Crossbenchers* story, respond to the following questions as a class or in pairs:

- 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?

### The role of Prime Minister

Students will find out more about the role of Prime Minister.

- How is the Prime Minister chosen?
- What is their role?
- Is the Prime Minister a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate?
- Where are the official residences of the Prime Minister?



## KEY LEARNING

Students will examine the role of the Prime Minister and find out more about Malcolm Turnbull. They will also look at the role of the Senate and the newly elected crossbenchers.



## AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

### Civics and Citizenship – Year 5

The roles and responsibilities of electors and representatives in Australia's democracy ([ACHCK023](#))

The key values that underpin Australia's democratic system of government ([ACHCK022](#))

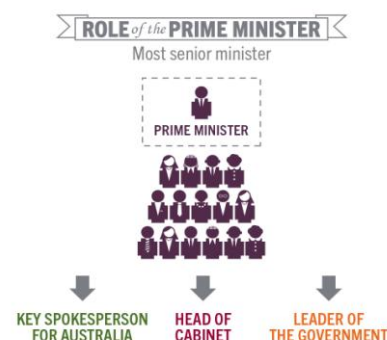
### Civics and Citizenship – Year 6

The key institutions of Australia's democratic system of government based on the Westminster system, including the monarchy, parliaments and courts ([ACHCK035](#))

The key features of government under the Australian Constitution with a focus on: the separation of powers, the roles of the Executive, the Houses of Parliament, and the division of powers ([ACHCK048](#))

### Civics and Citizenship – Year 7

Develop a range of questions to investigate Australia's political and legal systems ([ACHCS054](#))



## ACTIVITY

### Profile a Prime Minister

Australia has had 29 Prime Ministers since Federation in 1901, but how much do you know about them?

Students will choose a Prime Minister to explore in more detail and create a biography of them.

Find out as much as you can about them using a range of primary and secondary sources (internet, newspapers and books). The National Archives has [information about each Prime Minister](#)

Use the [template](#) to structure the biographical information you find. Share your research as a class.

Prime Minister biography	
Full name	Born
My family	
Self-portrait	When was I Prime Minister? What political party did I represent?  My achievements as Prime Minister
My education	
Qualities of a good leader	

### Create a quiz

Create your own multiple choice quiz about Australia's Prime Ministers. Think about your audience and how you can make your quiz as interesting and fun as possible. Below are some example quiz questions. Ask your classmates to complete your quiz and then give them a score.

- Who is Australia's longest serving Prime Minister
- Who is Australia's shortest serving Prime Minister
- Who was the first Prime Minister of Australia?
- Who is the youngest person to be elected as Prime Minister?

## ACTIVITY

### More about Malcolm Turnbull

Students will find out more about Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull by watching this [BtN story](#).

1. Before you watch the BtN *New PM* story, record what you know about Malcolm Turnbull.
2. Who was the Prime Minister before Malcolm Turnbull?
3. What did Malcolm Turnbull do before he became a politician?
4. Malcolm Turnbull led a group of people who wanted Australia to become a republic. What does that mean?
5. Malcolm Turnbull has been leader of the Liberal Party before. True or false?
6. Why did he want to challenge Tony Abbott for the leadership?
7. Who decided that Malcolm Turnbull should become the Prime Minister?
8. What changes has he made so far?



9. Who is Australia's youngest ever federal minister?
10. Do you agree with the decision to make Malcolm Turnbull Prime Minister? Explain your answer.

## ACTIVITY

### Interview your Prime Minister

Imagine if you were given the opportunity to interview Australia's Prime Minister on behalf of your school. Your task is to write a list of interview questions that you would like to ask the Prime Minister. Remember to write open-ended questions. Open-ended questions have no right or wrong answer and can't be answered with a 'yes' or 'no'. Before writing your questions, you will need to think about the following:

- What do you want to find out about the Prime Minister?
- What issues would you like to ask about?
- Choose a topic that is important to you and your school community. What do you want the Prime Minister to do about it?

## ACTIVITY

### Exploring the Senate

Students will research in more detail the role of the Senate. The following [video](#) from the Parliamentary Education Office gives a good overview of how the Senate works.

