

What's happening in the news this week?



Courtesy: Virgin Galactic/Zuma Wire/Shutterstock

Let's have a look at this week's poster!

19th - 25th June 2023



How has travel changed our lives?

Courtesy Virgin Galactic/Zuma Wire/Shutterstock



Let's look at this week's story

Within the next ten years, people may be able to travel between London and Sydney in just two hours by journeying through space on a sub-orbital flight. The current length of a traditional flight between London, UK, and Sydney, Australia, is at least 20-22 hours and usually entails a stop-off to refuel along the way. A sub-orbital flight involves launching a spacecraft to an altitude above the Kármán line (the boundary of space).



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).

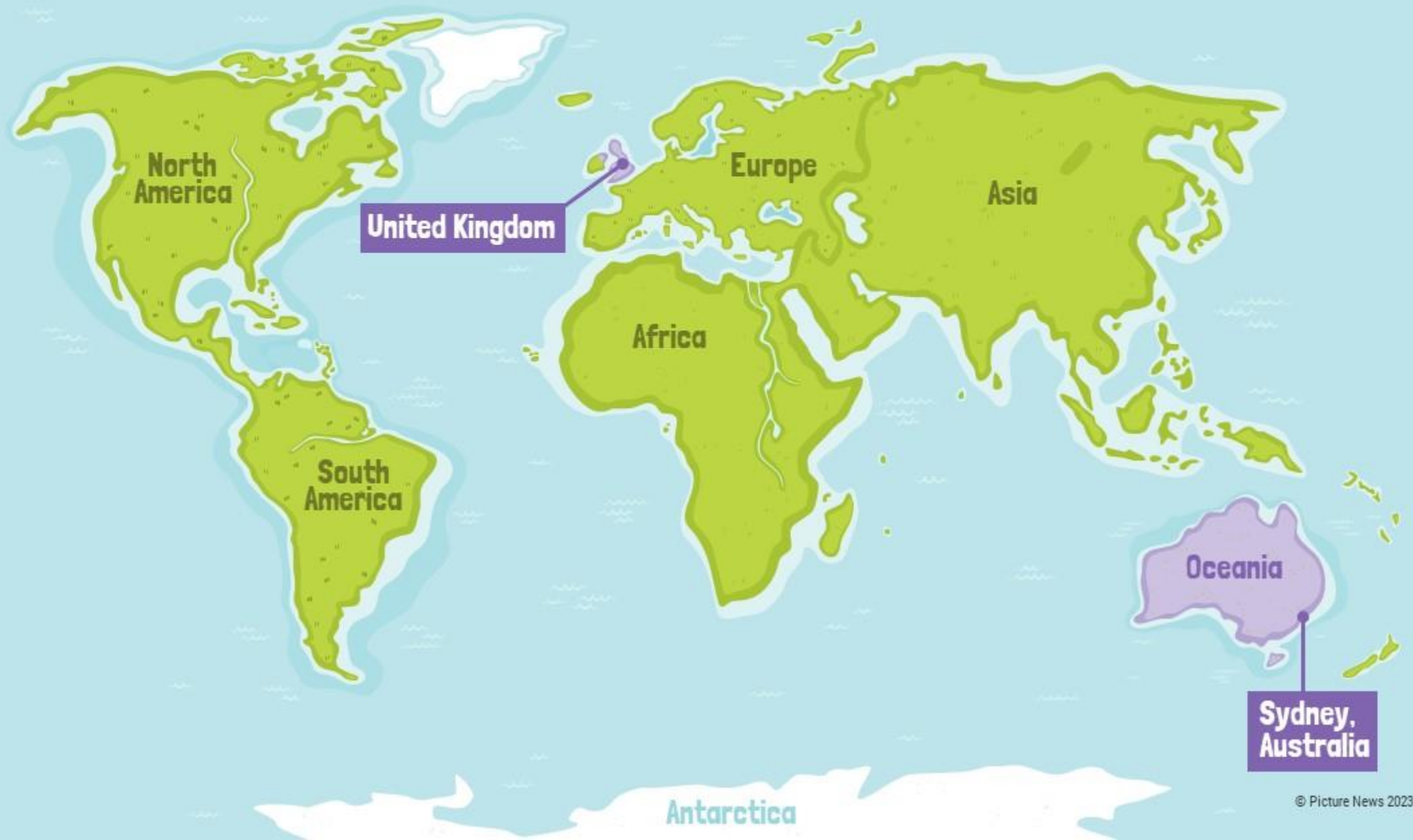


How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified

This week's story looks at events related to ...





