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EDUCATION

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soon...**



CRITICAL LITERACY:

Building Resilience Across the Curriculum

FREE WEBINAR

with Christine Chen and Lindsay Pickton.

Monday 29 April at 4pm



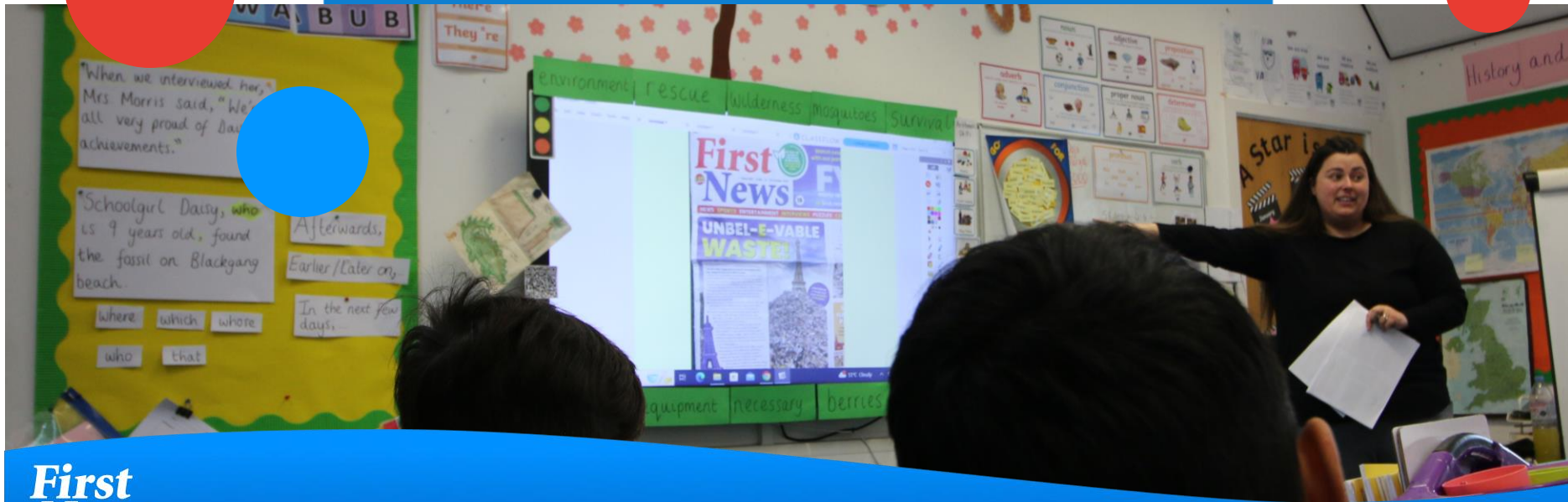
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Critical Literacy

Building Resilience Across The Curriculum

Christine Chen and Lindsay Pickton
www.primaryeducationadvisors.co.uk



Ofcom Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2022

72% of teens said they could tell
real from fake

In tests, only 11% chose reliable
identifiers that a post was genuine



The spaghetti harvest

BBC Panorama
1st April, 1957





Flying penguins?!

BBC Miracles of Evolution

1st April 2008





The New York Times.

Copyright, 1938, by The New York Times Company.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1938.

Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact

Many Flee Homes to Escape 'Gas Raid From Mars'—Phone Calls Swamp Police at Broadcast of Wells Fantasy

A wave of mass hysteria seized thousands of radio listeners throughout the nation between 8:15 and 9:30 o'clock last night when a broadcast of a dramatization of H. G. Wells' fantasy, "The War and with, stations here and in other cities of the United States and Canada asking advice on protective measures against the raids.

The program was produced by Mr. Walter and the Mercury Theatre on



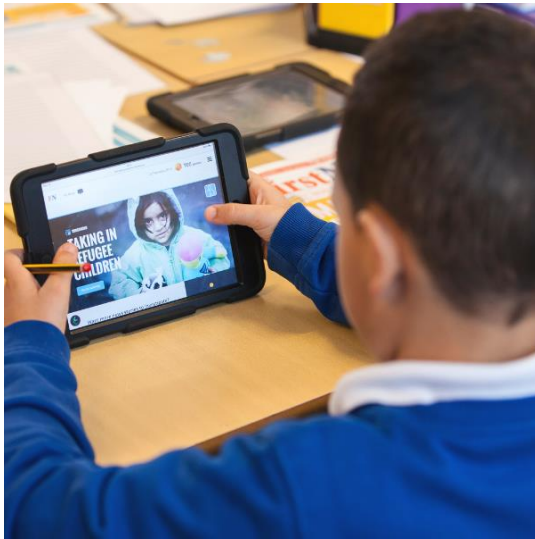
An end to smoking in the UK?

Smoking ban on the way



Parliament has taken the first step to making the UK smoke-free by 2030. MPs voted on a bill to ban sales of tobacco to anyone born after 1 January 2009. It means anyone aged 15 today will never be able to legally buy cigarettes in the UK. The bill also aims to restrict sales of vapes by cutting the number of flavours and changing the packaging to make them less appealing to children – with £100 instant fines. The bill needs to pass to the House of Lords and back to MPs before it can become law.

