

## Questions for discussion

### Bushfire Aid

1. What does the BtN *Bushfire Aid* story mainly explain?
2. How have the kids in the BTN been affected by the bushfires?
3. How did Cooper's family prepare for the bushfire?
4. What happened to his property?
5. In which state do the kids live?
6. About how many homes have been destroyed by the fires?
7. Complete the following sentence: The number of homes destroyed would have been much higher if...
8. How have students from Beechwood Public School helped people affected by the fires?
9. Send a message of support on the Bushfire Aid story page.
10. How did this story make you feel?

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

### Vitamin Supplements

1. Discuss the BtN *Vitamin Supplements* story as a class. What points were raised in the discussion?
2. What are complementary medicines?
3. Why do some people take them?
4. Give some examples of complementary medicines.
5. Why are some doctors and scientists saying we need to be more cautious about using complementary medicines?
6. Why do many experts say that scientific studies can be misleading?
7. Some doctors and scientists are arguing that there should be better \_\_\_\_\_ on complementary medicine products.
8. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BTN story?
9. Have you taken complementary medicines? Explain your answer.
10. Create a plus, minus and interesting chart about complementary medicines.

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

### Beached Whales

1. Briefly summarise the BTN *Beached Whales* story.
2. A whale is a
  - a. Fish
  - b. Mammal
  - c. Amphibian
3. Where did hundreds of pilot whales beach themselves recently?
4. How did people try to help them?

5. A group of whales is called a
  - a. Flock
  - b. Litter
  - c. Pod
6. Whales are known for their amazing sense of direction. Give an example of this.
7. How can a ship's sonar affect a whale's sense of direction?
8. What can happen when whales get sick or injured?
9. What other theories do scientists have for whales becoming stranded?
10. What did you learn watching this story?

Check out the [Beached Whales resource](#) on the Teachers page

### Sunglasses at School

1. What was the main point of the *Sunglasses at School* story?
2. What do the sun safety advertisements say you should do to protect yourself from the sun?
3. Some experts are calling for a 'No hat, no \_\_\_\_\_, no play' policy in schools?
4. What damage can ultraviolet radiation cause to our eyes?
5. Which part of the eye senses light and converts it into a picture?
6. Our eyes need to be really sensitive to see clearly which also mean they're easy to \_\_\_\_\_ in bright sun.
7. What sorts of sunglasses do experts say kids should be wearing?
8. What are some disadvantages of making sunglasses compulsory at school?
9. Do you think sunglasses should be compulsory at school? Give reasons for your answer.
10. What do you do to protect yourself from the sun?

Check out the [Sunglasses at School resource](#) on the Teachers page.

Vote in the [BTN Online Poll](#)

### Shearing Kid

1. Before you watch the BTN story, record what you know about shearing.
2. Briefly summarise the BtN story.
3. How old is Charlie?
4. What did Charlie practise his shearing on?
  - a. Dog
  - b. Cat
  - c. Teddy bear
5. What was used to shear sheep before electric shears were invented?
6. In which year did Australia become the first place in the world to shear a whole sheep using a machine?
7. How often are sheep usually shorn?
8. Which country is the biggest producer of wool in the world?
9. Give examples of products made from wool.
10. What did you like about the BTN story?

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

 **FOCUS QUESTIONS**

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8. What can happen when whales get sick or injured?
9. What other theories do scientists have for whales becoming stranded?
10. What did you learn watching this story?

 **ACTIVITY**

After watching the BTN *Beached Whales* story, students 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?

Discuss the BTN *Beached Whales* story as a class. What questions were raised in the discussion (what are the gaps in their knowledge)? The KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic and consider what they would like to know and learn.

 **KEY LEARNING**

Students will develop a deeper understanding of why whales beach themselves and research a species of whale in depth.

 **AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM****Science – Year 5**

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment ([ACSSU043](#))

**Science – Year 6**

The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment ([ACSSU094](#))

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions ([ACSHE100](#))

**Science – Year 7**

Science and technology contribute to finding solutions to a range of contemporary issues; these solutions may impact on other areas of society and involve ethical considerations ([ACSHE120](#))

<b><i>What do I know?</i></b>	<b><i>What do I want to know?</i></b>	<b><i>What have I learnt?</i></b>	<b><i>How will I find out?</i></b>

Students will develop their own question/s for inquiry, collecting and recording information from a wide variety of sources.