#### Research Questions

- What are the two Houses of Parliament?
- What is the House of Representatives?
- What is the Senate?
- What is the role of the Senate?
- How are senators elected to the Senate?
- How long is the term of office for Senators?
- How many senators are there in the Senate?
- How many senators represent each state or territory?

### Crossbench Senators

The BtN story explained the crossbenchers that have been elected in the Senate.

What is a crossbencher? Choose an independent or minor party member in parliament today and briefly describe what they stand for. Find out more about the newly elected crossbenchers [here](#)

Find out three interesting facts about the member. Create a short profile of the member you have chosen using the [Biocube Creator](#)

Students may like to choose a senator that represents the state in which they live. The [Parliament of Australia website](#) has more information about the senators in each state

Ask students to respond to the following:

*What do you understand more clearly about Independents and minor parties?*



## USEFUL WEBSITES

ABC News – Federal Election 2016

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/federal-election-2016/>

ABC News – Who's who in the zoo: Meet the Senate crossbenchers

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-04/election-2016-results-senate-crossbenchers/7566692>

Behind the News – Double Dissolution

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4425873.htm>

Behind the News – New Senate

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4047561.htm>

Behind the News – Passing a Bill

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s3295573.htm>

Parliamentary Education Office – Senate

<http://www.peo.gov.au/learning/fact-sheets/senate.html>

Parliament of Australia - Senate Composition

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Senators/Senate\\_composition](http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Senators/Senate_composition)

## Teacher Resource

# Greyhound Ban

## FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. What was the main point of the story?
2. What did an ABC report into the greyhound industry find?
3. Which state has decided to ban greyhound racing?
4. Australia is one of only \_\_\_\_\_ countries in the world where greyhound racing still happens.
5. Why do some people want greyhound racing banned?
6. Describe Jacinta's involvement in greyhound racing.
7. Why is Jacinta against banning greyhound racing?
8. If the ban goes ahead, what will happen to ex-racing dogs?
9. Why does Michaela say greyhounds make great pets?
10. Do you think greyhound racing should be banned in Australia? Give reasons for your answer.

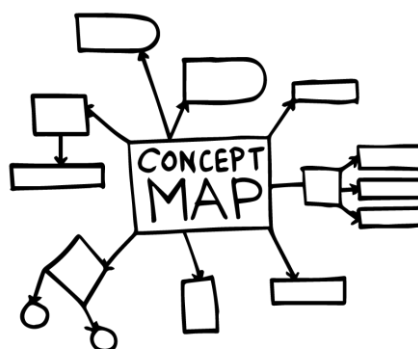
## ACTIVITY

### Class Discussion

After watching the BtN *Greyhound Ban* story, discuss the issues raised in the story. What questions were raised in the discussion (what are the gaps in their knowledge)? Record what you know about the sport of greyhound racing and the issues associated with banning the sport on a mind map.

Questions to focus discussions with students could include:

- Which state is going to ban greyhound racing?
- Why do some people want greyhound racing banned?
- Why are other people against banning greyhound racing?
- Why is it a controversial decision to ban racing?



## ACTIVITY

Students will investigate the issue of banning greyhound racing and develop either a **persuasive text** or hold a **mini debate**.

## KEY LEARNING

Students will investigate the issue of greyhound racing and develop and argument for or against banning it.



### English – Year 5

Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive print and multimodal texts, choosing [text](#) structures, [language features](#), images and sound appropriate to purpose and [audience](#) (ACELY1704)

Clarify understanding of content as it unfolds in formal and informal situations, connecting ideas to students' own experiences and present and justify a [point of view](#) (ACELY1699)

### English – Year 6

Use interaction skills, varying conventions of spoken interactions such as voice volume, tone, pitch and pace, according to group size, formality of interaction and needs and expertise of the audience (ACELY1816)

Plan, rehearse and deliver presentations, selecting and sequencing appropriate content and multimodal elements for defined audiences and purposes, making appropriate choices for [modality](#) and emphasis (ACELY1710)

Participate in and contribute to discussions, clarifying and interrogating ideas, developing and supporting arguments, sharing and evaluating information, experiences and opinions (ACELY1709)

## Persuasive text

Students will explore the issue of greyhound racing and develop a persuasive text for or against the following statement: *'Greyhound racing should be banned'*. Students can use the information recorded on the mind map and their own research to help develop their argument. Encourage students to use a range of sources.

