

Wild weather and silly shirts at APEC; Robo-sharks in China; a crazy sky-high world record; and Lucy the world's oldest human fossil.

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

I'm Bryce Cprbett,

It's Monday, November 18 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Wild weather and silly shirts at APEC; Robo-sharks in China; a crazy sky-high world record; and Lucy the world's oldest human fossil.

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

THE LOWDOWN

Was the weather a bit wild at your place this weekend? Were you smashed by soaking downpours in Brissie, or bushfires in Victoria or wild storms in Melbourne? Perhaps you remember the big floods in Spain earlier this month - or the big hurricane that swept through America a couple of months ago. It's been a focus of world leaders attention this weekend in a far away country called Peru .. yes, that's right, the same Peru that Paddington Bear comes from. A beautiful, mountainous country on the continent of South America - where this weekend, some 21 world leaders, including our own Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, the US President Joe Biden - yes, he's still President, until Donald Trump takes over in January - the UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Chinese President, Xi Jinping. The meeting is called APEC - which stands for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation - and brings together country leaders to talk about trade and working together on things like climate change.

At the end of their big meeting, all of the leaders stood on stage for a group photo, in what has become something of an APEC tradition - and it's tradition to always wear a piece of clothing from the host country. This time it was a Peruvian woollen shawls draped around their necks - which is a little easier for world leaders to carry off than the

colourful shirts, dresses, hats and even Drizabones they've been forced to wear at previous APECs - I've stuck a link in today's episode notes to a silly shirts photo gallery.

SPIN THE GLOBE

Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops. And today we've landed in Ethiopia - a country in north-eastern Africa - where birthday celebrations are taking place for the world's oldest human fossil.

Her name is Lucy - and she's a skeleton that was discovered this week fifty years ago in fossil rich natural basin in Ethiopia. And the reason she's famous is because at just over 3.2 million years old, Lucy is believed by scientists to provide evidence that human ancestors were walking upright much earlier than previously thought.

And on the subject of Ethiopia - make sure you tune in to our Squiz The World episode tomorrow as we hop aboard the Squiz Kids Super Fast Supersonic Jet Liner to pay a visit to Ethiopia and learn all about this fascinating part of the world. STW episodes drop every fortnight on this channel. I know right, how good?

ANIMAL KINGDOM

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And so to China we go - where an aquarium in the city of Shenzhen is making headlines after putting a robotic whale shark on display.

Have you ever been to an aquarium and seen a whale shark swimming around? They're majestic creatures that seem to float lazily through the water.

But instead of a live whale shark, this aquarium has put a robotic one in the tank for people to see - with conservationists saying it's a good way for people to be reminded that sometimes animals in captivity don't live as long as those in the wild. I've stuck a video of the robo whale shark in today's episode notes. It's pretty impressive.

And while some people are happy that the robo shark has saved a real life one from being in a tank, others are complaining that it's not fair to charge people money to come and see fake fish at an aquarium.

CCC

A-ha - there's the CCC ... letting us know that Squiz Kids very own Teacher Christie has created an excellent classroom worksheet tied to this story in the podcast.

It's your turn to write a review about the whale shark aquarium, plus there's a great exercise on direct and indirect speech related to this next story ...

BIGGEST, FURTHEST, LONGEST

There are certain Guinness World Records I would be prepared to have a crack at ... like, the record for eating the most ice cream or the record for watching the most TV - but the one that was broken recently by a pair of German slack line walkers is most certainly not for me.

Slack line walking is kind of like tight rope walking - but on a rope - or line - that is slack. It's super hard to do and requires incredible balance and skill. It's even harder to do when you're 2 and a half kilometres above Earth, on a slack line that is looped between two hot air balloons. Madness. I've stuck a link to video of the stunt in today's episode notes. Suffice it to say: do not try this at home ..

And don't forget to check out the free classroom worksheet Teacher Christie has created. Teachers - for this free resource and a database of other free classroom resource, simply sign up to receive Classroom Companions via squizkids.com.au.

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. Name the country in Africa where archeologists discovered a human fossil called Lucy?
2. In which South American country has a big meeting of world leaders just taken place?
3. Which famous animated bear - who loves a Marmalade sandwich - is also from the country of Peru?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Monday, November 18 ... today is World Toilet Day .. and that might sound like the start of a joke - but think about this: about 4.2 billion people in the world don't have access to the sorts of toilet facilities that we are lucky enough to have

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Daniel from Leura, Jessica and Elijah from Bundaberg, Kate and Max from Sydney, Xavier from Coogee, Georgie from South Yarra, Oscar from Rhodes, Kusum (pronounced Ka-soom) from Cannon Hill, Daisy from Middle Harbour, Lilie from Western Australia, Noah from Richmond Lowlands, Jethro from Whiterock, Alexandra from Lane Cove and Zarli listening over in Otewa, New Zealand and Shanley listening in Otorohanga, NZ.

Belated shout outs go to ... Louis from Picton, Patrick from Westbury, Murphy from Echuca and Kingy from Ascot Vale.

Classroom shoutouts go to... class 5/6B with Mt Bastille at South Hobart Primary School, class Stage 2 Red with Mr C at Darcy Road Public School in Wentworthville and Class 4 Teal with Mrs Mallia at Wilton Public School.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Ethiopia
2. Peru
3. Paddington

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 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 Squiz The World episode on Ethiopia.

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