

## **ChatGPT in kids' safety lawsuit; world's first flying car; Scientists discover a green star; and how to collect elephant snot.**

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, October 19 -

In Squiz Kids today .... ChatGPT in kids' safety lawsuit; world's first flying car; Scientists discover a green star; and how to collect elephant snot.

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

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

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Artificial intelligence is going to be a part of your lives as you grow up. Some of you may have already heard of tools like Chat GPT and Claude ... AI tools whose potential to completely change the way we gather, create and interact with information ..

Way back in the mists of time: there was something called the industrial revolution - when factories started to appear and the way we made things went from small scale to massive scale. It completely changed the world back then ... and AI is predicted to do the same again in your lifetimes.

But along with all of the massive opportunity that AI presents - there are also challenges.

And according to at least 8 states in the USA, one of the most pressing challenges is the threat to kids' safety posed by some AI tools.

It's why those eight states - including Florida, Kansas, Iowa, Arizona and Montana - have launched a lawsuit against ChatGPT - claiming that it has harmed teens by serving them information that encourages them to hurt themselves, pretending to be their fake friend and creating algorithms whose only purposes is to keep them stuck to their screens.

Here in Australia - the Federal Government is looking to introduce laws - called Digital Duty of Care legislation - that they hope will prevent something similar from happening here.

It's an issue that is playing out around the world as countries try to work out how to harness all the good that will come from AI while eliminating as much as possible all the bad.

### ***SPIN THE GLOBE***

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Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops .. and today we've landed in Texas, in the United States .. where a flying car has been unveiled.

The world thought it was looking at an AI video on Friday when video was released of a sleek little sports car driving up a vertical surface, clinging to an upside down road 50 metres above the ground, before letting go, flipping over and landing safely back on the ground using jet thrusters.

I've stuck a video of it in today's show notes.

The manufacturers say it's what happens when you put the best rocket scientists in a room with the best car makers – but has emphasised there's still a lot of testing required before it's safe enough to go on sale.

Flying cars ... no longer just something you see in Star Wars movies ..

### ***SPACED OUT***

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And off into deep space we go - many, many light years from Earth - for this next story ... as scientists report discovering the first ever green star.

So apparently way out there in the inky depths of outer space, there are what's called white dwarfs ... white dwarf is the name astronomers give to the remnants of stars, just like our Sun, that have died and stop punching out massive amounts of solar energy ..

Mostly, these white dwarves appear ... well ... white. Very occasionally, blue or orange.

But astronomers have stumbled upon one that glows a greenish colour - and they think the colour depends on the combination of the helium that forms the atmosphere of a white dwarf- and whatever other elements it has come into contact with.

The green star appears to have interacted with sodium, lithium and calcium to give it's ghoulish hue ..

Hue - H-U-E - is a fancy word for colour ..

How far away from us is this green star? About 65 light years. That's sixty five times the distance a beam of light can travel across the universe in a year. Or to put it more simply, 65 times 9.46 trillion kilometres away – which is such a big number I need to go and have a lie down.

## ***WEIRD SCIENCE***

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Back here on Earth and a whole lot closer to home - there;s a science experiment underway that requires zoo keepers to collect as much elephant snot as they can.

The Werribee Open Range Zoo south of Melbourne is helping to develop a vaccine to protect elephant calves from a nasty disease that affects their lungs.

Baby elephants, like baby cows and baby whales, are called calves.

Zookeepers need to regularly collect elephant snot to perform the tests. Imagine getting an elephant to sneeze! And then collecting what comes out!

They do it by using a large syringe to pump a salty water solution down the elephant's trunk, training them to lift their trunk to let it all dribble down the back of their nasal passage, and then getting them to snort it all back out into a plastic bag.

I would put a link in the show notes to photos of a bag full of elephant snot - but some of you will still be eating breakfast ..

## ***Q+A CALL OUT***

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Calling all Squiz Kids in NSW ... and any outside of it, for that matter.

Here's your chance to play a role in how your state is run ... as we hurtle ever closer to a very special Squiz Kids Q+A with NSW Premier Chris Minns ...

It's the podcast where you - the kids - get to ask the questions.

Premier Minns has bravely agreed to take the Q+A hotseat – which is your chance to show him just how smart kids are - and hurl some curly questions at him ..

What's with the plan to ban on screens in NSW classrooms? Why doesn't he want kids on social media? What does a Premier actually do, anyway? Why is he a Canterbury Bulldogs fan? And does he really eat cereal at night after every meal?

Send in a single question, get together as a class and send in a bunch of questions - just be sure to send them quicksticks by emailing [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) – because the cut off date is the end of this week ...

And as a special treat: every Squiz Kids listener or class that sends in a question will go into the draw to get a personalised visit from me .. so don't just sit there get involved already!

## **THE S'QUIZ**

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

1. Starting with H - what is the fancy, three-letter word for colour that I mentioned in the story about the green star?
2. Name the popular AI tool that is the subject of a lawsuit in the United States?
3. What are zookeepers collecting from elephant's trunks to help them develop a vaccine?

## **SHOUT OUTS**

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It's Monday, October 19 – today marks the start of the great Aussie Bird Count - where we're all encouraged to go out into our backyards or the local park or the school playground and record what sort of birds you see .. I've stuck a link to the app and website in today's show notes ..

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Austin from Pakenham, Chloe from West Albury, Will from Trinity Beach, Nikolai from Vermont South, Elsa K from Belmont, Loz from Mosman and Stephen from Goonellabah.

Belated shoutouts go to ... Rosie from Temora, Kayla from Kurri Kurri and Yuma and Momo from Ballarat.

Classroom shoutouts go to... class 5W with Mrs Korsman and 5B with Mrs K both from Holy Spirit Primary School in Kurri Kurri, class 6NW with Miss Baker at Wilsonton State School in Toowoomba and class 3T at Trafalgar Primary School and a very happy birthday to their teacher Mrs Tomzyk (pron Tom-chick).

**The S'Quiz Answers:**

1. Hue
2. Chat GPT
3. Snot

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you'd like a shoutout, or if you want a classroom shoutout, or parents, if you'd like to shout out a class or a wonderful teacher... drop us a line at [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) or fill out the form on our website.

And finally: if you love Squiz Kids, we'd love you do us a favour and hit follow on Apple Podcasts or Spotify or wherever you're listening to us. And while you're there, why not share this episode with someone you think would enjoy it too? The only way we can continue to do what we do is by growing and in order to grow, we need your support -

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today - we'll be back again tomorrow as we hop into the Squiz Kids superfast supersonic jetliner and pay a virtual visit to the fascinating country of Nigeria ... a country where powerful queens helped shape history, movie-makers work in one of the world's biggest film industries, and preparing a meal can give your muscles a workout!

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