Canonbury Home Learning

Year 5 Reading. Friday 3rd July 2020. LO: Mixed Comprehension.

WORLD NEWS

XIAMEN, CHINA

1

A RARE annular solar eclipse was visible on the longest day of the year (in the northern hemisphere). An annular eclipse happens when the moon covers the sun's centre, leaving a 'ring of fire'.

BERLIN, GERMANY

2

SUPPORTERS of the Extinction Rebellion movement lie down after dancing to disco hits during a so-called "Discobedience" protest dance march. They were protesting against the mass extinction of animal species and for climate justice.

ARGENTINA

Sailing the Atlantic

An Argentinian man has survived a three-month journey across the Atlantic from Portugal to Argentina, so he could see his elderly parents. After Argentina banned flights due to the coronavirus pandemic, Juan Manuel Ballestero took to the seas on 2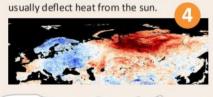4 March, hoping to arrive by 15 May for his father's 90th birthday. Unfortunately, his journey was hit by big storms, so he didn't arrive until 17 June. He will see his parents after quarantining on his boat for 15 days.

3

Siberia

4

2

5

1

6

3

Galápagos Islands

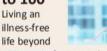### RUSSIA

Siberian heatwave

Throughout May, surface temperatures in Siberia were 10°C higher than the average, which experts have described as "alarming". Other parts of Russia have seen record temperatures, too. Khatanga, one of the most northern areas in the country, usually has daytime temperatures of around 0°C. On 22 May, it was 25°C – double the previous record. Scientists think that temperatures in the polar regions are rising fastest because ocean currents carry heat towards the poles. This melts the ice and snow that would usually deflect heat from the sun.

4

USA

Living to 100

Living an illness-free life beyond 100 years of age may be more likely, thanks to a new study by the University of California in the USA. Diluting the blood plasma (the fluid that carries blood cells) of old mice with a special solution has reversed the signs of ageing. Experiments showed that the brain, liver and muscles all improved after the mice were injected with a solution of proteins and salts. It is an exciting development that could mean today's young people stay youthful and healthy for much longer.

5

ECUADOR

Go, Diego!

6

Diego the giant Galápagos tortoise who almost single-handedly saved his species, is retiring to an uninhabited island to live out his final years in peace. After decades of breeding in captivity and fathering hundreds of his once-threatened species, 100-year-old Diego is finally getting some rest. He is being moved from the Galápagos national park's breeding program on Santa Cruz to his original habitat on the remote island of Española. Happy retirement, Diego!

WORLD NEWS

GLOSSARY

annular – Ring-shaped
breeding program – When animals are kept to reproduce offspring

blood plasma – The fluid that carries blood cells
solar eclipse – When the sun is blocked by the moon
uninhabited – Humans don't live there

■ **Look at all the articles.**

1. Match the article to the country

Russia	Living to 100
Argentina	Siberian heatwave
Ecuador	Sailing the Atlantic
Germany	Go, Diego!
China	"The ring of fire"
USA	"Discobedience"

■ **Look at the news photograph from China.**

2a. Describe what an annular solar eclipse is.

2b. The **caption** accompanying the photograph uses the **metaphor** 'ring of fire' to describe the image. Can you think of a different phrase to describe the image of the rare solar eclipse? What does it look like to you?

2c. There are 24 hours in a day. So, what does the article mean when it says 'the longest day'?

■ **Look at the article 'Sailing the Atlantic'.**

3a. Find the facts about Juan Manuel Ballestero's epic Atlantic adventure.

● The country he set sail from: ● Date he set sail:
● Destination country: ● Date he arrived:
● Why did he travel by boat?
● What caused him to miss his father's birthday?

3b. How do you think he is currently feeling?

■ **Look at the article 'Go, Diego!'**

4. Fill in the missing words to summarise this news story.

Diego is a giant _____. He is _____ years old. After _____ of being part of a _____ program, Diego is being moved to the remote island of _____, where he is originally from.

| 100 | decades | breeding | Española | tortoise |

■ **Look at the article 'Living to 100'.**

5a. What problem are researchers at the University of California trying to solve?

5b. Would you like to live until you're 100 years old? Explain your thoughts.

6. What links the three stories 'Living to 100', 'Sailing the Atlantic' and 'Go, Diego!'?

■ **Look at the article 'Siberian heatwave'.**

7. Why do you think experts used the word 'alarming' to describe the surface temperature?

8a. What is thought to be causing this increase in temperature?

8b. Explain why scientists think the temperature increases are greater in the polar regions.

■ **Look at the news photograph from Germany.**

9a. The protesters are dressed as different animals. What different costumes can you spot in the image, and why are they dressed like this?

9b. Usually, in a protest people march and shout out the changes they want. Here, the protesters are lying down. Why are they protesting in this way?

10. People protest when they want to make changes in society. Often, they will write slogans on placards and shout these out as they march. Write slogans for this protest.

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