Use the following questions to help guide the discussion:

- What are the physical features of whales?
- What do whales eat?
- What are the different species of whales?
- Which species are found in Australian waters?
- What are the differences between whales and dolphins?
- What are some unique features of whales?
- Why do whales migrate?
- How do whales communicate?

## ACTIVITY

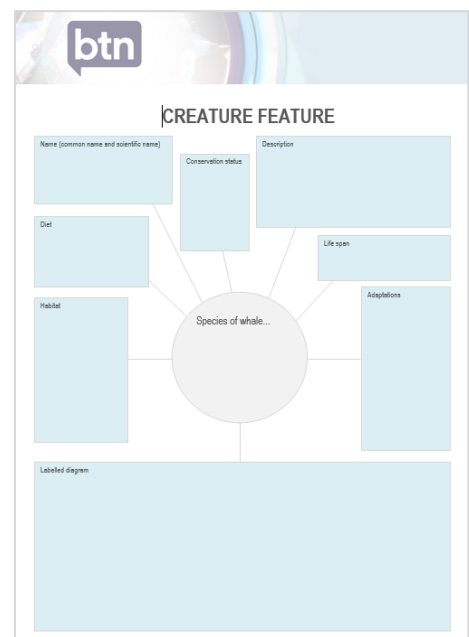
### **Creature Feature**

Cetacean is the scientific name which refers to whales, dolphins and porpoises. Students will explore in depth a species of whale and create a Creature Feature on their chosen species. Species include:

- Humpback whale
- Southern Right whale
- Blue whale
- Minke whale
- Killer whale

They will include a description of the species, habitat, adaptations and conservation status. They will also draw a labelled diagram of the whale.

Encourage students to use a range of sources to find their information. Students will use the [Creature Feature worksheet](#) to organise and present their information.



## ACTIVITY

### **Why do whales beach themselves?**

Students will imagine they are a marine scientist and prepare a presentation to a group explaining the theories of why whales beach themselves. They will need to include the following in their presentation:

- What is a beached whale?
- Why do whales beach themselves?

- What is done to assist beached whales?
- Give an example of a beaching in Australian waters.

Encourage students to present the information in a creative way.

## ACTIVITY

### How do whales communicate?

Whale songs are one of the most sophisticated communication systems in the animal kingdom. [Watch this Ted Ed video](#) and answer the following questions:

- Which species of whale are known to sing?
- How long can whales sing for?
- Why do they sing?
- What impact can noise pollution have on the whales?
- Name three interesting facts you learnt watching the video.



## ACTIVITY

### Create a Quiz

Use [Kahoot!](#) to test students' knowledge about whales. Quizzes can be created to recap learning or test personal knowledge. There is also the option to connect with classrooms around the world and play kahoot in real time.



## USEFUL WEBSITES

CBBC News – Why do whales beach themselves?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/38931310>

ABC News – Whales beached in New Zealand hours after volunteers re-float survivors

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-11/hundreds-more-whales-beached-in-new-zealand/8262646>

BTN Quiz – Which Whale is Which?

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/extracontent/2013/whaling/whales.pdf>

Ted Ed video – Why do whales sing?

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-do-whales-sing-stephanie-sardelis>

# Sunglasses at School

## FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. What was the main point of the *Sunglasses at School* story?
2. What do the sun safety advertisements say you should do to protect yourself from the sun?
3. Some experts are calling for a 'No hat, no \_\_\_\_\_, no play' policy in schools?
4. What damage can ultraviolet radiation cause to our eyes?
5. Which part of the eye senses light and converts it into a picture?
6. Our eyes need to be really sensitive to see clearly which also mean they're easy to \_\_\_\_\_ in bright sun.
7. What sorts of sunglasses do experts say kids should be wearing?
8. What are some disadvantages of making sunglasses compulsory at school?
9. Do you think sunglasses should be compulsory at school? Give reasons for your answer.
10. What do you do to protect yourself from the sun?

## ACTIVITY

Discuss the BTN *Sunglasses at School* story as a class. What questions were raised in the discussion? Here are some questions to guide discussion:

- What are the beneficial and harmful effects of the sun?
- What is skin cancer?
- What causes skin cancer?
- What is ultraviolet (UV) radiation?
- How does UV radiation affect the eye?
- What do you know about being sun smart?
- How do you decide whether or not sun protection is needed?
- How do you protect yourself?
- Should wearing sunglasses be compulsory for school students?