Read Mindfully



As she stared at me, her frown was so deep that valleys appeared between her eyebrows.

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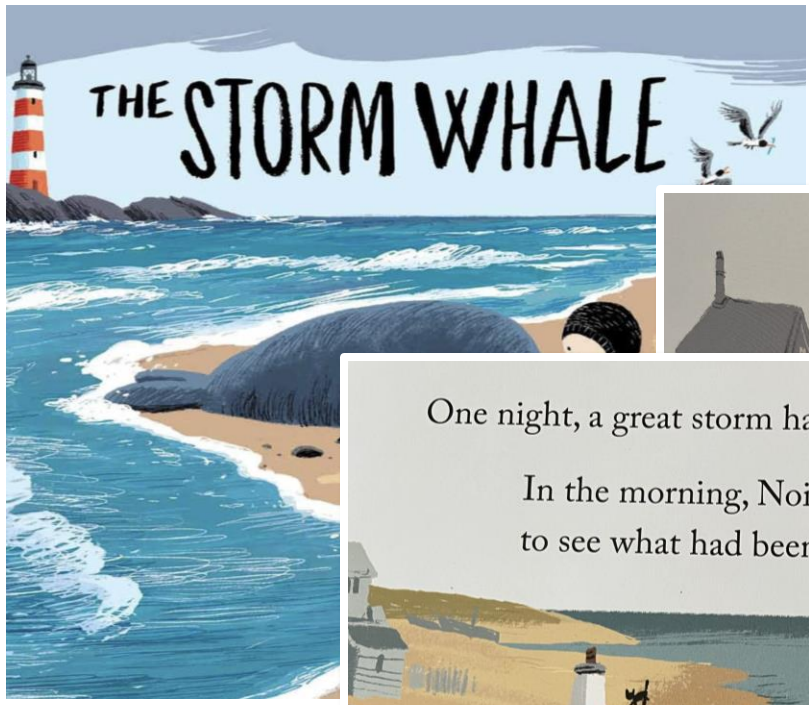
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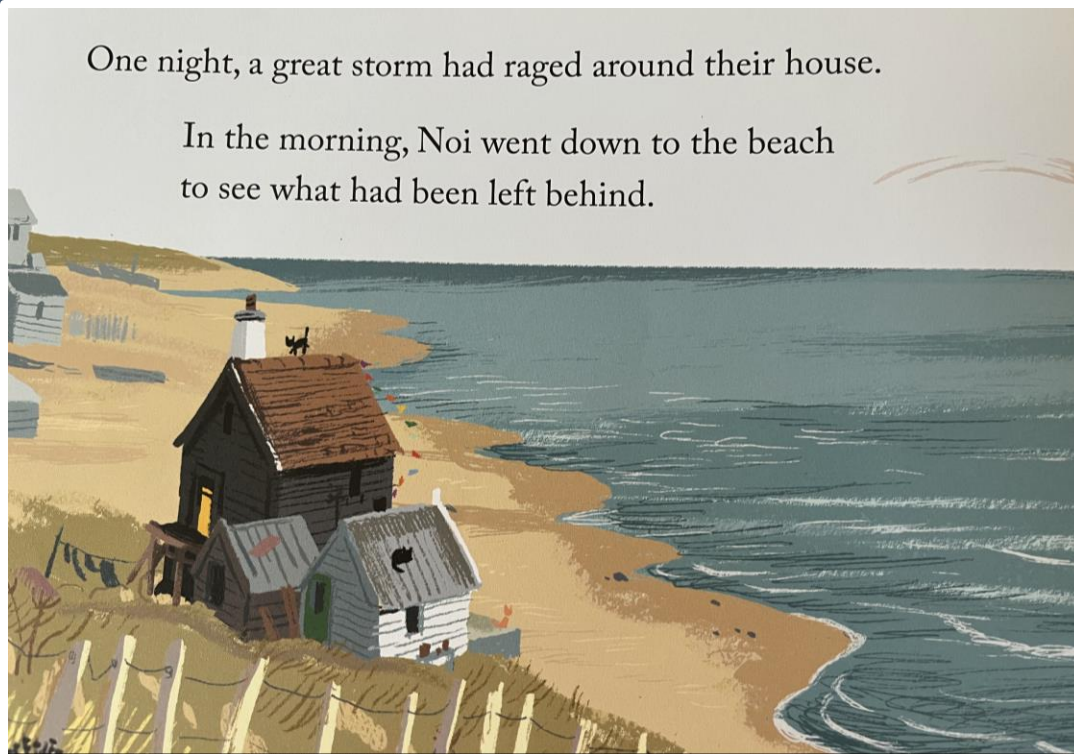
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Noi lived with his dad and six cats by the sea.

One night, a great storm had raged around their house.

In the morning, Noi went down to the beach
to see what had been left behind.