Some issues to consider are:

- Ethical considerations - treatment of greyhounds and using live bait.
- Economic impacts - people who depend on greyhound racing for their livelihood, loss of jobs in the industry.

Provide students with the following structure to follow when completing this activity.

### Structure of a persuasive text

#### Introduction

- What is the point you are trying to argue?  
Construct an introductory paragraph which states the issue or topic.
- Introduce the arguments that will be developed in the body of the text.

#### Body

- Construct arguments that support your point of view.
- Each paragraph starts with a topic sentence which introduces each point.
- The rest of the paragraph gives more reasons.
- Arguments can be ordered from strongest to weakest.

#### Conclusion

- Restate your position on the argument.
- Construct a concluding paragraph that provides a summary of your arguments and a call to action.

### Tips for writing persuasive texts

- Who is your audience? For example, are you directing your argument at kids, teachers or politicians?
- Explore how language choices can have a big impact on persuading your audience.
- Which language devices give the report credibility and authority?
- Which are designed to create an emotional response in the listener?
- Provide facts and evidence to support your argument.
- Write in the present tense.
- Check your spelling and punctuation.

Use this [Read Write Think persuasion map](#) to plan your exposition text.

## Mini Debate

- Working in pairs, students will prepare a 1-2 minute speech for a mini debate on the topic of banning greyhound racing. One person will speak for the affirmative and the other will speak for the negative.
- Before students begin to construct their argument, ask them to record what they already know about the topic and what they would like to find out. Students then research the topic to gain a greater understanding of the issue.
- Ask students to list their arguments in point form on paper (without their partner seeing them). When they have done this, ask them to choose the five best points that will form the basis for their debate.
- Students will write in point form, their debate on cards that fit into the palm of their hand. Their debate needs to have an introduction (introducing the topic), middle (three main points) and a conclusion



(restating their position). Students practise their speech and then present the mini debate to other students.

### Guide for giving feedback

- Was the information clear and accurate?
- Were the arguments logical?
- Were the counter arguments accurate and relevant?
- Comments about the presentation style (tone of voice, body language, enthusiastic, convincing).

### Reflection

- How difficult was it to think of points to support one side of the argument?
- Do you think you would have done a better job supporting the other side of the argument?
- Was I able to convince others of my opinion?
- Did my opinion change?
- What did you learn from this activity?

## ACTIVITY

### Opinion Poll

Students will conduct their own opinion poll on the issue of banning greyhound racing. Working in groups, students will need to decide who their sample group will be and how many people will be polled. What method they will use to conduct the poll? (Face to face interviews or written responses).

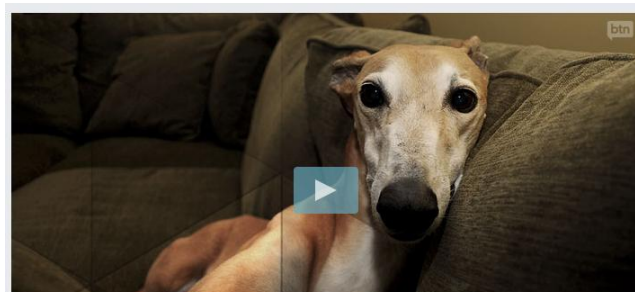
- Ask students to graph the opinion poll results and display in the classroom. Students can reflect on how reliable they think the results were. What would they do differently next time?
- Students may want to film their interviews and then create a movie to present to other students.
- Compare the poll results from the people you surveyed to the results from the BtN online poll <http://www.abc.net.au/btn/polls.htm>

## ACTIVITY

### Greyhound Adoption

Watch the BtN [Greyhound Adoption](#) story to find out more about the adoption process for retired greyhounds.

1. Name three adjectives that describe greyhounds.
2. Describe what Bud the greyhound did before he was adopted by the Venters family.
3. Why might a racing greyhound be put up for adoption?
4. Before greyhounds can be adopted out they have to live with a foster family for several weeks of training. True or false?
5. What sort of training do greyhounds go through before being adopted out to a family?
6. What are the benefits of the greyhound adoption program?
7. How would it make you feel to adopt a pet like Bud?



### GREYHOUND ADOPTION



## USEFUL WEBSITES

Behind the News – Greyhound Adoption

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s3603133.htm>

ABC Creature Features – Greyhound

<http://www.abc.net.au/creaturefeatures/facts/greyhounds.htm>

# BtN: Episode 19 Transcript 26/07/16

Hello, I'm Nathan and this is BtN.