## KEY LEARNING

Students will understand how the eye works and the health effects of UV radiation. They will also develop an argument for or against making sunglasses compulsory for school students.

## AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

### Science – Year 5

Light from a source forms shadows and can be absorbed, reflected and refracted ([ACSSU080](#))

### Science – Years 5 & 6

Scientific understandings, discoveries and inventions are used to solve problems that directly affect peoples' lives ([ACSHE083](#)) ([ACSHE100](#))

### Health and PE – Years 5 & 6

Plan and practise strategies to promote [health](#), [safety](#) and [wellbeing](#) ([ACPPS054](#))

[Investigate](#) the role of [preventive health](#) in promoting and maintaining [health](#), [safety](#) and [wellbeing](#) for individuals and their communities ([ACPPS058](#))

### 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](#))

### English – Year 6

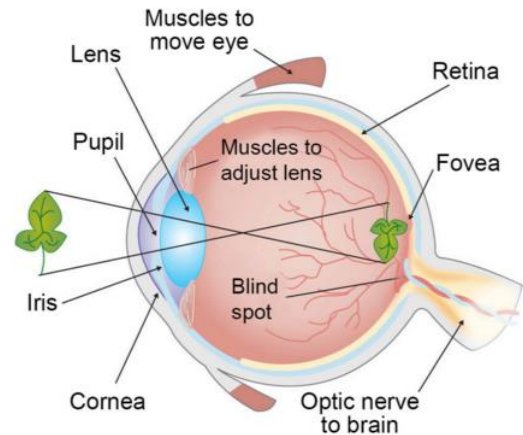
Participate in and contribute to discussions, clarifying and interrogating ideas, developing and supporting arguments, sharing and evaluating information, experiences and opinions ([ACELY1709](#))

## ACTIVITY

### How does the eye work?

Students will investigate the parts of the human eye and what each part does. Students will use the following as a guide during their investigation.

- Draw a diagram of the human eye.
- Label the features of the eye including the cornea, pupil, lens, iris, retina and optic nerve.
- What are the health effects of UV radiation on the eye? Include both short and long term effects.
- Create a glossary on each of the features of the eye.
- Explain to another student how our eyes work.
- Create a multiple choice quiz about the eye and eye protection.



### Design your own Sunnies Challenge

Students design a pair of sunglasses for children that meet Australian standards. The [SunSmart sunglasses guide](#) provides information about things to remember when choosing sunglasses for sun protection. Students create a labelled diagram of their sunglasses highlighting the key design features.

## ACTIVITY

Students will investigate the issue of making sunglasses compulsory for school students and develop either a **persuasive text** or hold a **mini debate**.

### Mini Debate

- Working in pairs, students will prepare a 1-2 minute speech for a mini debate on the topic of making sunglasses compulsory for school children. 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

### Persuasive text

Students will develop a persuasive text for or against the following statement: *'All school students should wear sunglasses'*. 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:

- Health considerations
- Financial impacts – cost of sunglasses to families.

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.





## ACTIVITY

### Opinion Poll

Students will conduct their own opinion poll on the issue of making sunglasses compulsory for all school children. 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.



## USEFUL WEBSITES

ABC New – UV exposure causing serious eye disease and damage in children, doctors warn  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-08/uv-causing-serious-eye-disease-and-damage-children-doctors-warn/8250768>

BTN – Skin Cancer

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4576616.htm>

BTN – Sun Damage

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4126812.htm>

SunSmart – Health effects of UV radiation to the eyes

<http://www.sunsmart.com.au/uv-sun-protection/slide-on-sunglasses>

SunSmart – What is UV?

<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/uv-sun-protection/uv>

# BtN: Episode 03 Transcript 21/02/17

Hi I'm Nathan Bazley and this is BTN! Coming up today:

- We find out how kids are coping after the bushfires in NSW and the ACT
- We investigate why whales often end up on beaches needing help.
- And should kids be forced to wear sunnies on the playground? We ask you.

You can see more on that later.

## NSW Fires

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

*INTRO: But first to those bushfires. More than 50 homes have been destroyed and many kids evacuated after fires ripped through NSW and the ACT recently. We checked in with some of the kids of Beechwood Public School to find out how they're getting on.*

These guys are happy to be back at school, but it's been a tough week.

