

Calls for a YouTube ban for kids; Selfie madness in Florence; do orcas have a beauty routine?; and Victoria's giant pear.

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 Wednesday June 25 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Calls for a YouTube ban for kids; Selfie madness in Florence; do orcas have a beauty routine?; and Victoria's giant pear.

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

THE LOWDOWN

YouTube may soon be banned for kids under the age of 16 as the Australian government works out the best way to keep you lot safe from the many harms lurking out there on the internet.

Australia's eSafety Commissioner - who is the person whose job it is to keep Aussies safe online - yesterday gave a speech in which she said she believed YouTube should be included in the list of apps and websites that the government should ban kids under 16 from accessing.

But don't freak out just yet ... there are still a lot of discussions to happen - as indeed there's a lot of work to be done to work out exactly how to check a kids' age to prevent them from using social media apps and visiting sites like YouTube.

It's all part of the Aussie government's attempts to keep kids safe when you're online.

The new rules are expected to be introduced in December .. but there's a lot of detail to be worked out yet - so watch this space ..

And you'll remember on Monday we told you how the situation in the Middle East had gotten suddenly more tense after the United States dropped bunker busting bombs on Iran? Well - there was a hint yesterday that it might all soon be over - with US President Donald Trump declaring the two countries at war - Israel and Iran - had agreed to a ceasefire. But the question at the time of recording this was: will the ceasefire hold?

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 Florence - a beautiful city in Italy - where a tourist visiting a famous museum has taken a selfie too far.

The Uffizi Gallery in Florence is home to some of the most famous and beautiful works of art in the world .. and attracts many thousands of tourists every year.

And because it's not enough any more to go to an art gallery and simply look at the art - we apparently have to photograph it too - or even better - get a selfie with it, one man has fallen backwards while posing for a selfie and ripped the canvas of a priceless painting.

Oh man ... seriously peeps. The memory is the best phone camera you'll ever have. And not every experience you have in life needs to be shared to social media. As Squiz -E the Newshound himself would say: Stop, Look, Enjoy ... and don't feel the need to make every moment a selfie ..

ANIMAL KINGDOM

Do orcas have elaborate, underwater beauty regimes? Or do they rub each other with seaweed to bond with each other?

That's the question marine scientists are asking after a pod of orcas was spotted in waters off western Canada lolling about together rubbing each other with kelp.

From an animal behaviour point of view, it's a big deal - and may be the first time orcas have been recorded using a tool. When animals use tools to perform basic functions -

like monkeys using rocks to break coconuts or bears using sticks to dig out honey - its a sign of intelligence in that species.

But the jury is out on whether the killer whales put seaweed in their mouths and drag it down the bodies of their buddies to exfoliate dead skin, to make them more streamlined and better able to swim fast - or as a sign of affection.

Clever killer whales!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

If you've ever had the joy of a family road trip - and with school holidays fast approaching - maybe some of you have a road trip coming up - you'll know among Australia's more quirky tourist attraction are our collection of big things.

The Big Banana in Coffs Harbour, the Big Pineapple on the Sunshine Coast, the big prawn in Ballina, the big potato in Robertson, and the big Lobster in Kingston South Australia are just a few that spring to mind.

Well - we can soon add to that list the Big Pear.

The town of Shepparton in Victoria may soon be home to a three-storey high pear - which people can clamber inside of and learn about the region and its proud history as a fruit producing hub.

Imagine the size of the pear crumble you could make from a three storey high pear! Mmmm Pear crumble ...

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. What are orcas using to rub one another's bellies in a display of tool use that has scientists excited?
2. In which country is the city of Florence, home to the Uffizi Gallery?
3. Shepparton in Victoria may soon be the home of what large, oversized fruit tourist attraction?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Wednesday June 25 ... the Glastonbury Festival kicks off today in England - a massive music festival where Olivia Rodrigo will headline ..

Plus it's a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today... Addisyn from Perth, Daniel from Paddington, Lara from Denham Court, Neva from Sydney, Hazel from Marrickville, Florence from Ashley and Erik listening over in Jaca in Spain.

Belated shoutout go to ... Orli from Mount Lawley.

Classroom shoutouts go to ... Class 6M with Mrs Morgan at Cherrybrook Public School, classes F7 and F8 with Mr Salviare and Miss Smith at Hammond Park Primary School, years 4/5/6 with Mrs Currie at Dunoon Public School and all the students with Ms Stack at Kettle Moraine Summer Academy in Wisconsin, USA - who are currently studying a unit about 'Australia.' Ooh - Ms Stack - if you're listening and want me to FaceTime into your classroom so your students can ask questions about Australia in real time - send us an email to squizkids@thesquiz.com.au.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Kelp or seaweed
2. Italy
3. The Big Pear

Otherwise ... 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

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