Coming up today

- New South Wales announces a ban on greyhound racing - we find out why.
- Visit the national championships testing kids on the calculator of the ancient past.
- And it's the craze sweeping the globe. We look at the pros and cons of Pokémon.

## Crossbenchers

Rookie Reporter: Matt Holbrook

*INTRO: Stay with us for all of that. But first, we have the little matter of the federal election to get to. Early in the school holidays Aussies went to the polls and the result was super close. Malcolm Turnbull was returned as PM – just. But his troubles might be far from over because of the unique make-up of the Senate. Take a look.*

After months of campaigning, it's all smiles for our new, old Prime Minister.

**MALCOLM TURNBULL, PRIME MINISTER:** Welcome back to government! Welcome back to three years of serving the Australian people.

Malcolm Turnbull and the Coalition are back in government. But on the night of the election, no-one really had any idea what was happening. Voting in some electorates was so close; it took more than a week to finally get a result.

While the Coalition came away with the win, they've only just managed to win a majority of seats here in the House of Representatives to form government. But now, Malcolm Turnbull and the Coalition are about to face a new challenge. The Senate.

There are 76 senators from right around the country. Twelve from each state, and two from each of the territories. And for the government to successfully pass a new bill, the Senate has to vote on it. But at the moment, no one party in the Senate has a majority. So to pass new bills, the government will need the help of Labor, the Greens, or these guys, the crossbenchers. Meaning they'll soon have the power to let the Prime Minister's bills through or reject them.

They're called crossbenchers not because they're really angry forms of seating, but because they don't belong to the major parties. So they sit here between them. And they

all have very different views on how the country should be run. Votes are still being counted, but it looks like some of the crossbenchers we'll have include:

Jacqui Lambie, first elected in 2013, she's a former soldier and big on veterans' issues. Pauline Hanson, who wants to stop Muslim people immigrating here. Derryn Hinch, media personality and broadcaster and Nick Xenophon and his team. He's been a popular South Australian senator for a while now, and wants governments to be more honest and accountable.

If the government hopes to get anything through, the PM might need to get some of these key players on side, and if he can't convince them. That's what led to the last election. The Senate blocked two of the government's bills, twice. So to break the deadlock, the government called a double dissolution, kicking every politician out of their seats and sending Australia to the polls early.

This time around the government will be hoping its bills don't keep getting blocked over and over again. Which means for the next few years, the Coalition's going to have to find a way to get along with these now very important political players.

#### Ask a Reporter

MATT HOLBROOK: Got a question about the crossbench? You can ask me live on Friday! Just head to our website for all the details.

#### This Week in News

*INTRO: Now over the holidays there were a lot of other big stories in the news too. Sadly, many of them were pretty tough to hear about. Here's a roundup to keep you informed.*

The world has been rocked by a series of deadly attacks over the past month.

Car bombs in Baghdad, Iraq killed hundreds of people.

While in Afghanistan there were deadly explosions during a protest.

In France a truck was purposely driven into a crowd, killing and injuring many.

And German commuters were hit by an attacker too.

World leaders have condemned each of the attacks and promised tighter security to help protect citizens where possible.

Vigils and days of mourning have been held around the world to honour those caught up in these horrible events.

There have been big problems in Turkey recently too. Members of the military tried to take control of the country from the government. That's called a coup.

It happened because some people in Turkey don't like the way the President's running the country. Hundreds died in the fighting.

But the attempt failed and around seven thousand people have been arrested since.

Many world leaders including our PM Malcolm Turnbull have spoken out against the coup.

And in the US thousands of people have been protesting about how black people are treated by the police.

It followed two incidents where black men were shot by officers.

The issue escalated even further when a man shot and killed five police officers at a protest in Dallas.

President Barack Obama says violence against anyone isn't OK.

And has called for both sides to come together to promote peace rather than violence in the future.

## Upsetting News

*INTRO: Now many of those stories are important ones to know about but they can be pretty upsetting. So if you're feeling worried about something you've seen now or anytime here's some tips on how you can put your mind at ease.*

Most of the time the world is a beautiful place but sometimes it can be scary too.