SOPHIE: There was a big bushfire and it was really hot and everyone in Pappinbarra got evacuated

MACKENZIE: Said to evacuate because if the wind didn't change, the tree would catch on fire then it would come in to our property. We felt pretty scared and worried

COOPER: My mum packed clothes and special items while me and my brother raked leaves and put them down the front while dad was doing gutters.

Cooper's family was prepared, but the fire kept coming. This is what their property looks like now. Thankfully their home's still standing.

COOPER: All my property got burnt and other people's houses got burned down, about 8. A lot of stuff got burnt in the fire. Trees, fences, trampolines.

Some of Cooper's schoolmates are going through the same thing.

INTERVIEWER: Flinders have you been back to your house since the weekend?

FLINDERS: No, but I've seen photos.

INTERVIEWER: How did the photos make you feel?

FLINDERS: Sad.

Can you describe what the photos look like?

FLINDERS: Black and burnt.

These guys live around Pappinbarra in New South Wales. More than a week ago bushfires swept through the area, causing a lot of damage. But they're not the only ones affected. Recently, fires have hit several parts of the state. One person has died, others have been injured, and more than 50 homes have been destroyed.

That number would be heaps higher, though, if not for fire services and other kind volunteers.

SOPHIE: They had to water-bomb it and there were firefighters driving around on our front paddock.

DENNY: My mum and dad helped save my friends' home from being burnt down.

At Beechwood Public School, where these guys go, students, and their parents, have been trying to help in other ways. They've started serving breakfast and lunch at the school canteen for families and emergency services, while also making up care packages.

COOPER: People in the canteen have been making up care packages for the community that donated food.

MACKENZIE: Fundraising, feeding people from the community, since their house probably burnt down they have no food.

LIBBY, PARENT: We've been making up care packs for the residents with toiletries and cleaning supplies. We've been making sandwiches to feed the firies, the energy crew that have been working tirelessly up there. We've been feeding the kids from the families who have been affected here at school, providing them with lunches.

The hot weather isn't over yet, but people here are doing what they can to look out for each other, and say thanks for the support.

## This Week in News

To the latest on those fires now, and over the weekend many were still causing big problems. The worst, a grassfire in Carwoola, destroyed eleven homes before it could be brought under control.

In other areas people are starting to clean up and rebuild. Help is coming in from around the country too.

'True Aussie spirit lives long in the bush.'

Free hay was delivered to help families like this one whose whole property was burnt out.

GIRL: It's just basically like losing your work, house, car everything that you own.

MUM: It's overwhelming the support, the community.

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More than 100 experts have helped draw up a plan to fight obesity. They took part in the biggest ever study on Australian food policies and looked for the best ways to make a difference.

They've recommended stuff like a tax on sugary drinks a junk food ban in schools and sports venues and strict rules about advertising unhealthy food to kids.

The Reserve Bank of Australia has revealed the design for the new ten-dollar note. It's got cool new security features like a cockatoo that looks like it's flying when tilted. And fluorescent ink that can only be viewed under UV lights.

Plus there is a new tactile feature for people who are blind or vision impaired. You'll be able to get your hands on it in September.

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US President Donald Trump's hit the headlines again. This time for suggesting there was a recent terrorist attack in Sweden. Trump was giving a speech talking about attacks in Europe when Sweden came up.

**PRESIDENT TRUMP:** You look at what's happening last night in Sweden, Sweden!

Swedish authorities were left a bit baffled saying the last time anything like that happened in the country was six years ago!

The president has since tweeted that he was talking about something he heard on TV. But Swedish people have already taken to Twitter to suggest some incidents he might've meant.

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To France now where the Air Force is teaching eagles to catch drones.

It's training these birds to see them as prey and snatch them out of the sky. The aim is to catch people who fly their drones in places where they shouldn't like secret military bases.

Turns out these feathery fighter-pilots can safely take them down better than people can.

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And if you've ever wanted to have a massive food fight Chile is the place for you.

This so-called 'tomato war' happens every year in the city of Quillon.

Locals get a hundred tonnes of tomatoes and chuck them at each other because, well, why not? Luckily firefighters stepped in at the end to help clean up some of the squishy mess!

