

## **Australia receives reef report card; World's ugliest dog crowned; a sauce to rule them all; and we're warming up for Origin.**

Hello and welcome to Squiz Kids Today ... your fresh take on what's happening in the world around you.

I'm Christie Kijurina

It's Wednesday, June 26 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Australia receives reef report card; World's ugliest dog crowned; a sauce to rule them all; and we're warming up for Origin.

That's what's making news, kid's style...

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

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The Great Barrier Reef has managed to escape being labelled "in danger" this week, but the Australian Government has been given a serious warning to step up its game on climate targets.

The Great Barrier Reef is a massive coral reef that lies off the northeast coast of Australia. It is bigger than the Great Wall of China, and it's the only living thing that's visible from space because, that's right, coral is alive!

Since 1981, The Great Barrier Reef has been a World Heritage Site, meaning that it is super special, not only to Aussies, but to everyone, all over the globe, and it should be cared for.

It's home to 400 types of colourful corals and 1,500 species of fish. Plus, it's where the endangered dugong (also known as a sea cow) and the large green sea turtle live.

But there's a problem. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO for short) is like the global police for protecting wonders of the world - and it's been worried about the reef for a while. It says that soil and chemicals washing into the water, along with rising ocean temperatures, has caused coral bleaching. Coral

bleaching happens when the tiny algae living in the coral get stressed and start to die off, making the coral turn white. Recent tropical cyclones and hungry coral-eating starfish haven't helped either.

UNESCO has written the Aussie government a report card - which says it must stick to and improve its climate targets to keep this spectacular reef safe for generations to come.

## ***SPIN THE GLOBE***

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Each day, we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops and today, we've landed in California, in the United States, where the winner of this year's World's Ugliest Dog Contest has been announced.

Ah yes - one of our favourite contests of the year .. just like Alaska's fattest bear, which is also on as we speak. But back to ugly pooches .. The winner of this year's award-that-no-dog-ever-really-wants-to-win? An eight-year-old Pekinese pup named Wild Thang! This was Wild Thang's fifth entry into the contest that's been running for fifty years. After coming in second on three previous occasions, it was finally this pooch's time to shine.

As a puppy Wild Thang caught a virus that left his teeth unable to grow, so his tongue always hangs out of his mouth, and his right front paw is constantly paddling.

Despite these setbacks Wild Thang is a much loved member of his family and will no doubt be an awesome ambassador for this contest that aims to encourage people to adopt dogs from shelters rather than buy from breeders, and to celebrate the imperfections that make them special and unique.

Wild Thang, you make my heart sang!

## **FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD**

From ugly dogs to hot dogs. Or more specifically, a saucy topping for hot dogs. What's your favourite? Is it tomato? Maybe you're more of a barbecue fan? What about mayo? Sweet Chilli? Aioli? Worcestershire? The list goes on!

Or maybe you like to mix your sauces? If that's you, you're in good company. American food manufacturer Heinz has released a brand-new kitchen condiment called 'Every Sauce'. And as the name suggests, it's a blend of 14 different sauces from the Heinz pantry, including Pickle

Ketchup, Caramelised Onion Mayo and Smokey Baconnaise. Heinz calls it the “ultimate sauce to rule them all!”

But don't rush to the shops just yet, this awesome sauce is only being released in the UK, and they're only making one hundred very special bottles. So, for now, you'll have to keep creating your own sauce masterpieces at home. Just keep mixing!

## ***SPORT TIME***

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And finally today, to somewhere you'll find many a hot dog this evening: The MCG. Why? Because it's Game Two of the State of Origin, and New South Wales is hoping for a win to keep the three-game series alive after Queensland's big 38-10 win in Game One.

And, if the stats are anything to go by, they're in with a chance. This is only the sixth time the MCG has played host to the Origin competition and the Blues have won four of the last five games played there. So, New South Wales fans, there's hope!

And Queensland fans, don't worry—Reece Walsh is back! He had to sit out after a high tackle in Game One, but he's ready to bring his A-game tonight.

And don't forget to keep watching tomorrow night when the women's teams take the field in Townsville for Game Three of the Women's Origin Series, and it's a decider! The Sky Blues won the first match 22-10, but Queensland came back strong in Game Two, winning 11-10 with an awesome last-minute field goal.

It's going to be an epic showdown, so make sure you don't miss it!

## ***THE S'QUIZ***

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This is the part of the podcast where you get to test how well you've been listening ...

1. Which two endangered species did we mention that live on the Great Barrier Reef?
2. Name the dog that won this year's Ugliest Dog Contest
3. How many sauces is Heinz blending to make their new 'Every Sauce'.

## **SHOUT OUTS**

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It's June 26 ... Wayyy back in 1997, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, the first Harry Potter book, was published in London. Imagine a world without Harry Potter? No thank you.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today ... James from Mt Isa, Memphis from Oran Park, Marley and Naomi from Mt Gravatt, Declan from Bundaberg, Sum from Forest lake, Olivia from Vermont, Audrey from Appin, Lucinda from Fly Creek, Mae from Mangerton and Elliot from Mt Waverly.

Belated birthday shoutouts go to... Anna (Ah Na) from Warrawee, James from Gelong, Lucy from Wagga Wagga, Basil from Norwood, Jayden from Waterloo and Kylie from Richmond.

Classroom shoutouts today go to... class 5/6 Barty with Mrs Halse at Leura Public School, class 5/6 Marseille with Miss Liefting at Deniliquin South Public School, the Green Room with Mrs Grive at Harrington Public School, class 8s with Mr Lichfeild at Windsor High School and lastly prep class A with Mrs Marini at Glen Huntley Primary School and a belated birthday shoutout to you Mrs Marini too.

### **The S'Quiz Answers:**

1. Dugong or Sea Cow and the Large Green Sea Turtle
2. Wild Thang
3. 14

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or if you want a classroom shout out - drop us a line at [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) or fill out the form on our website.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today -We'll be back again tomorrow  
In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.