KID 1: I saw a terrorist attack and I got a bit scared and I felt bad for the people who were involved and I was a bit worried and stuff.

KID 2: Well it made me feel bad for the people in the situation because like they didn't deserve what was happening.

KID 3: It's kind of sad and it makes lots of other people sad, it makes the people who know that person sad, and just makes anyone really sad.

When something bad happens it's completely normal to feel overwhelmed. Adults can feel like this too. But there are some ways you can help yourself to feel better.

First it's worth remembering that these events are in the news because they don't happen very often. And most of the time they happen a long way away from where you live.

Terrifying words or images can be used to tell people what's going on but these are usually the worst, most shocking parts of what's happened. Pictures of people coming to help, treating those injured or supporting others aren't as easy to find. But whenever there is

something bad happening you can be sure there are always good people there trying to help.

Finally, sharing how you feel or asking questions if you have some is really important too. So talk to your parents. your teacher or your friends about what's worrying you.

You might find just talking about it puts your mind at ease. Helping you to feel better again.

## Greyhound Ban

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

*INTRO: New South Wales has announced that it wants to ban greyhound racing. It says too many trainers have been shown to use cruel practices to train their animals. But some people argue a ban isn't the way to go. Take a look.*

It's the thrill of the chase that draws plenty of Aussies to the track. In fact, greyhound racing is a billion dollar industry in Australia involving more than 300 thousand speedy dogs. But last year a report by the ABC revealed there was widespread animal cruelty going on behind the scenes. The news caused a lot of outrage so the New South Wales government launched a big investigation. It found dogs were put down just because they weren't able to compete. And small animals were sometimes used as live bait to train dogs to race. After reading the report the New South Wales Premier has decided to ban the sport starting in July next year.

MIKE BAIRD, NSW PREMIER: Anyone that thinks this is an easy decision, it's not. But I also challenge anyone who has read the report, to tell me that this is not the right decision. Australia is one of only eight countries in the world where greyhound racing still happens.

If this ban gets through parliament New South Wales would be the first Aussie state to make it illegal.

Although the ACT's now thinking about banning it too. And animal rights groups would like the rest of the country to follow.

PROTESTERS: "We back the ban! We back the ban!"

But others, including those in the racing industry, say banning the sport is unfair. They say thousands of people will lose their jobs even if they haven't been doing the wrong thing.

"Good, good people are being hurt in an unprecedented manner."

JACINTA: She needs a whole week off. That was a hard run for her.

Jacinta's dad's a greyhound trainer in South Australia. And she's planning to follow in his footsteps when she's old enough.

JACINTA: I've been doing it since I was little and ever since we got greyhounds I was out there brushing them, bathing them, they love you as much as you love them and it's just an awesome sport to be in.

Jacinta is against the NSW ban because she says there are plenty of people in the industry who love and care for their dogs.

JACINTA: A select few people have done the wrong thing and they need to take responsibility for that, but I don't think everybody in the greyhound industry should be tarred with that same brush.

If the ban does go ahead though, animal welfare groups say thousands of ex-racing dogs in New South Wales will suddenly need new homes. Just like Nitro did a few years back.

MICHEALA: Mum saw the dog and absolutely fell in love with him and so did I. He's just so adorable and he was like the biggest one there as well!

Michaela says greyhounds are really sweet dogs that don't need heaps of exercise but plenty of cuddles.

MICHEALA: He has the kindest nature, it's ridiculous. He'll try and get up on the couch with you and lay with you and sometimes he'll end up completely on top of you as well!

And if the NSW ban is introduced she hopes other potential dog owners will consider giving a retiring racer a new run at life.

MICHEALA: I would say to do it, because they are absolutely amazing and they're so much fun to play with.

## Poll

Let's stay with greyhound racing for our poll this week.

The question - Do you think greyhound racing should be banned nationwide?

Let us know what you think on our website.

## Pokémon Go

Reporter: Matthew Holbrook

*INTRO: A new augmented reality video game is taking the world by storm. Pokémon Go has been played by millions of people since it launched a few of weeks ago. But while many people are talking up the benefits others are warning about the dangers.*

Lately, I've been a little bit, I don't want to say obsessed, but obsessed with Pokémon Go.

AMELIA: And then they were like "Who even likes cupcakes?" and I was like "Who doesn't!" Matt, Matt, are you even listening to me?