## Vitamin Supplements

Reporter: Carl Smith

*INTRO: Heaps of us take them but how much good are they doing for us? We're talking about vitamins and other supplements next because while 7 out of ten of us take them, doctors say for most of us, they probably won't have much effect. But the industry stands by their claim that they are proven to be effective. Take a look.*

APOTHECARY KID: Allo allo, you're looking a little under the weather today.

SICK KID: I've got a cold, have you got anything to help?

Apothecary: Well I've got some snail slime? Oh and how about some lizard soup? I'm sure they're both really great at fighting colds.

Throughout history, there have been plenty of weird and wonderful remedies to help cure people of illness.

But some are better than others.

KID: I don't know if that really helped.

APOTHECARY: Well, I've got an orange, and here's some bark from a willow tree - I'm sure that'll help you.

KID: Thanks!

As science has advanced over the years, some remedies, like willow bark, have been proven to cure illnesses. So we call them 'medicines'. Others have been ditched completely.

And then there are things that don't fit into either category - like vitamins and minerals - where there isn't enough evidence to call them medicines or to say they don't work either. We call them 'complementary medicines'.

Complementary medicines are vitamins, minerals, herbs and other supplements which might make you healthier or might help, alongside real medicine.

And although many people swear by complementary medicines like vitamin C, echinacea or garlic to cure a cold, science hasn't proved 100 per-cent that they do work, or that they work for everyone! That's why some doctors and scientists are now arguing that we need to be more cautious about using complementary medicines.

PROF PAUL GLASZIOU, BOND UNIVERSITY: I'd say if you go and pick something up off the shelf you're wasting your money mostly.

But hang on, don't we often hear things like that vitamins are scientifically proven to help?

**BUSINESSWOMAN:** Vitamin C is clinically proven to boost your immune system! Look at these scientific studies!

Well, yes lots of companies say things like that.

**RICKY PONTING IN SWISSE AD:** You can be confident Swisse Men's Ultivites work, because they've had them independently tested. One of the only multivitamins in Australia with proven results.

But many experts say those studies can be misleading.

**DR KEN HARVEY, MONASH UNIVERSITY:** They're often small studies, with a small number of people. Subject to a high error rate. Just as if you toss a coin 10 times, you can get a run of 8 or 9 heads, doesn't mean that that's the truth.

So, some are arguing there should be bigger, better tests on the complementary products sold in pharmacies. To find out if they really work, or not. Others say it should be clearer which complementary medicines have evidence backing them up and which don't. And until then, most doctors agree your best option for dealing with something like this cold is just a healthy diet and plenty of rest.

## BTN Investigates

Have you seen or heard something in the news that you'd like explained? Well now, clarity is only a click away with BTN Investigates.

For all the details on how you can submit your topic for BTN to investigate, just head to our website.

## Beached Whales

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

*INTRO: Recently hundreds of whales became stranded on a beach in New Zealand. Some were able to reach safety, others sadly died when they couldn't get back into deeper water. But it raises the question why do some of the biggest, smartest creatures in the ocean always end up beached on the shore? Take a look.*

They're the magnificent mammals of the deep that fascinate a lot of us mammals back on land! But if you ever see a whale this close to shore it's a sure sign of trouble.

Recently hundreds and hundreds of Pilot Whales were beached in a bay called Fairwell Spit at the top of the South Island of New Zealand. Lots of people came out to help them over several days. They used wet sheets to protect the sea creatures from the sun and buckets of water to keep them cool. Luckily, when a high tide came in, about 100 were able to swim back out to sea. But then, a different pod came in.

**VOLUNTEER:** What we can see right now is that these are Pilot whales and these are fresh whales coming in right now.

Volunteers tried to make a human chain, but even that didn't stop them; another 250 Pilot Whales washed up.

VOLUNTEER 2: I was here first thing this morning and there was a small group of us, and essentially we went out and saw one of the biggest strandings I've ever seen.

AMELIA, REPORTER: Whales are known for their amazing sense of direction. Some migrate thousands of kilometres to breed, without going off course! So how do some of these creatures find themselves beached? Well, marine scientists don't actually know for sure, but they do have some theories.

The first is actually to do with how they navigate. Whales send out sound waves, or sonar pulses, which bounce back off surfaces to help them work out where they are or where they're going. But some ships also use sonar and if the two cross paths then the whales could get confused and strand themselves.