Retrieval

To get or bring something back from somewhere

Find or extract information

Inference

A conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning

Figuring out what is not directly said

Types of inference

Evaluative – character feelings and emotions: *How did X feel when he missed the bus? How did he feel when he'd been tricked?*

Predictive – based on prior knowledge linked with comprehension of the text so far: *e.g. Sophie left her bike by the railings when she spotted her friend in the park.*

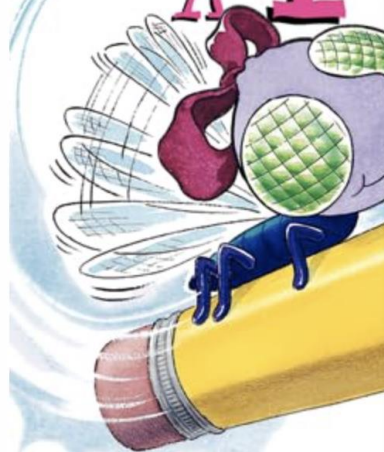
Bridging (gap-filling) – linking two pieces of information together; forms a link between ideas clearly stated and those left implicit – draws on life experience / general knowledge: *e.g. The fire started to burn uncontrollably. Tom grabbed a bucket of water.*

Cohesive – helps the reader to build up a coherent understanding of a text e.g. pronoun resolution: working out who a pronoun relates to: *e.g. It was as though it had flung her first at the gate, waited for her to open it, and then lifted and thrown her, bag and all, at the front door.*

By Doreen Cronin • Pictures by Harry Bliss

DIADY

OF A F



JULY 14

Spider's grandfather is so smart.
He taught me that flies are a very
important part of the food chain.
Very cool.



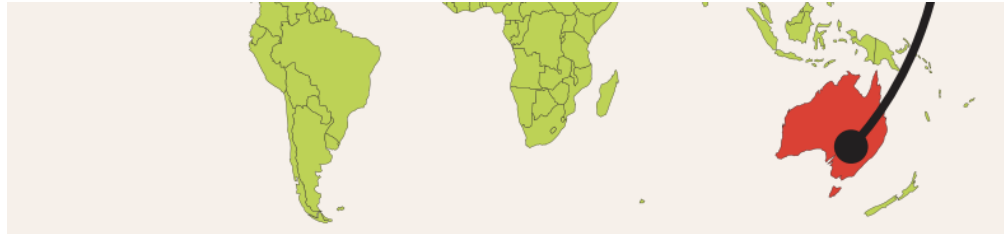
JULY 15

Worm sat me down and explained
the food chain.



That is so not cool.