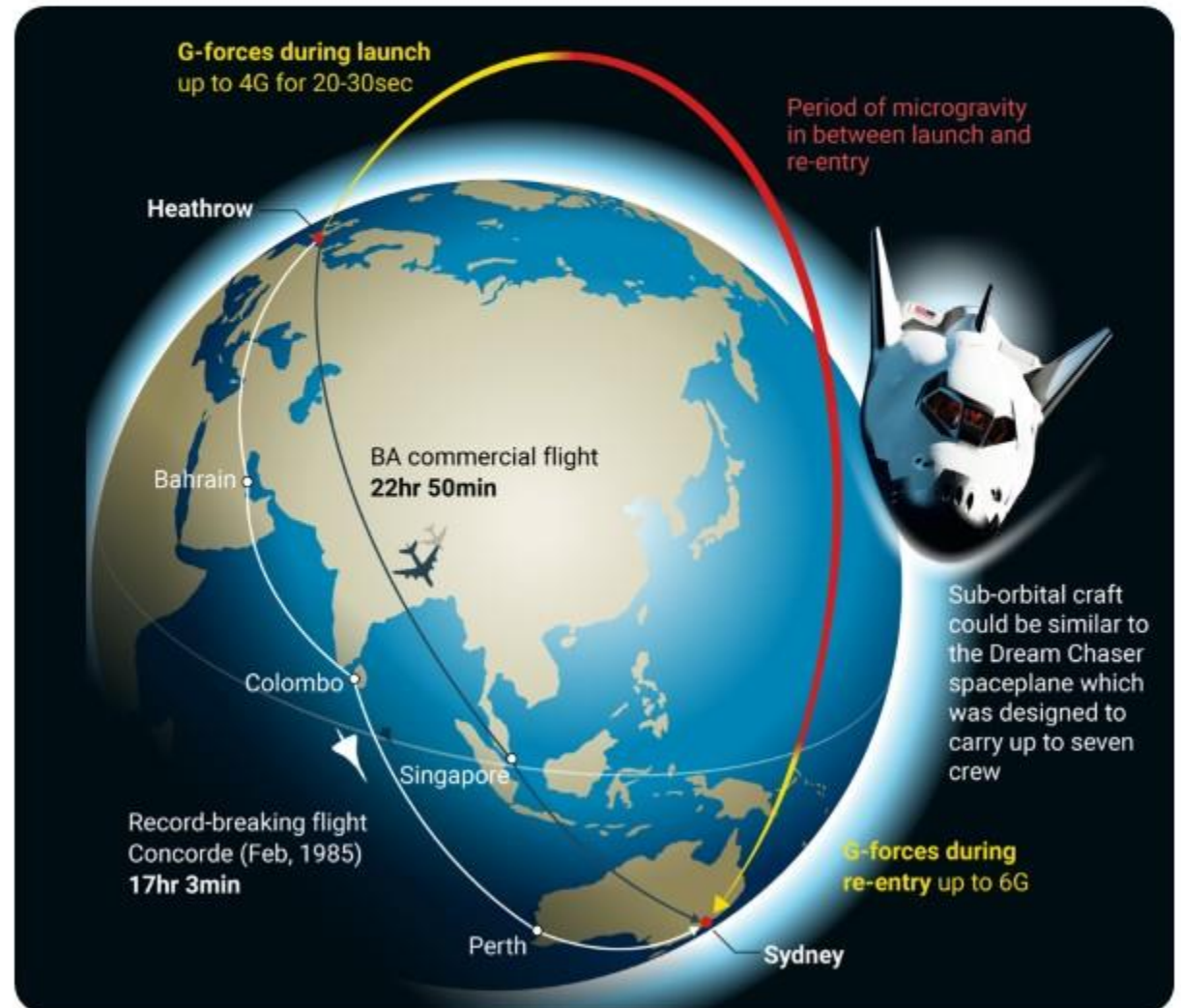
Read through the information below about the new technology allowing faster travel across the world.

What would a sun-orbital flight be like?

Space flight, as a form of travel, has been accessible for a small number of very wealthy people in the past, but a new plan could see travellers leaving the Earth to travel from London to Sydney in two hours. However, it may not be a comfortable journey.

Research by the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) suggests people will be able to make the journey this way, although making it a possibility could be tricky. The main issue is ensuring the safety and comfort of passengers, who will be exposed to very high G-force during the flight (this is the measurement of force as something is speeding up or down). It can make people feel quite uncomfortable, similar to being on a very, very fast rollercoaster!