Another theory is that when whales get sick or injured they can't swim properly so they're pushed ashore by the current.

Changes in the environment could also cause whales to act differently, like if there are low food stocks, unusually high or low temperatures, or polluted water. And finally, even whales make mistakes! It's thought they can sometimes lose their way by accident, or while chasing prey or escaping predators. Plus, whales often travel in large pods or groups, so marine scientists reckon if one whale loses their way for any reason, then the others travelling with it might copy them.

MARINE SCIENTIST: They become confused when they end up in places like Fairwell Spit, which is very shallow, sandy beach and if one does get stressed and others follow him, it makes it difficult for others to know which way to go.

About 350 Pilot Whales died from the two strandings at Fairwell Spit, but the good news is that around 300 survived! That was thanks to high tides and helpful volunteers, like these guys, who hope they've seen the last of their sea-faring friends.

VOLUNTEER 3: I hope we never see 'em again haha.

VOLUNTEER 4: Ah, just joy! Just complete happiness that they're out in the water there floating and they look like they're going out, so we're obviously making sure that they don't come back in.

## Ask A Reporter

Have you got a question about whales? Ask me live on Friday during Ask a Reporter! Head to our website for all the details.

## Did You Know?

Pilot whales aren't actually whales.

They are the 2nd largest member of the dolphin family.

## Playground Shades

Reporter: Carl Smith

*INTRO: Now most kids know they have to wear sun protection when outside. But some eye specialists say hats and sunscreen don't protect kids' eyes so now they're calling for schools to make sunglasses compulsory. Take a look*

AD: 'slip slop slap seek and slide'

You've probably seen this ad plenty of times.

Along with all of that other sun safety stuff, it recommends sliding on sunnies every time you go outside. But look around the playground and you won't see many kids following that advice. So how would feel about having to put on sunglasses every time you stepped out into your school's playground!?

KID: I think it's a fantastic idea, I think it would be a really good idea for everyone to have sunnies on

KID: I think it's very important to protect our eyes because we don't want anything damaged.

Despite all the sun protection kids are already using, Australia's eye specialists say without sunglasses our eyes are still at risk!

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CELIA CHEN, OPHTHALMOLOGIST: It's very important to protect our eyes because the ultraviolet light from the sunlight can actually affect our eye from the front to the back

So they're calling on schools to bring in a 'no hat, no sunglasses, no play' policy.

CELIA: When I take my children to school the school asks us to put on sunscreen, and why shouldn't sunglasses be part of the policy?

But how can the sun damage our eyes? Our eyes are built to take in light. It's focused through the lens onto the back of the eye. And a special layer of nerve cells called the retina senses that light and converts it into a picture.

But our eyes need to be really sensitive to help us see clearly. Which also means they're easy to damage in bright sun.

A recent study from America found 29 percent of kids aged 9 to 11 had eye damage from the sun. And that number was even higher for 12 to 15-year olds.

The organisation that represents eye specialists in Australia and New Zealand says the answer is to make sunglasses compulsory for kids at school. And unfortunately for fashion lovers you can't just pick any sunnies!

Experts say you'll get the best benefits from wrap-around glasses, because they protect you from sun coming in the side. And polarised lenses with at least category 3 UV



protection will block out the most harmful UV light. You can find that info on the label, or ask a pharmacist.

But some say we should think twice before making sunnies compulsory at school. They warn that sunglasses can be expensive and they can be easy to break, or lose.

So what do you reckon? Do you support having to slide on sunnies at school?

KID: I think it's a good idea so again we don't have to worry about our eyes getting damaged and all that.

KID: I reckon that when you're playing you can see everything and you're very aware and you don't get like cancer in your eyes or your eyes don't get agitated.

KID: I think it's a good idea but I think it would get a little bit annoying some of the time because your eyes would get really sweaty!

KID: It would be good if we could design our own.

KID: What if someone stepped on them, and they're pretty expensive as well.

KID: We don't want our eyes to be injured either. So I reckon it'll be a great idea.

## Poll

And we'd like to know what you think about sunnies on the playground. Let us know on our website.

Meanwhile here's how you voted in last week's poll.

## Quiz

And on the subject of the sun, what is its surface temperature?

- 500 degrees
- 1000 degrees
- 5500 degrees

The answer - 5500 degrees. Toasty!

