

## **Golden day for Australia; Thunderbirds win Super Netball; Good news for sea otters; and the World Dog Surfing Championships.**

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

I'm Bryce Corbett

It's Monday, Aug 5 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Golden day for Australia; Thunderbirds win Super Netball; Good news for sea otters; and the World Dog Surfing Championships.

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

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

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Now that you've been update on what's happened in Paris overnight - it would be utter Squiz Kids madness if we didn't dwell for a moment on what a whopping weekend it's been for Australia at the Olympics.

Starting with Friday night in the French capital where Australia enjoyed its most successful day at the Games, winning not one but three gold medals.

The remarkable Saya Sakakibara brought it home for Australia in the women's BMX - and I've stuck a link to video of her gold-medal winning effort in today's episode notes.

Backstroke sensation Kaylee McKeown achieved the incredible feat of an Olympic 'double double' ... winning gold in the 200m backstroke, adding to the gold she had already won in the 400m backstroke - repeating the same remarkable gold-medal winning feat she achieved in Tokyo three years ago.

And Cam McEvoy blitzed the pool in the blink-and-you'll-miss it mens' 50m freestyle, winning the gold medal that has eluded him since his first Olympics in London back in 2012. An especially special win for the 30 year old - who used his university maths skills to devise a whole new way of training for the big event.

Three gold medals in just 77 minutes .. meaning the nation woke with a smile on its face Saturday.

Meanwhile: over on the athletics track, the tiny nation of St Lucia in the Caribbean - population 180,000 - was celebrating after its sprint star Julien Alfred won the womens' 100 metre sprint - beating the American favourite, Sha'Carri Richardson. It's the first gold medal the tiny nation has ever won ..

But it was the displays of sportsmanship that also shone through over the weekend. The image of Aussie swim start Ariarne Titmus hugging and holding aloft the arm of her American rival Katie Ledecky who had just beaten her to gold in the 800m freestyle - and the image of Laotian sprinter Silina Pha Aphay - who finished her race only to run back and help a South Sudanese runner who had fallen mid-sprint.

True champions the lot of 'em.

## ***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 USA - where two doggy stories have caught our eye.

The first being the World Dog Surfing Championships - which were held yesterday morning on Linda Mar Beach in Pacifica. It's a competition held every year as owners whack their pooches on a surfboard and see which one can ride the longest wave to shore. I've stuck a link to video of this year's event in the episode notes. Owners reckon the dogs love it ... but looking at their little pup faces, I'm not so sure ..

One pooch that is loving life at the moment, however, is also in California - and Hollywood to be exact - is Britain's ugliest dog, Peg.

And that's because Peg is currently starring in the Hollywood blockbuster, Deadpool & Wolverine. And last week, she was on the red carpet with movie stars Hugh Jackman and Ryan Reynolds at the movie's New York premiere. And yes - there's a link to Peg in today's episode notes. And remember friends, it's what's on the inside that makes you beautiful.

[CCC] Oh, there goes the classroom companion clarion, alerting us to the fact that today's classroom companion worksheets are linked to this news story. Kids, if you want to take a look at Peg and practice using descriptive synonyms and antonyms, ask your teacher to go to the Squiz Kids website and open up today's classroom companion worksheets. Who knew learning could be fun!?

## ***SPORT TIME***

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I know, I know - we've had plenty of sport already with all the Olympics coverage. But seriously: how could we not pause for a second to congratulate the Adelaide Thunderbirds after winning the 2024 Super Netball competition on Saturday?

The Thunderbirds pulled off a thrilling win against the Melbourne Vixens in a grand final classic in front of almost 10,000 fans, winning by a narrow 59-57 - meaning they've now won back-to-back titles for the first time in 25 years.

Sharp-shooting goal shooter Romelda Aiken-George starred for the Thunderbirds scoring 42 goals and earning player of the match. Go you good things!

## ***ANIMAL KINGDOM***

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And it's good news for one of the cutest critters in the ocean, with reports this weekend that sea otter numbers in the wild have rebounded after the species hovered close to the brink of extinction.

If you've ever seen sea otters before, you'll know how ludicrously adorable they are. The float on their backs in the ocean, eating with their tiny paws, linking paws when they sleep so they don't float away from one another.

They also perform a really important function helping to keep kelp forests healthy. A kelp forest is an underwater forest of marine plants - which themselves play a really

important role in absorbing carbon from the atmosphere, protecting coastlines and providing a home for other marine life. And yes, of course, there's a link to a photo essay in today's episode notes. You're very welcome ...

## ***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 team won this year's Super Netball competition?
2. What sort of underwater forests do sea otters help preserve?
3. What movie does Britain's Ugliest Dog star in?

## ***SHOUT OUTS***

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It's Monday, Aug 5 .. today is International Traffic Light Day ... celebrating the importance of ... traffic lights. Ok. Now I've heard everything ...

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Eden from Cannon Hill, Owen from Woongarra, August from Leura, Maaya and Marko from Kellyville, Alannah from Wagga Wagga, Django from Warrawee Valley, Alyssa from St Ives, Tessa from Armidale, Steele from Bundaberg, Liam from Forest Lake, Jimmy from Pacific Pines, twins Laela and Alannah from Mt Crosby, Ida from Newtown and Murray from Tallarook.

Belated shoutouts go to... Archer from Paddington, Indie from Bassendean and Grace from Moree.

Today's classroom shoutouts go to... class LA10 and Mr Payne at Atwell Primary School, class 5 Green with Ms O'Brien at Assisi Catholic College in Upper Coomera, year 1 and 2 with Mrs Hentschke at Stirling East Primary School, class 3/4W with Mrs Worthington at Berwick Lodge Primary School in Berwick and class 5F with Mrs Crabb at Townsville State School.

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

1. Adelaide Thunderbirds
2. Kelp forests
3. Deadpool and Wolverine

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 with a special Olympics-themed episode of Squiz The World - as we hop into the Squiz Kids Super-Fast, Super Sonic Jetliner and pay a visit to Greece - the country where the Olympics first began.

And don't forget, speaking of the Games, every morning of the Olympics we'll be bringing you the Squiz Kids Olympic Sprint — a quick catch up on what's been happening in Paris while you've been asleep.

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