

Ancient ice in secret lab; Shark dancing in the Bahamas; how maths and soccer combine; and Pikachu takes on the Fantastic Four.

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 July 21 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Ancient ice in secret lab; Shark dancing in the Bahamas; how maths and soccer combine; and Pikachu takes on the Fantastic Four.

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

THE LOWDOWN

And a warm welcome back to a new school term and a new term's worth of Squiz Kids content it's great to be back in all of your ears .. and we start this new term with news out of England where scientists are about to defrost a block of ice more than 1.5 million years old to discover what our planet was like way back then ..

A cylinder of ice was drilled from the icy depths of an ice sheet in Antarctica months ago, and has been kept in a top secret, underground icy laboratory in England ready for scientists to slowly thaw it out.

Over a period of seven weeks, as it slowly turns from ice back into liquid, the scientists will examine the ancient dust, volcanic ash and even tiny specks of algae that are trapped inside it - messengers from our ancient planet - to understand what the world was like back then, and importantly, what the climate was like - and specifically, what wind patterns, sea levels and average temperatures were like on Earth a million years ago.

How amazing!

And in news closer to home - the state of Tasmania had an election over the weekend - which saw voters decide to pretty much not change anything at all. The final results have not been announced - but it seems as though a Tassie government will be reformed by the existing Premier Jeremy Rockliff .. but will be something called a 'hung parliament' - meaning neither side has won convincingly.

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 Bahamas where a new TV show has been developed - with a unique twist.

You've heard of Dancing With The Stars, right? Well - settle in this week for Dancing With The Sharks ...

Yes, you heard right. Scuba divers underwater, dancing with the apex predator of our oceans.

Hammerheads, tiger sharks, nerf sharks - they're all contestants in this trippy new TV show on the Discovery Channel during Shark Week this week ... and it turns out they all have rhythm.

Pirhouettes, spins, flips and turns are all performed in an underwater ballet with brave scuba divers .. i think I'll stick to dancing on the sand ... just call me Rio.

SPORT TIME

Maths and sport - they have nothing in common, right? Wrong. Because maths is involved in ALL aspects of life, including sport - as has been revealed this weekend.

You may have seen England and Sweden forced into a penalty shoot out in their Euro 2025 soccer quarter final shootout over the weekend.

Well elite players have now revealed how they use statistics to succeed when it comes to penalty shootouts.

Those taking the shots at goal spend weeks beforehand studying the habits of goal keepers - especially how many times they dive to their left to stop the ball and how many times they dive to their right.

And goalies used statistics too ... with photos emerging at the weekend of the Swedish goal keeper looking at a sticker on her water bottle with the names of the whole English team and statistic on whether they tend to kick to the left, the right or dead centre.

Now that is clever ...

POP CULTURE CORNER

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In a battle between The Fantastic Four and Pikachu - who do you reckon would win? Well - you're about to find out .. because this week marks an epic showdown between the two ..

Superhero family the Fantastic Four hit cinemas this week in their fourth big blockbuster film - starring Mr Fantastic, the Invisible Woman, the Human Torch and The Thing.

But it's Pokemon favourite Pikachu who will be commanding all the attention tomorrow when the Pokemon Presents live stream takes place, revealing everything coming up for the fictional creatures: from their trading card game to collaborations with big fashion houses.

A teaser photo dropped over the weekend of Pikachu at a set of DJ decks ... prompting speculation we could be in for a new rhythm game.

And for the mums, dads and possibly even grandparents listening - Madonna has a hotly anticipated re-release of her Ray of Light album coming up later this week ..

Get your dancing pants on people ...

Q+A CALL OUT

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Hands up if you've heard of a book called the Thirteen Storey Treehouse? Then you probably also know the 26, 39, 52 and all the way up to 169 Storey Treehouse books ... and you quite possibly know the author, Andy Griffiths.

Well Andy is great friend of Squiz Kids – and on the occasion of the impending release of his new book, You and Me & The Peanut Butter Beast - Andy has bravely agreed to take the Squiz Kids hotseat and take part in another Squiz Kids Q+A ... (CHEER).

This is your chance to ask ANYTHING you want of one of the most popular and successful kids' authors in Australia.

How and where does he write? How does he come up with his kooky ideas? Who was his favourite author when he was your age? What's his favourite ever storey in the treehouse? Does he have a pet? What does he do when he's not writing? Anything at all.

And here's the fun part ... The ten best questions will win a copy of Andy's new book .. AND the best question - as judged by Andy - will win a double pass to see Andy in person - like IRL - at his Opera House show in Sydney in September (CHEER)

So - don't just sit there - send in your questions already! Email them to squizkids@thesquiz.com.au - before Tues Aug 5 ...

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. To which frozen continent did scientists go to drill a cylinder of ancient ice to slowly melt and study?
2. Which two countries were involved in a penalty shoot out in the Euro 2025 semi-finals last week - in which a goalie used her maths to save goals?
3. Mr Fantastic, Invisible Woman, The Thing ... name the missing member of the Fantastic Four superhero family ..

SHOUT OUTS

It's Monday July 21 ... the bad news? School's back this week for NSW, Vic, Tassie, SA, WA, ACT - pretty much everywhere but Qld and NT - who went back last week .. booo ... the good news? It's National Lamington Day - so wrap your chops around one of those today.

Today is also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Florence from Samford, Emily from Artarmon, William from Raceview, Richie from Oran Park, Lenni and Phoebe from Eglington, Esther from Westbury, Frankie

from Moorooka, Holly from Vermont South, Norin from South Ripley, Ella from Perth and Ella from Fremantle.

And A LOT of you celebrated a birthday during the recent school holidays whilst the Squiz Kids team were having a well earned rest - and we don't want you to miss out on a shout out so we'll work our way through all of these shoutouts over the coming week... And I reckon we crack out the 'ol birthday reggae tune... hit it!

It's a happy *belated* birthday to... Joshua, Jinja and Oliver from Forest Lake, Rouxi and Sia from Vermont South, Ben from Paraburdoo, Macarthur from Lilydale, Gabe from Warwick, Faith from the Gold Coast, Hamish and Alessandro from Exeter, Vance from Dubbo, Elijah from Hammond Park, Jasmine from West Albury, Georgia from Parkinson, Laila and Aylee from Wagga Wagga, Paul from Yass, Bailey from Bradbury, Eden from Macksville, Frank from Whitfield and

Tora listening over in Hong Kong

Classroom shoutouts will resume next week.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Antarctica
2. Sweden and England
3. Human Torch

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 with a brand new Squiz The World episode in which we head to the tiny country of Luxembourg in Europe .. it's a cracker.

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

