

**Super Bowl and Swifties; Minecraft meets microscopes; a beaver building project;
and it's snakes in the rain.**

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 Monday, February 10

In Squiz Kids Today ... Super Bowl and Swifties; Minecraft meets microscopes; a beaver building project; and it's snakes in the rain.

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

THE LOWDOWN

All I can say is I'm glad that Bryce is not back til later in the week because his hair would be standing on end for this story.

Snakes are alive—and not just the delicious lollies, but quite literally! With warm weather and heavy rain drenching parts of Australia, snake sightings are skyrocketing, and so are snake bites. Queensland Ambulance officers recently treated six people for snake bites in just half a day!

Wildlife experts say some of the country's most venomous snakes—including coastal taipans, eastern browns, and northern death adders—are on the move. Even sea snakes are showing up in unexpected places!

And in Sydney's west, a backyard snake catcher had the shock of a lifetime—102 red-bellied black snakes were found wriggling in a mulch pile! This was possibly the biggest

suburban snake nest ever recorded! Thankfully, they were safely released into the wild. Far away from people. If you think you're brave enough, there's a link to a video in the episode notes.

So, what's going on!? Well, snakes are ectotherms—meaning they rely on the weather to warm up their bodies. With the hot weather and with floodwaters forcing them to find dry ground, they're turning up in places you might not expect.

If you see a snake, don't poke it, don't chase it, and definitely don't try to pick it up! It's just trying to get on with its day. Treat every snake as dangerous and call an adult. And if you think you've been bitten? Stay calm, stay still, and call for help.—because when it comes to snakes, the best plan is always safety first!

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 the Czech Republic, where a family of beavers has pulled off a construction miracle!

For seven years, officials struggled to get permission and funding to build dams to restore wetlands in Brdy Nature Park—an effort that was set to cost around \$2 million Australian dollars. But in just two days, the beavers got the job done for free—no paperwork required!

Beavers are expert builders, using their sharp teeth to gnaw through trees and branches to create sturdy dams. These dams help slow water flow, create wetlands, and provide a home for frogs, rare crayfish, fish, and birds. And Environmentalists say the beavers' work is just what was needed.

So, while humans deal with red tape, beavers just get to work—proving that when it comes to dam-building, they're un-beaver-lievably efficient!

POP CULTURE CORNER

Ever wondered what scientists do all day? Well, for the past 10 years, one team has been building a microscopic universe inside Minecraft, and it's next-level cool!

They've built nano-scale virtual worlds inside the game, allowing players to explore real, 3D versions of bacteria, yeast, and human cells—right down to their tiniest details. Using a VR headset, you can step inside a human cell, zoom through cytoplasm, and even take a roller coaster ride through a bacterium!

Not just for fun, CraftCells is a tool for researchers, students, and any curious minds, letting users turn cell parts on and off to see how they fit together. And they're working on a feature that lets players zap cancer cells like real doctors using laser treatments!

I've stuck a link to videos showing you how it all works in the episode notes. It's biology like never before.

SPORT TIME

While it's Monday here, in the USA it's Super Bowl Sunday—the biggest day in American sport! The Super Bowl is the grand final of the NFL (National Football League), a gridiron competition where teams battle it out all season for a shot at the championship. This year, the Kansas City Chiefs face the Philadelphia Eagles—a rematch of two years ago, when the Chiefs won 38-35. If they win again, they'll be the first team to take three titles in a row!

And of course, there's Taylor Swift! With her boyfriend, Chiefs star Travis Kelce, on the field, Taylor Bowl parties are trending—complete with themed snacks and rumours swirling that Travis Kelce might even propose!

Meanwhile, for Aussies, keep an eye out for Jordan Mailata—the former rugby league junior turned Eagles NFL star is chasing his first ever Super Bowl ring. And if you get hooked on the game, good news it was announced last week that an NFL game is coming to Australia in 2026

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. 102 of which species of venomous snake were discovered in a Sydney backyard?

2. Which type of cell can you take a rollercoaster ride through in Minecraft-CellCraft?
3. Which two teams are battling it out in this year's NFL grand final, the Super Bowl?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Monday, February 10... National Umbrella day. Personally, I've seen a little too much of my umbrella recently, but if it does start to sprinkle or even if it's super sunny... it will be coming out again today.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Nathaniel from Dubbo, Archie from Canberra, Charlie from Springfield and twins - Oliver and Oscar from Meadow Springs.

And a belated shout out goes to... Meira from Atwell.

Classroom shoutouts go to ... class 5/6 with Mrs Davey at St Patrick's Primary School, class 6C with Mrs Oliver and Mrs Smith from Echuca Primary School, class 6N with Mr Nuthall at Livingstone Primary School and a welcome to new listeners Ms Simpson's class at Livingstone Primary School.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Red-bellied black
2. Bacteria
3. Kansas City Chiefs and the Philadelphia Eagles

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or, if you're after 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 a Squiz the World where we'll be visiting a country where sometimes the sun doesn't set and other times it doesn't rise. We're paying a visit to Norway.

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