Right: London to Sydney in 2 hours, 10,573 miles **Source:** Sierra Space



Do you imagine you would like to travel on a sub-orbital craft?



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about how air travel has changed over time.

In 1783, the Montgolfier brothers achieved the first successful manned flight ever. It was by hot air balloon, which flew over five miles.



Ascent of the first hot air (Montgolfier) Balloon.

The very first planes were not designed to carry passengers but airships were! In the 1920s and 1930s, they became very popular. They could carry between 24 and 50 passengers. However, only rich people could afford to fly.



The R34 was a naval airship and the first to fly across the Atlantic Ocean from Britain to the US in 1919.



A naval sea plane in 1927 near Washington DC.

The first motor powered aeroplane was invented in 1903 by brothers, Orville and Wilbur Wright. The first flight only lasted 12 seconds. The aeroplane reached nearly 7mph, flying 37 metres in the air.

In 1927, the first solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean took place.



Concorde at a museum in Germany.

A modern commercial aeroplane.

In the 1950s and 60s, flying in an aeroplane became more common, especially as more people went abroad on holiday. Early jet engines could carry up to 60 passengers and travel over 300mph.

In 1969, Concorde, a supersonic plane, took its first flight. It could travel 1,354 mph!

Many people can afford to fly now. UK Civil Aviation Authority reported that UK airports handled over 224 million passengers in 2022.

Would you like to travel in any of these aircrafts? Why?



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about how people travelled to Australia before planes.

In the 1700s, people travelling to Australia often faced a very long and dangerous journey. They would sail in ships, making stops in places like Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town. It would take around 8 months to arrive in Sydney.

In the 1800s, sailing ships improved. The clipper ship became the best in sailing ship technology, with its streamlined hull and huge areas of sail designed to catch the slightest of breeze. Towards the end of the century, it was possible to make the journey in around two months if the weather conditions were good.

By the 1850s, travel to Australia by auxiliary steamer was an option – a combination of steam and sail.

Pictured right: A clipper sailing ship.



By the early 1900s, steamships were used to journey to Australia. They offered more reliable travelling times and comfort for passengers.

As these ships no longer relied on wind to assist them, the route could be changed. An increasing number of steamers made the journey via the Suez Canal, which opened in 1869.

By the mid-1900s, ocean liners were the primary mode of travel to Australia with steam or diesel engines.

Pictured left: A steam ship



Would you ever choose to travel for 8 months? Why?



How has travel changed our lives?

Courtesy: Virgin Galactic/Zuma Wire/Shutterstock

Reflection



Travel has transformed the way we live our lives, allowing us to meet others, try different food and visit new places all over the world. As technology advances, the ways and means to travel can become quicker and easier.





Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Having access to travel can help us learn more about people living in our world. Life is not the same for everyone and we should respect that.

Protected Characteristics



Where and how people choose to live may affect the modes of transport they use.

We should never be treated unfairly because of how we choose to live.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



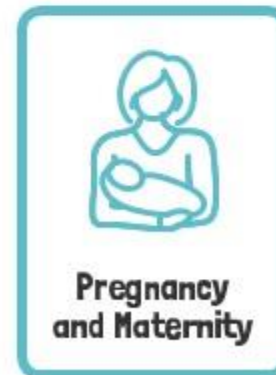
Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



If a child lives in a different country than their parents, governments must let the child and parents travel so that they can stay in contact and be together.



Useful vocabulary



Altitude

Height above sea level.

A sub-orbital flight involves launching a spacecraft to an **altitude** above the Kármán line (the boundary of space).

Commercial

Making or intended to make a profit.

BA **commercial** flight 22hr 50min.

Microgravity

Very weak gravity, especially in a spacecraft orbiting the earth.

Period of **microgravity** in between launch and re-entry.

Sub-orbital

Having a flight path that is less than one complete orbit of the earth.

Do you imagine you would like to travel on a **sub-orbital** craft?

Traditional

Having existed for a long time without changing.

The current length of a **traditional** flight between London, UK, and Sydney, Australia, is at least 20-22 hours.

Transformed

Changed or converted.

Travel has **transformed** the way we live our lives.

Can you use them in your writing this week?



How has travel changed our lives?

Within the next ten years, people may be able to travel between London and Sydney in just two hours by journeying through space on a sub-orbital flight. The current length of a traditional flight between London, UK, and Sydney, Australia, is at least 20-22 hours and usually entails a stop-off to refuel along the way. A sub-orbital flight involves launching a spacecraft to an altitude above the Kármán line (the boundary of space).