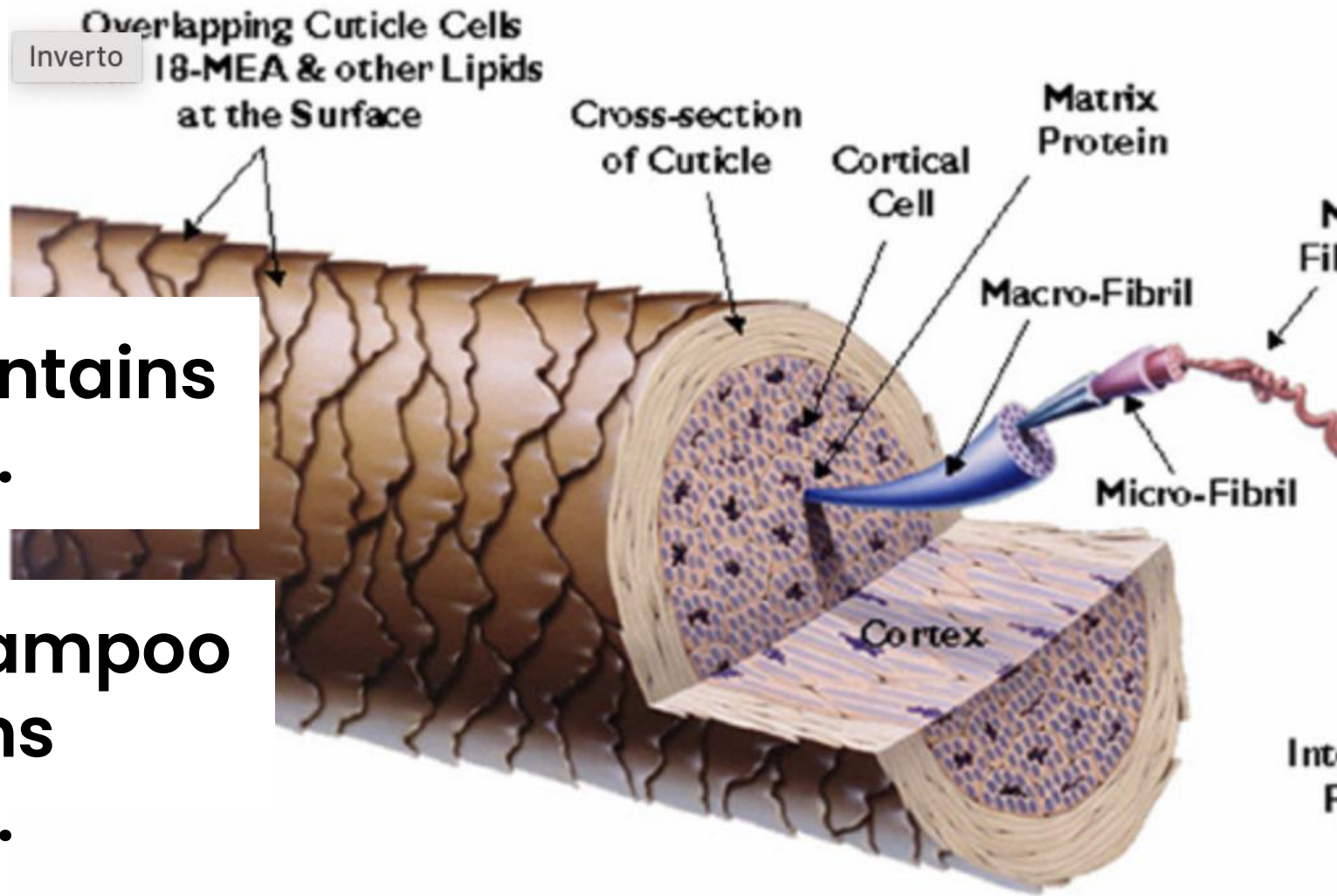


Man gets busted for faking his own kidnapping

A man who faked his own kidnapping on New Year's Eve has been ordered to pay back the amount of money that police spent on finding him! Paul Iera, 35, was supposed to spend time with his partner, but he wanted to see another woman instead. So, he sent his partner a text from some imaginary kidnappers. His partner was so worried, she called the police. Police officers then spent a total of 200 hours looking for Paul, before finding him driving along in his van the next morning. In court, Mr Iera was told to pay \$16,218 Australian dollars (about £8,500) to cover the cost of paying the police officers for the time they wasted in the search. He was also ordered to do 350 hours of community service (unpaid work that has a benefit to the community). His lawyer said that Paul was "pleased to have avoided jail".

Hair contains keratin.

Our shampoo contains keratin.



Teaching children how to read a newspaper

- Leafing through
- Choose which bits grab your interest
- Discuss:
 - What was funniest, scariest, fascinating, most important...?
 - What do you know more about? What would you like to find out more about?
 - What had you already heard about from TV/radio/ social media/adults? Changed your view?

What do you know more about?
 What would you like to find out more about?
 What had you already heard about from TV/radio/social media/adults?
 Changed your view?



Finland still the happiest country

Finland has topped the list of the world's happiest countries for the seventh year in a row! The World Happiness Report announced the findings after comparing data from people in 143 countries, who were asked to rate their life on a scale from zero to ten. Finland was followed by Denmark, Iceland and Sweden. The UK didn't fare too well, coming in at number 20, one place lower than on last year's list. Afghanistan was in last place again.



Man with a brain chip plays chess with his mind

A man with a chip implanted in his brain by Elon Musk's Neuralink company has moved a computer cursor using only his thoughts. Noland Arbaugh, 29, has no feeling below his shoulders following an accident eight years ago but, after surgery to implant the chip, he can play chess and other games just by thinking. The implant, which was inserted by a robot, transmits brain signals wirelessly to an app that decodes Noland's movements. "See that cursor on the screen? That's all me... It's all brain power," he said during a video livestreamed on X (formerly Twitter).



Jake finally finds home after four-year wait

After 1,700 days, Jake the lurcher has finally found his forever home! He tried living with various families before arriving at Dogs Trust Leeds, where he failed to have any luck being adopted. Staff described him as "one of the sweetest dogs you could ever hope to meet", but his shy nature around other dogs and his complicated homing requirements meant he was overlooked. However, he's now found a home with Veronica and Keith.

YOU HAVE

HEARD?



Go to the **First News** app for daily news.

Fines for taking Canary Islands stones



Tourists bringing back souvenir stones from Canary Islands beaches could face fines of up to £2,500 from now on. Pebbles and sand have been disappearing at a rate of a tonne a month, which authorities say is damaging the ecosystem. There are already signs telling people not to take any of the beach home with them, but it's hoped the threat of a fine may make more of a difference.

The UK's most disappointing tourist attraction



Tate Modern has been named as the most disappointing tourist attraction in the UK. The art gallery, on London's South Bank, is actually the fourth most visited art museum in the world. It has more than 5,000 "excellent" reviews on Tripadvisor, but 23% of visitors said they were not a fan. The survey, by language learning site Preply, used ratings and reviews on Tripadvisor to come up with the list. Other surveys this year have named the Eden Project as the country's most "underwhelming" attraction and Stonehenge as the most "overrated" in the world.

Football fans hot under the collar at flag change



Nike has come under fire for what it calls a "playful update" to the new England football shirt. The design of the St George's Cross on the collar has been changed to feature various colours instead of just the traditional red. Nike say the aim is to "unite and inspire", but many people have said they are unhappy with the change, including PM Rishi Sunak and Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer.