MATT: It's just that there's a Mankey on your shoulder, so.

NATHAN: Matt, can you send this off to Sydney straight.

MATT: I don't have time, there's a Geodude Nathan!

AMELIA: Ooh, I just caught my first Pidgey.

It turns out lots of other Aussies feel the same way.

ADULT 1: Addicted. It's really good.

KID1: I'm hoping I'm going to catch a Charmander

ADULT 2: I'm after a Dratini today.

Since it launched, Pokémon Go has been downloaded more than 30 million times. It's now even got more active users than Twitter. So why has the whole world gone so crazy for Pokémon? Well a big reason is that Pokémon Go is one of the first examples of an entirely new type of game. The aim is to travel around, hunting for, and catching pocket monsters, or Pokémon, which appear through your phone's camera as if they're actually right next to you.

MATT HOLBROOK, REPORTER: It's called augmented reality, combining the digital with real life. Which is why Carl's face has an Ekans on it. Sorry Carl.

It also uses GPS, so you have to actually visit real world locations to collect items and find Pokémon. Experts say bringing the virtual world into the physical one, like this, could be the future of gaming.

The technology's already being used in things like museum tours, instructional videos, and even in the classroom. But while Pokémon Go isn't the first game to use augmented reality, it's easily the most successful.

DR DIMITRIOS TSIVRIKOS, PSYCHOLOGIST: It gets people to stop only interacting with the digital world and going out and meeting other players.

This whole "running around in the real world" thing is a huge part of the appeal for lots of Pokémon players. And because of that, experts say the game could help fight childhood obesity, and make sure kids get their hour of exercise a day. Some Poke Fans have even organised group walks like this one. They say the game helps them socialise and catch up with friends and visit interesting places.

ADULT 3: I'm out with my friends a lot more walking out in the park and around the streets.

ADULT 4: I'm getting fit so I love it.



ADULT 5: I went on a 10 kilometre walk yesterday with them and like walked my dog as well. Yeah, it was great.

But there are people with a few concerns about Pokémon Go, too. Like players getting hurt because they're not paying attention to where they're going.

CHLOE KIM, SNOWBOARDER: I was driving through a parking lot yesterday and this lady walked right in front of my car because she was trying to catch a Pokémon. It was the scariest thing I have ever experienced in my life.

Police have also asked players not to go onto other people's property, or into dangerous areas, especially at night. And they say kids should only be out exploring with their parents. It's still early days for augmented reality games, like Pokémon Go, and while we don't know exactly what the future of this new genre will look like, we're pretty sure it's not going to look like this.

MATT: Get in the ball, Pigeon!

## Quiz

In what year were the first Pokémon games released?

- 1986
- 1996
- 2006

The answer is: 1996

## Abacus Champs

Reporter: Carl Smith

*INTRO: How would you quickly solve a difficult maths equation if you didn't have a calculator? Well not so long ago the answer was an abacus. We went along to the National Abacus Maths Championships to find out how they work and why they're still being used today.*

It might look like a game or a kids' toy but those sliding beads actually have the power to solve some pretty complex maths equations. It's called an abacus. And it's being used here by some young experts at the National Abacus Math Championships!

GIRL: It helps me with subtraction and addition. And it sometimes helps me with multiplication and division.

But how exactly can those little beads really help with maths? This is a really simple abacus. And you can see there are columns with beads in each of them. Now if I want to write a number like one hundred and twenty three, I just move beads in each column.

So three here, two here, and one here. Makes one hundred and twenty three! Now let's just say I want to write a different number like forty-six, I do the same thing. Two, four, six in this column and four in this column makes forty six! Now what about if you want to add those two numbers together? Let's start with 123 and now let's add on our 46. You push six up here and forty here and that gives us one hundred and sixty-nine! Perfect!

Many historians say the very first abacuses appeared thousands of years ago! They were used by traders and merchants across many of the great ancient cultures, including Mesopotamia, Egypt, Persia, China, Greece and Rome. Since then the abacus has evolved and changed a lot. And now one of the most popular designs is this Japanese one.

Today abacuses are still used in many parts of the world, including Russia, China, and Africa. Nowadays calculators have mostly taken over but many still learn how to use abacuses to help train their brains.

BOY: By making you more clever in maths.