- Look at this week's poster image and make a prediction as to what you think it is and what the news story could be about.
- Read through the information found on the assembly resource about the new technology allowing faster travel across the world. Do you imagine you would like to travel on a sub-orbital craft?
- Watch this week's useful video, where two astronauts from Virgin Galactic talk about their experience of sub-orbital travel. What do you take to be their best and hardest parts of the experience?
- Think about travel. What are some of the ways people and goods travel? How have these changed over time?
- What impact do you believe faster travel has on the world? E.g. getting food and resources quicker, being able to see friends and family more often. Can you think of any downsides of or negative aspects to faster travel? Consider things like the impact on the environment and cost.

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KS1 focus

How has air travel changed over time?



- Write 'air travel' on the board. What do you think air travel is? Can you make a list of different modes of transport people might use to travel through the air?
- Using your list, which mode of transport to travel through the air do you think was invented first? Which do you think has been invented more recently? Can you place them in order?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some information about how air travel has changed over time. Would you like to travel in any of these aircrafts? Why?
- Think about your own experiences of travel. Have you ever been on holiday or had a day out? What mode of transport did you use? Why? How do you think air travel has changed how we holiday now, compared with the past?
- People who travel further or go on holiday abroad often travel in an aeroplane. Discuss some of the benefits of travelling this way e.g., can go over the sea, it is fast. Can you think of any other modes of transport people might use to travel abroad? How do you think people travelled abroad before aeroplanes were invented?
- Have you ever travelled through the air? What did you travel in? Did you enjoy it? If not, would you like to?
- Different aircrafts might be more suitable for different purposes. Can you think of a time when a helicopter would be the best aircraft to use? Why might someone prefer to travel in a hot air balloon?

Reflection

Air travel has changed over time and now more people are able to use it to travel abroad. It is likely it will continue to develop in the future.



KS2 focus

How did people travel to Australia before planes?



- Discuss some of the places you might travel to such as school, your nearest city, where other family members live. What distance do you travel? How long does it take?
- Look at a map of the world. Locate the UK and Australia. What do you think is the distance between the two?
- The distance is around 9,500 miles depending on exactly where you are travelling from and to. How do you think travelling this distance might compare with some of the distances you travel?
- Discuss some of the modes of transport you could use to travel to Australia. How do you think people made the journey before aeroplanes were used?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about how people travelled to Australia before planes. Would you ever choose to travel for 8 months? Why?
- The journey was dangerous. Discuss some of the dangers people may have faced travelling to Australia in sailing ships e.g., unpredictable seas, cramped living conditions, food shortages, disease.
- In 2012, British Indian adventurer, Arjun Singh Bhogal, set off from Cardiff, Wales and walked to Cardiff in New South Wales (Australia) for WaterAid. It took him just over 5 years to complete the journey. Can you imagine making a journey like this?
- Look at a map of the world again. If you were to plan a trip from the UK to Australia, would you stop anywhere along the way? What mode or modes of transport would you use? Why?

Reflection

People have always been able to travel but journeys now are quicker, safer and more comfortable, meaning more people choose to make them.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Answer the following questions inspired by travel!

- A traditional flight between London, UK, and Sydney, Australia, is at least 20-22 hours. How many minutes is this?
- If a sail ship left the UK on 1st January and arrived in Australia 8 months later, when did it arrive? How many days did it travel?
- It took British Indian adventurer, Arjun Singh Bhogal 5 years to walk from the UK to Australia. How many months are in 5 years? How many days?
- The distance from the UK to Australia is around 9,500 miles. Can you convert this distance to kilometres?

Extension – think about any journeys you have made recently. Consider the distance and time they took. You may even be able to convert them to different units of measure!

Option 2

A sail ship travelling from the UK to Australia would make stops along the way.

- Why do you think they might need to plan stops? Think about repairs, supplies, etc.

Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town were places a ship may stop.

- Locate each of these places on a world map.
- Can you trace the route a ship sailing from the UK to Australia and stopping at these places may take?

Steam ships were able to travel via the Suez Canal, which is a human-made waterway in Egypt.

- Locate the Suez Canal on a world map and trace the route the steamer would take from the UK to Australia.

Read and research to explore other routes that can be taken to travel from the UK to Australia using different modes of transport, including a plane.



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Imagine you are going on a journey through the air.

- Where are you going?
- When are you going?
- How long will your journey take?
- Who is travelling with you?
- Will you be travelling in an aeroplane, a hot air balloon, a rocket or something else?
- What can you see, hear, smell on your journey?
- How do you feel?

Use pictures, words and sentences to describe your journey through the air.

Option 2

A paper aeroplane is made by folding one single piece of paper to create a glider!

