

**TikTok on the chopping block; TayTay albums breaks records everywhere; Elephants on the move at Taronga; and the world's funniest crab joke.**

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

I'm BC

It's Monday April 29

In Squiz Kids Today ... TikTok on the chopping block; TayTay albums breaks records everywhere; Elephants on the move at Taronga; and the world's funniest crab joke.

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

***THE LOWDOWN***

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And it's a big welcome back to kids n NSW, ACT, Sth Australia and Tassie as you join the rest of the country back at school.

So much has happened since you were gone - but one big story getting lots of attention last week and over the weekend was the announcement by the US government that it plans to ban TikTok.

So why would a government as big as the United States be worried about a little social media platform full of videos of people dancing and doing glow-ups and make-up tutorials and funny cat and dog videos? Because US politicians are worried that the Chinese company that owns TikTok could be forced to hand over user data to the Chinese government. Something both the Chinese company ByteDance and the Chinese government have denied.

You see: when you sign up to these social media apps, you agree that the company that runs them can keep track of everything you do and see online. We all leave digital footprints online whenever we go on the internet - whether it's to watch YouTube or play Roblox or flick through TikTok. And those footprints can reveal a lot of private stuff about us .. stuff that sometimes we wouldn't want to share with the rest of the world. And the US government is worried that if that information fell into the wrong hands, it wouldn't be good for its people or its country.

TikTok is fighting the proposed ban - which could take years to happen if it happens at all. But it's already got law makers here in Australia wondering if they need to do the same thing. Watch this space ...

## **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 the United Kingdom - where a crab joke competition has uncovered some of the best dad jokes I've ever heard.

The seaside town of Margate is home to a Crab Museum - and this week they staged the first ever World's Funniest Crab Joke Competition to mark International Crab Day.

The local primary school kids sifted through 700 entries to help judge the winning jokes - a link to which I've stuck in today's episode notes.

So which crab-themed funny was the winner on the day?

"Why did the crab cross the road? It didn't. It used the sidewalk." (CANNED LAUGHTER)

Sidewalk .. crab ... geddit?

My favourite however is the joke that didn't place ... Why did the crab get bad grades? Because it was below C level. (CANNED LAUGHTER)

How good is that? I love a joke with a zinger of a punchline (DAD JOKE ALARM) .. ooops, there goes the Dad joke alarm ... couldn't help myself.

## **ANIMAL KINGDOM**

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It's the end of an era at Sydney's famous Taronga Zoo as a pair of elephants who have been living there for almost twenty years prepare to leave for a safari park in South Australia.

Star attractions 31-year-old Pak Boon, who weighs a whopping 3860kg, and 25-year-old Tang Mo will leave Taronga next year to join a larger elephant herd at a much bigger park with multiple swimming holes.

And where they're going will be quite the party. Also making the elephantine move to the safari park will be another female elephant from Auckland Zoo and a male and female from Perth Zoo - making an instant elephant herd.

It will be the end of the elephant-keeping at Taronga - which has had an elephant on site since waaay back in 1916. A rhino and some water buffalo will move into the elephant enclosure.

Hmmm ... when an elephant moves house, I wonder if it packs its own trunk?

(DAD JOKE ALARM) .. awww, come on ... it was asking for it.

## **POP CULTURE CORNER**

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So here's the least surprising piece of news to happen last week ... Taylor Swift's new album release *The Tortured Poet's Department*, has broken all kinds of streaming records and shot straight to the top of the UK, US and Australian music charts.

What's a music chart? It's a record of how many people have bought or streamed an artist's music.

And in the case of Tay Tay .. it's a whole helluva lot.

In her homeland of the United States - the album racked up 799 million streams in its first week of release ... easily beating the previous record holder Drake.

In the United Kingdom, another massive music market for English speaking and singing artists, the *Tortured Poets Department* became the biggest selling album in seven years .. pipped only at the post by home grown singer, Ed Sheeran.

And here in Australia: both the album and its first single, *Fortnight* - with Post Malone - shot straight to the top of the charts, coming in at number one a week after release. Meaning she's now had more number one albums in Australia than even Madonna.

What do you mean you've never heard of Madonna? Ask your parents. Or teacher. Or maybe your grandparents. Gosh I feel old right now.

### **CHALMERS Q+A (from end of pod)**

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A little bit of new school term housekeeping - now that you're all back in the classroom.

Remember when I asked you to send in questions for a Squiz Kids Q+A with Treasurer Jim Chalmers? Well loads of you did - and we're excited to say that the podcast will be dropping next Tuesday - as the Treasurer prepares to deliver the Federal Budget. What's his favourite music? Why are his toenails painted? And is it nerve wracking making decisions on how to spend the country's money? All will be revealed. Keep your ears peeled for the special Q+A in this channel next Tuesday.

### ***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 social media platform is facing a ban in the United States?
2. Which Australian state are two elephants from Taronga Zoo moving to?
3. The World's Funniest Crab Joke Competition has been held in which country?

## **SHOUT OUTS**

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It's April 29th ... today is International Dance Day ... a day to celebrate how amazing dancing is for our physical and mental health - as well as being a whole lot of fun.

It's also a special day for the following Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Joshua from Castle Hill, Isabella from Yass, Chloe from Nightcliff, Elliot from Seaford, Luca from Yandina, Lukas from Leura, Marcus from Artarman, Ollie from Lockleys, Zara from Brisbane and Aubrey and James from Forest Lake.

Belated shout outs go to... Danielle from Alice Springs, Bianca from Springvale and Alex from Pennant Hills.

\*Welcome back to schools in NSW, ACT, SA, TAS

Classroom shoutouts today go to... Class S3I at King Street Public School in Singleton, Ms Georges class at Marion Catholic Primary School in Horsley Park, class M3 with Mrs Adams at Nuriootpa Primary School, class 6B with Mrs Crozier at Mater Dei Catholic Primary School in Wagga Wagga, class 3/4P with Miss Page at Hornsby North Public School, class 3 Red with Miss Coombes at the Queenwood School in Mosman, Stage 3 with Mr Tranter at Mortlake Public School in Concord and the year 5 class with Mr Edwards at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Crookwell.

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

1. TikTok
2. South Australia
3. United Kingdom

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. Teachers: there's a form there too for you to fill out the birthdays of every kid in your class.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today - we'll be back again tomorrow with a special Squiz The World on India ... as that country goes to the polls and elections are held there, we take a virtual excursion to the one of the world's oldest civilizations, the world's biggest democracy and the world's second largest population after China.

In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.