

Bumper Holiday S'Quiz... Epic Explorers

Hello fabulous Squiz Kids listeners -

And welcome to the **Kids v Adults Bumper Holiday S'Quiz on Epic Explorers...**

I'm Christie Kijurina...

All through the year in the Squiz Kids daily podcast, we've been bringing you the big news stories of the day - run through our kid-friendly filter - to make sure you know all you need to know about the world around you. And at the end of every week - we've tested how much you retained in the Kids v Adults Weekly News S'Quiz ...

But now, because it's the holidays, we're presenting some Bumper Kids v Adults Quizzes .. on some fun topics - to see who's smarter: kids or adults ...

Here's how this quiz works: ten questions for kids about **Epic Explorers** - then ten questions for adults.

Whoever answers the most correct questions wins. Easy Peasy.

You ready? Let's do this ...

BREAK

Alright kids - here are your ten questions ...

1. Before humans ever blasted into space, scientists sent animals first to see if space travel was possible. In 1957, the Soviet Union launched Laika into orbit aboard a spacecraft called Sputnik 2.
What type of animal was Laika?
2. In the famous adventure story written by Jules Verne, *Around the World in* insert number here Days,, a calm and curious traveller named Phileas Fogg races the clock to circle the globe in how many days? Is it:
A) 30 days
B) 60 days
C) 80 days
3. Some explorers don't need ships or planes. Certain insects explore their world on foot and even work together in clever ways. Which tiny animals explore and map their territory using scent trails and have even been known to join together to form floating rafts during floods?
A) Spiders
B) Ants
C) Beetles
4. Before the First Fleet arrived in Australia, British navigator James Cook explored and mapped parts of Australia's east coast in 1770.
What was the name of Captain Cook's ship?
A) Endeavour
B) Discovery
C) Bounty
5. For centuries, traders travelled thousands of kilometres across deserts and mountains, carrying valuable goods between Asia and Europe. What famous trade route was named after the fancy fabric that was traded along it?

6. One of the world's most famous travellers helped introduce Europe to new foods, cultures, and ideas from Asia. This explorer shares his name with a call and response pool game you may have played... What is his name?
7. Explorers don't always rely on maps. One simple tool has helped people find their way for hundreds of years.
What navigation tool uses a magnetised needle to help explorers find their way?
And for an extra point, which direction does it point towards?
8. Australia has a long history of Antarctic exploration. One Australian explorer in particular became famous for surviving extreme cold, hunger, and isolation.
Which explorer led expeditions to Antarctica in the early 1900s? And I'll give you a hint, you can still visit the huts he left behind today, and there are exact replicas you can see in Hobart in Tasmania. Is it:
A) Ernest Shackleton
B) Douglas Mawson
C) Roald Amundsen
9. In 1937, aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart attempted to fly around the world, pushing the limits of what pilots believed was possible. What was the name of Amelia Earhart's aeroplane?
A) Sky Queen
B) Silver Wing
C) Electra
10. As part of NASA's Artemis Space Program, Australia is building its very first lunar rover to explore the Moon's surface. What is the name chosen by the Australian public for this Moon rover?
A) Roo-ver
B) Moon Mate
C) Star Hopper

Answers:

1. A dog
2. C) 80 days
3. B) Ants
4. A) Endeavour
5. The Silk Road
6. Marco Polo
7. The Compass... the needle points to the North magnetic pole
8. B) Douglas Mawson
9. C) Electra
10. A) Roo-ver

How did you go kids? How many did you get right out of ten? Reckon you're going to beat the adults? Yeah - I reckon so too..

Alright adults - now it's your turn ...fire up the grey matter - here we go ...

1. In April 1970, a crewed NASA mission suffered a catastrophic onboard explosion while travelling to the Moon. What followed became one of the most famous rescue efforts in space history, featuring the line "*Houston, we have a problem*" and some heroic problem-solving using duct tape and ingenuity. Which space mission was this?

2. When British navigator Matthew Flinders circumnavigated Australia in the early 1800s, he wasn't alone. His loyal companion became so famous that statues were later erected in his honour.

What type of animal accompanied Matthew Flinders on his voyages?

For a bonus point, what was the animal's name?

3. During the famous Lewis and Clark Expedition in North America (1804–1806), one woman played a vital role as a guide and interpreter, despite being just a teenager and caring for a baby along the journey. Who was this woman?

A) Pocahontas

B) Tookoolito

C) Sacagawea

4. Inspired by the paleoanthropologist **Louis Leakey**, one scientist revolutionised how humans understand primates by spending years observing them in the wild, particularly gorillas and chimpanzees.

Who was this groundbreaking primatologist? And I'll give you a hint, she sadly just died in October of last year.

5. In 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary became the first person confirmed to reach the summit of Mount Everest, alongside a Sherpa whose achievements were just as extraordinary. What was the name of the Sherpa who supported Hillary?

6. When **James Cook** arrived in the Pacific in 1769, his mission wasn't only about mapping new lands. Before sailing on to Australia, he stopped at Tahiti to observe a rare astronomical event. What celestial event was Captain Cook observing?

A) A solar eclipse

B) The transit of Venus

C) A passing comet

7. Centuries before Columbus, Norse explorers sailed west from Greenland and reached parts of North America, leaving archaeological evidence behind.

Which Viking explorer is credited with leading these voyages?

- A) Erik the Red
- B) Leif Erikson
- C) Ragnar Lothbrok

8. In classic cartoons and old adventure films, explorers are often shown wearing a light-coloured, brimmed helmet designed for hot climates and colonial expeditions.

What is this type of hat called?

9. Launched back in 2021, one space telescope was designed to look further back in time than ever before, observing the earliest galaxies and studying distant exoplanets in infrared light. What is the triple-barreled name of this telescope?

10. Exploration isn't just about land and sea. Scientists have spent centuries mapping the human body, identifying regions with very specific jobs. The following features of the body are named after the epic explorers who mapped them. Which organ of the body are the Circle of Willis and Wernicke's Area found in?

Answers:

- 1. Apollo 13
- 2. A cat named Trim
- 3. C) Sacagawea
- 4. Jane Goodall
- 5. Tenzing Norgay; and he later climbed the mountain around another 30 times
- 6. B) The transit of Venus
- 7. B) Leif Erikson
- 8. A Pith Helmet

9. James Webb Space Telescope

10. The Brain

How did you go adults? How many did you get right?

Did you beat the kids? Who took the crown this week?

OK, we've given your brain cells a work out ... now time for...

>> SHOUTOUTS

And it's a very happy birthday to these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and over the past week

Zuri from Brisbane, Bunty from Lagarno, Cylus from Bundaberg, William from Pakenham, Will from Strathkellar and Arabelle from Wentworthville.

Well - that's all we have time for.

I hope you're enjoying these quizzes.

If you're hanging out for something to do over the holidays, we have a whole back catalogue of them for you to listen to. And the best bit, they're all free!

Check it all out at squizkids.com.au ... or find it all in the Squiz Kids feed of your favourite podcasting app – and remember if you subscribe all this excellent audio content will magically appear.

And if you haven't done it yet, be sure to pop on over to the Squiz Kids website... We'd

love to know your hopes and dreams for yourself, your family and the planet for 2026. Make sure to get permission from a parent or carer before leaving us a voice message because we might use your voice memo in a podcast in the New Year.

For now, though - this is Christie Kijurina signing off - and reminding you to get out there and have a most excellent day ... over and out.