And the best abacus users like these guys don't just learn how to use them quickly. They also learn how to use the same counting technique in their heads!

GIRL 1: I imagine an abacus in my head and I'm moving the beads with my hands.

Organisers of the event say that while the abacus might be old-fashioned it's still a great way to help kids understand maths. And these competitors agree that the benefits really add up.

GIRL 2: It's only a bit difficult for starters, but not very difficult when you get the hang of it.

GIRL 1: They can get better at maths and enjoy maths.

The winners from this event will be representing Australia at an International Maths competition in Singapore later this year where they'll be using the same ancient calculator that people have been using for thousands of years.

## Quiz 2

What type of calculation can't be done on an abacus?

- Subtraction

- Multiplication
- or Division

Answer: Sorry that was a trick question - because you can do them all.

## Sport

The Australian Olympic Team say they're not moving into the Rio Olympic village because the apartments aren't up to scratch.

The team was supposed to move in on Sunday, but a spokesperson says there are too many problems like exposed wiring, leaking pipes and blocked toilets.

Olympic organisers say they're working hard to fix the problems but for the moment, athletes are staying in motels instead.

---

Aussie cyclist Chloe Hosking has won the women's Tour De France. It was a tight race and came down to an impressive sprint finish along the Champs Elysees in Paris.

CHLOE: Just to cross the line first with my hands in the air is crazy.

Unlike the men's three-week event, the women's Tour is a one-day 89 km race.

---

Aussie F1 Star Daniel Ricciardo has snagged a podium finish at the Hungarian Grand Prix.

He finished third behind Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg.

DANIEL RICCIARDO: This one I can definitely enjoy, for sure the smile's back you know I'm super happy to be here today it's 3 years in a row I've been on the podium at this circuit.

It was a good result for the Aussie bumping him up into third place in the overall standings.

---

Australia has done pretty well at the World under 20 Athletics Championships in Poland.

Two of the best performers were Alexandra Hulley, who claimed silver in the Hammer Throw and Kurtis Marschall also came 2nd in the Pole Vault.

KURTIS MARSCHALL: It's just an honour to get a medal for my country let alone compete for my country, so yeah, I hope everyone back home is proud of me. I did my absolute best and I hopefully there's bigger and brighter things in the future.

Overall, Australia scored 3 silver and 1 bronze at the championships putting us in 21st place. The US topped the medal tally.

---

And bike riding went back in time in Brisbane over the weekend for the Penny Farthing championships.

These weird looking bikes get their name from old coins which were big and small like the wheels.

They were super popular back in the 1800s but these days not so much.

BRETT RICHARDSON, PENNY FARTHIN BUILDER: The reason they're not around anymore is because they're damn dangerous.

## Drought Aid

Reporter: Callan

*INTRO: Finally today, last week marked the launch of Heywire - an ABC competition that encourages young regional people to tell their stories. So to celebrate, we thought we'd check in with one of last year's winners, Callan. Here he tells the story of the day a stranger arrived at his family's cattle station with a pumpkin.*

There's nothing more depressing for a farmer than parched land stretching as far as the eye can see. This is the misery that my family have experienced over the last few years.

But there was one moment when this drought-stricken landscape was illuminated by the light of human kindness.

Living in remote north-western Queensland, a hundred kilometres from Longreach, we're not overly prepared for unexpected visits from strangers. My family and I had just retreated from the scorching heat of the day. I was in the kitchen, mum was in the backyard, when a dusty family wagon rolled up to our front gate and things got even weirder.

Even a suburban family would be suspicious of a man bearing a large vegetable paying an unexpected visit. Out here it seemed even stranger. The pumpkin-bearing man was soon accompanied by his wife and daughter laden with cardboard boxes.

What happened next changed my perspective on not only the drought but on the compassion that our urban cousins have for the struggling agricultural industry. They'd been travelling around regional Queensland delivering packages of supplies to struggling farmers. It wasn't this \$50 package of groceries that my family urgently needed. It was the

knowledge that we the farmers were not alone in our struggle against the drought and to know that our city cousins cared about their counterparts in the bush.

This is why I believe actions speak louder than words and compassion speaks louder than actions.

## Closer

---

And that's it for today! But the fun doesn't have to end here because our website is open 24/7 for you to enjoy! Stay well and we'll see you next time.