Top UK beach hotspot named



You don't have to travel as far as you might think for a perfect seaside getaway, with some of the world's best beaches right here in the UK. Beach Atlas, which hands out Golden Beaches Awards for particularly scenic spots around the globe, has revealed five of the top 100 are on our shores. The highest-scoring British spot, at number 25, is Brighton, but many of you might be more familiar with number 72. That's Freshwater West in Pembrokeshire, which you may recognise as the home of Dobby's Shell Cottage in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

A loo with a view – and a hefty price tag

A toilet block overlooking St Michael's Mount near Penzance in Cornwall has sold at auction for an astonishing £189,000, more than eight times its guide price of £20,000! The picturesque spot is popular with holidaymakers, who it seems will stop at nothing to own a seaside property. It's thought to be the most costly convenience ever sold in Cornwall.



Help with the Big Listen

School inspectors at Ofsted are asking for your help with their Big Listen children's survey. They want you to tell them what you think inspectors should look at when they visit your school or social care setting, and how Ofsted can do its job better. All you have to do is answer a series of short questions at tinyurl.com/KidsBigListen. You'll have until 31 May 2024 to take part and you won't be asked for your name or any personal information.

Record-breaking gold nugget found



A man who was out metal detecting has discovered the largest piece of gold ever found in England! The nugget, weighing 64.8 grams, was buried 15cm underground in Shropshire. It is expected to sell for at least £30,000 when it goes to auction this week.

Rail network planned for the moon



The American government has approved plans for a new rail network – on the moon! The route would connect different bases on the moon, and could be built within the next ten years. No-one has set foot on the moon for more than 50 years, but the idea is part of a plan to prepare for when astronauts return, with the railway being able to carry people and equipment to, and from, different parts of the moon. It's thought robots may play a key part in building, operating and repairing the train network. The next mission to land humans on the moon is due to be NASA's Artemis III in 2028.

Japan tourists face fines for photos



Snap-happy tourists have been banned from taking photos in parts of the Japanese city of Kyoto. Instead of showing respect to those who live and work in the Gion district, holidaymakers have been accused of treating it "like a theme park". They've also been banned from entering the area's private alleyways. Signs are now in place in the historic district warning tourists about their behaviour, and threatening them with a £50 fine if they break the rules.

- **BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS**
31 MARCH
 The clocks go forward this Easter weekend, so we can all look forward to lighter evenings.
- **APRIL FOOL'S DAY** 1 APRIL
 Look out for all kinds of jokes and pranks today – but don't play any after midday, otherwise you're the fool!

DIARY DATES

THE REAL EFFECTS OF FAKE NEWS

IT'S usually impossible to know what the intentions are of someone who creates fake news. But whether it's meant as a joke or has a more sinister motive, fake news can have some pretty serious effects on the real world.

STOCK SHOCK

Those effects can also be pretty expensive. For instance, a tweet from the news agency AP (Associated Press) in 2013 knocked an unbelievable \$130bn off the value of the American stock market.

AP's X (Twitter) account had been hijacked and the hacker posted a nonsense story about the then president, Barack Obama, being injured in an explosion. The potential death of a president caused investors to panic, leading to a huge drop in the value of some stocks and shares.

It could have been an idiotic prank, but it's also possible that someone knew what the tweet would do, and was ready to take advantage of the confusion and make lots of money.

of these could be genuine mistakes, but many are thought to be sick jokes.

If a false rumour creates panic or sends people to the wrong place, it could result in injuries or even deaths. In the 2010 Chile earthquake, researchers found that false rumours passed around online included tsunami alerts, reports of looting and even stories about certain celebrities being killed in the quake.

Some experts have said that users of sites like X can act as filters. They claim that wild rumours are more likely to be questioned by people, so these tweets should eventually be shown to be false.

However, other research has found that this correction comes too late to undo the damage caused by the false reports in the first place.



One of the full-page adverts that WhatsApp took out in Indian newspapers to try to prevent the rising number of deaths caused by fake stories being passed around

2013, more than 20,000 tweets were sent that linked Sunil Tripathi to the terrorist attack. It was later revealed that Tripathi was totally innocent and had actually gone missing before the attack, and died in totally unrelated circumstances.

Pointing the finger at innocent people can lead to disastrous revenge attacks, as has happened lots of times in India in recent years. At least 30 murders have been linked to fake WhatsApp messages about child kidnappers. A video clip that went viral showed a man on a motorbike kidnapping a boy, but the footage was actually from a Pakistani safety campaign.



COMING BACK TO BITE YOU

The effects of printing fake news can also have a serious impact on the people who publish it, as *The Sun* newspaper found out to its cost after the Hillsborough tragedy in 1989. During an FA Cup semi-final at Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield, 96 Liverpool fans were killed in a crush after police made the decision to open gates and let huge numbers of fans into the already packed terraces. The horrific scenes were covered by *The Sun* with a huge front-page headline that said: "The truth", and went on to allege that Liverpool fans stole from the dead and beat up a policeman who was trying to give a fan the kiss of life. It even said that fans urinated on police officers.

The problem was that none of it was the truth, and the story caused huge upset in Liverpool. Even now, decades later, there are many shops in Liverpool that won't stock *The Sun* and lots of Liverpoolians refuse to buy it.

