



Key Stage 1

News Bites (13/02/2019)

Develop children's general knowledge by using stories from the week's news to build on their understanding of current events.

Coming up this week:

- UK pupils to join climate protest
- Mars Rover named after UK scientist
- Lake District wants 'dark skies' protected

Duration: 3:56 | Click to [unlock](#) the video (if you haven't already).

Please note: subscribing schools have all the following information presented alongside the weekly video. This includes an interactive quiz - where pupils can play to reveal a hidden picture for remembering key details of the bulletin. If you wish to see the full Discovery Education Espresso service, please [request a whole-school trial](#).

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Teacher's support

Questions: Which story interests you most? What new facts did you learn?

Start a debate: What do pupils think about the issues in the report?

Make a report: Ask pupils to be reporters. What questions would they ask in an interview? What would they want to find out? Remind them of the five Ws: what, why, who, where and when.

Turn off the sound so pupils can write their own report based on the video. As a team, they could present their own News Bites with their own reporter.

Quiz

How much can you remember from this week's News Bites? Answer questions about what you've seen.

1. Which visitors to the National Park would be helped by darker skies at night?
 - a. Sunbathers
 - b. Stargazers
 - c. Mountain climbers
2. Why are some schoolchildren in the UK going on 'strike' this week?
 - a. To demand more homework
 - b. To protest about climate change
 - c. To protest about Brexit
3. Which female scientist is the new ExoMars rover named after?
 - a. Rosalind Franklin
 - b. Dorothy Hodgkin
 - c. Mary Canning
4. Which charity is campaigning for darker skies in a National Park?
 - a. Friends of the Lake District
 - b. Greenpeace
 - c. Friends of the Earth
5. How far will the ExoMars rover drill into the surface of Mars?
 - a. Two centimetres
 - b. Five metres
 - c. Two metres
6. What will the ExoMars rover try to find on Mars?
 - a. Particular types of rocks
 - b. Signs of life
 - c. The best place to take a photograph of Earth

Teaching with the news

Activities include: identifying the main points in a text, summarising and précising, and distinguishing fact from opinion. [Download our Key Stage 1 lesson plan.](#)

Transcript

Hello, I'm Lois, and this is Espresso News Bites.

Coming up this week:

Will thousands of UK school pupils skip lessons in climate change protests?

A robot being sent to Mars has been named after a female British scientist

And a campaign begins to protect the Lake District's dark skies

Thousands of school pupils in the UK are expected to walk out of lessons this week as part of worldwide strikes on climate change.

Tens of thousands of school pupils around the world have been skipping school and taking to the streets to show their concern about climate change.

On Friday, pupils from schools across the UK are expected to join the "strikes" by walking out of lessons.

The protests started in August last year, when 16-year-old Greta Thunberg from Sweden missed school to demonstrate outside her country's parliament.

Greta Thunberg, Environmental activist: *"If we do not care about the climate crisis and the environment, then no other issue is going to matter in the future because this is what shapes the future."*

According to experts, the world is headed for the hottest 10 years since records began – as a result of global warming.

The European Space Agency has announced the name of the new British-built rover which will search for signs of life on Mars.

The new ExoMars rover, which is being built in Hertfordshire, has been named after a British female scientist – after thousands of people sent in suggestions in a competition last year.

The robot, which will search for life on the Red Planet, has been named after Rosalind Franklin who helped discover DNA. During her research, she examined the twisted ladder-shaped structure of DNA using X-rays.

DNA exists in all living things, including humans and it carries the information that tells our bodies what to do – like how to grow and move.

Tim Peake, British Astronaut: *"The name 'Rosalind Franklin' is such a fitting tribute for the ExoMars rover because, of course, Rosalind's work as a scientist helped unlock the secrets of DNA and further our knowledge of human life. And the ExoMars rover is going to the Red Planet to search for signs of past life on Mars. So it's very fitting."*

The Franklin rover will be sent to Mars by the European Space Agency next summer.

If it lands successfully, it will be the first European space craft on the Red Planet. It will use a drill to search up to two metres below the planet's surface for any signs of life.

A campaign has been launched to protect the Lake District's dark skies for future stargazers.

Cumbrian charity, *Friends of the Lake District*, is campaigning to get the Lake District National Park recognised as an International Dark Skies Reserve.

This would help to protect the darkness over the lakes and mountains, by restricting the amount of light pollution coming from street lamps and people's homes.

Darker skies would allow visitors, stargazers and astronomers a clearer view of stars and planets.

Dark skies are also important for wildlife, because around half of animals are nocturnal, meaning they are active during the night and light pollution can disrupt their sleeping, feeding and breeding patterns.

That's all for now.

More News Bites after half term. See you then.