- Have you ever made a paper aeroplane?
- Could you explain to someone how you might make a paper aeroplane?

Some paper aeroplanes can fly better than others because of their shape and folds! Explore making a paper aeroplane. You could use an online video to help or search for a template. Once you have created your aeroplanes, see how far you can throw them.

- Can you measure how far your paper aeroplane travels?
- Which paper aeroplane travelled the furthest?
- Why do you think this paper aeroplane travelled so far?
- Can you time how long your paper aeroplane stays in the air for?



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.itv.com/news/2023-05-15/how-realistic-is-a-two-hour-flight-to-sydney-via-space

This week's useful video

Virgin Galactic Astronauts
www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/video/two-astronauts-for-virgin-galactic-share-their-space-voyage-experience/#x

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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More peas please...



Pictured: Peas Source: Canva

Scientists from the UK have recently reported that they have created peas that don't taste like peas – and it's not just to get those who don't like them to eat more of the green veggies! Peas that don't taste like peas could help our planet. As people consume more plant-based diets, researchers believe it is important to produce environmentally-friendly alternatives to things like soya beans. Peas are considered to be an excellent option but have a strong flavour that isn't loved by everyone. Scientists first

discovered how to grow tasteless peas around 30 years ago but didn't then have a use for their knowledge. Now though, the discovery of the gene for pea flavour could be very helpful indeed. 'The world has changed. People increasingly want plant-based protein in their diets rather than from animals. So flavourless peas have suddenly become flavour of the day,' said Prof Claire Domoney of the John Innes Centre, one of the scientists working on the project. She added, 'It just goes to show that science is never wasted.'

Do you like peas? Do you think this is a good idea?

Record-Breaking Dictation

Guinness World Records have announced that the world's biggest dictation has taken place at the Champs-Élysées, a famous avenue in Paris that connects the Arc de Triomphe and the Place de la Concorde, earlier this month. The organisers, the Comité Champs-Élysées, transformed the Champs Élysées into an open-air classroom. They placed 1,700 desks, where there would normally be cars, at the iconic Paris landmark and welcomed about 5,000 people (many of them schoolchildren) to take part in three separate rounds. 1,397 people from the first round were officially recognised by Guinness World Records, thus breaking the record and participating in the world's largest dictation. A dictation is described

as being 'the activity of taking down a passage that is dictated by a teacher as a test of spelling, writing, or language skills.' Under the impressive Arc de Triomphe, the participants listened to famous texts from French literature being read out and tried to write them down, without making any errors. The massive spelling test was described by some, with a 10-year-old interviewed at the event saying, 'It was impossible!'. 65-year-old Touria Zerhouni was more positive about the record-breaking experience noting, 'I only made two mistakes. I expected it to be much harder'.

*Do you enjoy spelling tests?
Would you like to attend a giant one?*



Pictured: The record-breaking dictation taking place at the Champs Élysées Source: Guinness World Record Twitter page

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Summer Nature Stories



Pictured: Friends writing outdoors. Source: Canva

Would you like to see your writing published? The Guardian newspaper nature series, Young Country Diary, has launched its seasonal search for summer nature tales. The publication is asking children aged between 8 and 14 to go out into nature and write about their adventures. The pieces could be written about events that occurred in a forest, on a beach, in a garden, at a farm, or a park. The article, describing what they saw, heard, smelt, touched and experienced, must be 200 -250 words long. Six winning entries will be published in the Guardian

newspaper and online: two on 24th June, two in July and another two in August. In spring, the published articles included a visit to a farm for lambing time, an amphibian rescue mission and a back garden bug hunt! All the details your grown-ups and teachers would need for you to enter the competition are available on the newspaper's website.

Do you like to go out into nature? Where is your favourite place to go? Would you like to write about it?

Last week's topic:

Is it better to reuse or recycle?

In Class 7, we think it is important to reuse and recycle. We think reusing is better but when you can't, then recycling is good for the planet too.

Class 7



In my opinion, it is better to reuse rather than to recycle because recycling requires some sort of labour which takes more time and people, but reusing is just using an object again.

Sukhjot

They are both good. As long as things aren't going straight in the bin.

Raymond


I need to learn how to reuse more things. I think we should learn more about how to make and fix things in schools.

Harry

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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TAKEHOME



How has travel changed our lives?



In the news this week

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Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your experience of all the different types of transport you have encountered. E.g. bikes, cars, planes, ferries. Which is your favourite way to travel and why?
- > Do you think you would like to travel on a sub-orbital flight? Why?
- > How do you believe suborbital travel could change the world?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

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