## Sport

Australia's new Super Netball comp has officially been launched. The comp replaces the old Trans-Tasman league which had a mix of Aussie and Kiwi sides.

This one's 100% Aussie with 3 new teams - the Sunshine Coast Lightning and 2 teams started by AFL clubs Collingwood and Greater Western Sydney.

GEVA MENTOR: I think it's so exciting for Netball. There's been so much player movement in the off-season and with 3 new teams being introduced it's going to be great for netball.

GWS held off the Swifts for a win while Collingwood went down to the Vixens and the Firebirds drew with the Lightning.

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It might not look like it but this beach is actually a massive secret. Nicknamed 'The Snake' this coast is famous for its seemingly endless waves.

Locals say it's only ever been surfed by 3 people. That is until Aussie Mick Fanning was invited to give it a crack. The 3-time world champ says the secret's safe with him and he won't spill the beans on where it actually is.

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And the NBA's annual All-star weekend has delivered plenty of highlights with mannequin challenges, skill comps and the famous dunk contest.

DeAndre Jordan pulled off the first ever snapchat dunk while Aaron Gordons got an assist on one of his dunks from a drone. Pretty cool, but not enough to top these insane dunks from the contest winner Glenn Robinson.

Meanwhile in the celebrity match super fan Jarrius Robertson stole the show. The 14-year-old, who's battling liver disease, has become a bit of a celebrity in the NBA world.

REPORTER: You're kind of a celebrity now.

JARRIUS: What do you mean kinda?

Before the match Jarrius was joking around with Golden State Star Draymond Green.

DRAYMOND GREEN: You don't like me?

JARRIUS: I don't like your team!

DRAYMOND GREEN: You better score man!

But when his big moment came, Jarrius delivered!

COMMENTATOR: That's the greatest thing I've ever seen!

## Shearing

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

*INTRO: Finally today, wool has been an important industry in Australia for hundreds of years. But in all that time, technology still hasn't been able to replace the job of a skilled shearer. It's tough work as you'll see but that doesn't mean kids don't want to do it. Take a look.*

When the school bell rings and it's time to head home, Charlie has one thing on his mind - shearing!

CHARLIE: I have to get changed, I then run down to the shed and draft them and get them in and shear them.

Charlie lives on a farm in Culcairn in New South Wales. He's been mastering his shearing technique since he was just two years old, even practicing on his stuffed toys!

DONNA, CHARLIE'S MUM: The first video I have of him shearing is when he just turned two, shearing teddy bears.

His mum and dad both work in shearing sheds, and Charlie's keen to follow in their footsteps.

DONNA, CHARLIE'S MUM: Obsessed isn't the word, he just lives and breathes it, always talking about it.

Charlie won't even let his parents shear without him!

CLINT, CHARLIE'S DAD: We're not allowed to shear during the week when he's at school now, so it looks like there will be more weekend shearing.

CHARLIE: I like doing all the farming and shearing.

Sheep shearing is a job that's been around in Australia for a really long time. Back in the 1800s, the wool industry was just getting started and sheep were being shorn with blade shears, kind of like garden clippers. But it was hard work! Then, in 1888, Australia became the first place in the world to shear a whole sheep using a machine! The technology got better and better and now most shearing is done using electric shears. Sheep are usually shorn once a year, and you might've seen stories about what happens if some kinds of sheep manage to escape shearing for a long time.

NEW ZEALAND FARMER: He couldn't see very well 'cause of the wool over his face so I just snuck up behind him and grabbed hold of him!

Sheep shearing has also become a sport, with competitions held all around the world testing how well or how fast a shearer can shear one!

When it comes to selling all that wool, Australia is still the biggest producer in the world. We export around 284,000 tonnes a year, which can be made into things like clothing, furniture and cosy blankets! So sheep shear is a really important job, but it's still not an

easy one. In recent years, farmers have struggled to find enough people willing to do it. Luckily, that's something shearing teachers reckon is starting to change, especially with the help of kids like Charlie.

FIONA, SHEARING TEACHER: Shearing seemed to be your last resort, but now it's been the career of choice for a lot of young people who like the physical aspect of it, the aspect that they can travel.

For now, Charlie's got to head back to school, but it won't be long 'til he's back in the shed doing what he loves best.

## Closer

And that's it for today! But there is heaps more stuff for you on our website including resources and class activities for this ep. Thanks for joining me, and I'll see you next week for more BTN.