Although *The Sun* has uncovered many genuine scandals, its Hillsborough front page caused huge amounts of damage to its journalistic reputation and also hit sales. Although its owners don't comment on regional sales differences, the boycott in Liverpool is still bound to be affecting the paper's total sales and its owner's profits. However, it seems like the rest of the country didn't feel as strongly, as *The Sun* is still one of Britain's top two best-selling newspapers.

How do I spot fake news stories?

Don't automatically trust search engines

Ask yourself: Is this site or source trustworthy?

Try finding the story somewhere else

Check to see if their sources are credible

Check that it's not a joke!

Investigate the author

Be hesitant of headlines

Check the facts

Remember, pictures can lie, too

WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?



DO you believe everything that you read in

We're thrilled that you lot are relying on *Fi* source, because the truth is, there's a lot of that you just can't trust! Some 'news' is just news.

Fake news is a term that has been hitting the organisations, that aren't necessarily true and are often used to make money or even sway have influenced the recent US elections, whi

This week, MPs la consider how Facek ask if they have any different sources of

First News editor worried about fake write for you is acc make sure that we stories that are in t

QUESTIONS ON 'WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?'

- 1) What is 'fake news'?
- 2) Why do people make fake news?
- 3) Find two reasons why the subject of fake news is in the news at the moment.



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

A) NEWS SOURCES

Where do you get your news from? Do you always trust what you hear or read? Below are some different sources of news. For each of them, think about whether you would believe, or trust, a news story from this source. Is it possible to order the sources from the most reliable, to the least?

1. **Your best friend**
2. **The first website that comes up in your Google search**
3. **Television news (on the BBC, ITV, Sky etc)**
4. **Your teacher or parent**
5. **A video shared on a relative's Facebook page**

Imagine you have come across a great news story – perhaps it is fascinating, thrilling or shocking. You really want to tell a friend about it but you are not sure it is true. What could you do to check it?

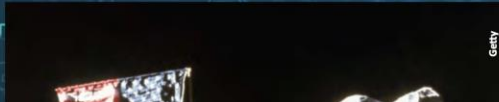


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your reasons.

IT'S ALL A

CONSPIRACY #1 DID AMERICA FAKE THE MOON



On 20 July 1969, American astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped onto the surface of the moon, as part of NASA's Apollo 11 mission. He was joined by fellow astronaut Buzz Aldrin. The pair spent two and a half hours on the surface of the moon, doing experiments, collecting samples and taking pictures. They left a US flag and several scientific experiments behind.

CONSPIRACY #2 WHO REALLY KILLED PRESIDENT KENNEDY



The day that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated is one of the most important days in American history; it is also one of the most popular topics on the internet. Here's what we know about the incident: the assassination took place on 22 November 1963 in Dallas, Texas. Kennedy and his wife Jacqueline were waving to crowds from a motorcade. At 12.30pm gunshots were heard. Kennedy had been shot, and was taken to a hospital. He died nine hours later. Seventy minutes after the shooting, Dallas Police Department officers discovered Lee Harvey Oswald with the murder of the president, as well as a rifle and a magazine.

CONSPIRACY #3 IS THE US GOVERNMENT BEING COVERED UP?



Deep in the Nevada desert lies a US Air Force base known as Area 51. It is the centre of countless alien conspiracies for decades. Area 51 is that it is top secret – the American government does not want anyone to take photos near it! But why?

Well, some conspiracy theorists think it is because there are UFOs that have crashed UFO spacecraft there. Countless people have seen them in the area, adding plenty of fuel to the fire over the years. But you can't talk about alien conspiracies without mentioning the Roswell incident. In the summer of 1947 the remains of a "flying saucer" were found near Roswell, New Mexico; it was later confirmed that they were the remains of a US Air Force air balloon. This confusion sparked the beginning of one of the most – and most mysterious – conspiracy theories. Did a UFO crash in 1947 and did the government cover it up? Are there aliens hidden somewhere in Area 51?

Lots of people still seem to think so, as the crash site in Roswell is visited by hundreds of thousands of people every year.

WHY DO PEOPLE BELIEVE CONSPIRACY THEORIES?

We all have our own reasons for believing what we believe. But we live in a world of immediate information and social media, where it's easy for anyone to come up with a theory and post it online.

Many conspiracy theories come from a distrust of government, which a lot of people find appealing.

Some argue that people find interest in conspiracy theories because it helps them make sense of a very confusing and sometimes sad world; it allows them to gain a sense of power and control over some of the world's biggest tragedies. For others, it makes them feel like a welcome part of a community.

What do you make of all the conspiracy theories you've just read about?

SPECIAL REPORT

AI SPREADING FAKE NEWS TO YOUNG PEOPLE



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Fake news is already a very real threat to our education and knowledge so, mixed in with AI we have to be even more careful about what we believe to be true.

The real-world effects of disinformation are, for example, rising violence (where g
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- **How to tell the difference between fact and fake**
The first thing to check is how many videos the channel is uploading each day. If content is published quickly with many in-depth videos, the creator is likely using AI tools. These are programs like ChatGPT and MidJourney that can instantly create new content when asked to, instead of searching through the internet trying to find it.
In the videos themselves, it can be easier to spot the use of AI if you know what to look out for.

Ask yourself:

- Is someone speaking in the video and do they look and sound normal? A computer-generated voice/image will lack emotion. Devices we speak with at home, like Siri and Alexa, are examples of AI voices.
- Have the 'facts' from the video been reported anywhere else? You can check any new or surprising information via trustworthy news sources, such as *First News* and our I Don't Get It video explainers at [first.news/fyi](https://www.firstnews.com/first-news/fyi).
- Have you heard of the content creator that published the video? Just because a channel has millions of views or subscribers, it doesn't always make them reliable.

SPECIAL REPORT: 'AI spreading fake news to young people'

Part A: Find and explain the facts

- A1. What does artificial intelligence (AI) enable a computer to do?
- A2. When did the idea of 'artificial intelligence' first start being developed?
- A3. Define 'machine learning'.
- A4. Identify whether the following statements are true or false. If false, provide the correction.

Statement	True or false?	Correction (if applicable)
BBC journalists discovered that videos found on 20 YouTube channels were spreading disinformation to young people.		
The videos were being made to appeal to children by promoting themselves as good STEM tools.		
It was easy to tell that the videos were fake.		

- A5. What are the real-world effects of disinformation?

Part B: Deduce and infer information

- B1. Why is it significant that the 2018 Commission on Fake News and Critical Literacy in Schools found that 60% of children reported that they trust news less as a result of fake news?
- B2. What evidence is there to suggest that people are being tricked by fake or misleading news?
- B3. What can be done to identify and guard against AI-generated fake news?
- B4. How does *First News* help in the fight against fake news?
- B5. What are some of the positive uses of AI programmes?

Part C: Analyse the writing and presentation

- C1. What is the effect of the frequent use of questions in this report?
- C2. Think of an alternative headline for this report and explain the use of techniques to appeal to the reader.

Part D: Discussion task

"AI programmes such as ChatGPT should be banned from schools." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons for your view.





*First*News
CHILDREN'S
PARTY

General Election 2024



FirstNews CHILDREN'S PARTY MANIFESTO

We don't get a vote but we do get a voice!

The Children's Party is bringing young people together to get our voices heard about the things that matter to us.

Every person under the age of 18 is automatically a member.

Our manifesto has been written using data collected by the Children's Commissioner for England. Over the last few years, Dame Rachel de Souza has heard from more than a million children and young people. The manifesto is based, particularly, on the recommendations of The Big Ambition survey in 2024, which heard from 360,000 young people. We have also included the learnings from the offices of the Children's Commissioners of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is being supported by the Children's Commissioner for England's 18 Youth Ambassadors, who champion issues that children and young people have said are important to them.

The aim of our manifesto is to call for changes to make all children's lives better now and in the future. We are the ones who know what a positive childhood could, and should, be – for all children.

1. Family Life

We should all be able to grow up in a stable and loving family that is given the support to enjoy life together. A happy family life is at the centre of our hopes and ambitions for the future. We should get the support we need to have a brilliant start to life. We want family hubs in every area to support all families and to make sure special attention is given to the needs of disabled children and their families.

All parents should be helped to be the best parent they can be, with information and courses available to them.

None of us should grow up in poverty, with all families having enough money for children to have a home, good clothing, to be warm, safe and to eat well.



3. Health

Good physical and mental health is important for us all. We should be helped to have a healthy lifestyle, including being active and having a good diet. We should all have a health check each year to identify any problems early so that we get the help we need.

There should be a school nurse in each school who can help and advise us all, but particularly children at risk of poor health.

We want a mental health hub set up in every local area to give us wellbeing support. Mental health teams should keep an eye on us in all schools so we can get help if we need it. We all should be supported to feel positive about our bodies and to have high self-esteem.

We want a national fitness plan that helps us to make the right choices about what we eat, how to be active and so we understand more about dangers to our health, such as vaping and smoking.

Mental health care and support for children with disabilities needs to be improved so that disabled children have happy childhoods and futures.

2. Education

We value our education and our teachers and we understand that working hard now will help set us up for success in later life.

Therefore, all children should have the chance to go to a good school, be happy and safe there, and have a brilliant education. Those who need extra help should be able to get it easily and quickly, particularly those with special needs or disabilities who might learn in a different way.

Those who are missing school, for whatever reason, should be treated kindly and helped to go back. All schools should have zero tolerance of bullying and it should be treated seriously.

More physical activity should take place in schools, as well as bringing in more school trips and opportunities to learn outside the classroom.

What we are being taught needs to be continually reviewed because our education must prepare us for a digital future as technology changes the workplace across the world.



4. Our free time

Sport, drama, music and other opportunities should be available for us all at the end of the school day, free of charge for families who can't afford to pay.

We also want more spaces to go to out of school where we can enjoy ourselves with our friends. Young carers need help to make sure they get time just to be a kid, too. Our views should be listened to in our communities about what facilities we would like.

Every child and teenager should have a good quality, free or cheap youth club we can go to, where we can be safe and take part in things that interest us. This would also help cut down on the number of young people hanging out on the streets and getting into trouble.

We should have adults we can talk to at these youth clubs about any problems we have, to stop them getting worse, and to get us help if we need it.

We should all be close to a green space, so we can feel nature around us. Research shows this helps our mental health and wellbeing.

5. Jobs and skills

We need to be taught about important life skills that will help us as we become adults.

We need to learn about personal issues, such as how to have healthy relationships, but also practical life lessons, particularly financial education, so we know how to manage our money. We want better careers advice so we know more about what jobs might suit our talents, particularly with new tech and AI changing the workplace.

That means more teachers getting better careers training. All schools should be supported by careers hubs to help us get on the right path after school. Is university right for us, or an apprenticeship, for example, to land us our dream job? We want apprenticeships to be funded and available to all school leavers who want one.

Schools should bring in local employers and businesses so we understand the opportunities around us.



6. Social care

All of us should feel loved, safe and secure.

Young people who are not with our birth families, who have become homeless, or are being looked after in the care system, must get care in a loving and stable home. Brothers and sisters should be kept together if that's what we want.

We should be listened to so we get a say when decisions are being made about us, whether we are in care or are young carers ourselves.

Children needing social care need to have happy, trusted and ongoing relationships with social workers so we can speak openly and honestly. We must be listened to and action must be taken to help us, giving care as well as support.

All families who are struggling should get help early to improve children's welfare, so that we are supported to remain with our families, if that is what is best for us.

All of us should get help if we need it.

7. Children seeking asylum

Children who arrive in the UK on our new seeking asylum are very at risk. We need care and protection from the moment we arrive. Most of us have left behind distressing lives and difficult situations. We need time, support and understanding to recover from the things that have happened to us.

We should all have access to caring and loving homes, so a new campaign to find more foster carers for unaccompanied children seeking asylum should be launched.

We should be supported to get a good education from the moment we arrive in an area, and to get great help to learn English quickly and well.

We should be protected from bullying, by schools building a sense of everyone belonging.

If we have made Britain our homes – the place where we have been schooled, made friends and built our lives again – we should be allowed to stay after we reach 18 years old.



8. Online safety

Every child should be able to play and learn online safely. We should be given the knowledge and support to keep us safe online.

We should be protected from seeing or experiencing anything harmful online. All online spaces and platforms should have child safety built into them and there should be tools to stop us seeing things we shouldn't.

Developers should make sure there are ways to stop us becoming addicted to games or other online experiences.

We must be protected from extreme views, scammers and harmful trends that appear online.

We want it to be easy for us to report problems, using things like red flag buttons on platforms, whether this is online bullying, seeing distressing images, or someone trying to find out information about us.

If anything bad does happen to us online, we should get support to deal with it.



9. A better world

Around 20% of the people in our country are under 18, yet we are 100% of the future. So, the Government should listen to our ideas more.

We believe the Government can change our lives for the better but they need to listen first to the things we care about.

We want our views on important issues to be reflected in decisions that affect our futures. For example, our environment is a big worry. Pollution needs to be cleaned up, we need action on climate change, and the huge biodiversity crisis in Britain has to be tackled. We will hold the UK's Governments to task on Britain reaching net zero by 2050. We want more and bold action to secure a future where humans and nature live together in balance and harmony.

MPs should hold meetings just for children, to hear what we care about.

We want more opportunities to take part in youth and school councils, youth parliaments, and other local and national groups, to make sure our voices are heard and acted upon.



10. Safety from crime

We want to feel safe and confident in public places.

We want to be safe in our homes, schools, relationships and where we live. The people who make decisions should talk to us about improvements to our environment, including those that would help children with different needs. It might be lighting on school routes and in parks, access to playgrounds and open space for games. Plus we need safe ways to get around, including for children with physical or mental challenges.

All of us should be protected against violence and criminals, and work must be done to cut knife crime.

Police must be friendly and respectful towards children, and organise events to help children get to know officers. We need to know what to do, and who to speak to, if something bad happens to us. If we do become victims of crime, we should get specialist care and support to help us recover.

We should all be kept safe from bullying or any other abuse, with teachers trained to give us high-quality lessons about our safety.

Every young person who is being held in a secure setting, because they have been in trouble with the law, should be given the chance to change and to rebuild their life. More work should be done to stop children getting in trouble and becoming involved in crime in the first place.

Critical thinking is the art of examining information from all angles to solve problems.

To set up moments for critical thinking, we must spark curiosity. Engaging children in real-world events happening around them will help to drive passion and concern for others outside their individual remit.

From
Teaching Critical Thinking to Young Children
Amy Sawyer, 2020

Break Down Information to Its Smallest Parts: And teach them how to do the same.

Use Characters (role play) to Encourage Empathy: Being empathetic can help to pave the way to understanding various perspectives.

Expand Your Evidence: Understanding which resources are valid and credible, and where to find them, is fundamental to mastering critical thinking.

Don't Do It For Them: The effort and hard work is the point!

From
Teaching Critical Thinking to Young Children
Amy Sawyer, 2020

Read Mindfully



**Thank
you!**



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