

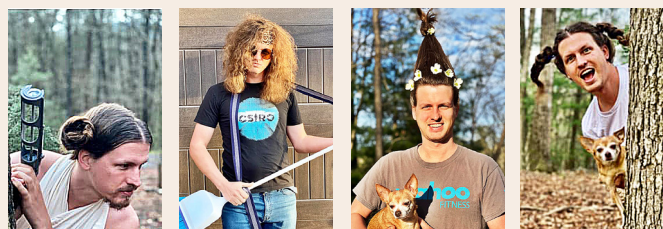
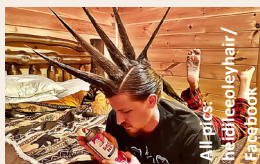
HAPPY NEWS



# HAIR-LARIOUS HAIRDOS

**A HAIRDRESSER in America has found a way to keep up-to-date with her skills while her salon is closed.**

While Geoff Clark works from home on his computer, his girlfriend Heidi Lee Oley styles his long hair in a variety of ways, often mimicking famous characters from popular culture.



Geoff's hair has been styled to look like Princess Leia from *Star Wars*, Poppy from *Trolls* and children's book icon Pippi Longstocking.

Heidi said of the hairdressing industry: "We don't have clients, we don't get paid, many are self-employed. I wanted to be a glimmer of light during the shadows of the uncertainty of our industry."

Heidi added that Geoff "has a heart of gold for letting me do this and post it".

## KEEPING YOUR DISTANCE

**A FATHER and son duo have invented a funny way to make sure people are keeping 2m apart from each other – the Social Distancing Circle!**

The son, who goes by the name *impatman* on video-sharing site TikTok, shared footage of their exploits. The pair linked together pipes to make the circle, then covered it with a tarpaulin. A video of them wearing the device and taking a wander in the park has been viewed millions of times.

"There were a few confused people," admitted *impatman*. His dad added: "Some of them thought we were flying a big kite, others thought it was a trampoline."



## SELF-ISOLATE!

**FANS of *Doctor Who* will be familiar with the terrifying Daleks and their famous catchphrase, "EXTERMINATE!"**

Now they're taking to the streets of Whitby! A Dalek was spotted patrolling the local area, warning: "All humans must self-isolate by order of the Daleks!"

The dustbin-shaped robots first appeared on TV way back in 1963. Many people still remember being scared of them when they were little.

One person online wrote: "Am I the only one to feel a shiver of fear watching this? As a child I would most certainly have been hiding behind the sofa." Another user agreed: "I'm not going to argue with a Dalek!"



THE Taylor family spent hours colouring every brick of their terraced house in chalk to create a rainbow effect to "lift people's spirits" during the coronavirus lockdown.

## CARDIFF, UK

ARTIST and former *Britain's Got Talent* semi-finalist Nathan Wyburn has created a collage tribute to NHS workers, using photos of more than 200 NHS staff who are working on the frontline of the coronavirus battle.



HAPPY NEWS



GLOSSARY

**exterminate** – To destroy or get rid of something

**NHS** – National Health Service

**social distancing** – Staying two metres away from other people

**tarpaulin** – A waterproof material used as a cover

**Dalek** – A robot character from *Doctor Who*

**duo** – Two people working together

**self-isolating** – Remaining inside away from others

**tribute** – In someone’s honour

**patrolling** – Walking around, monitoring or guarding an area

**collage** – A piece of art created by using different materials stuck together

**catchphrase** – A well-known saying or phrase

**coronavirus** – A type of virus

**‘lifting people’s spirits’** – To cheer people up

**industry** – Turning raw materials into a finished product

**mimicking** – Copying

**uncertainty** – When you are not sure about something

● Look at the article ‘Cardiff, UK’.

- 1. What did the artist Nathan Wyburn use to create his collage?
- 2. Explain the message the artist is trying to get across and why.
- 3. The journalist uses the word ‘tribute’ to describe the piece of art. What does the word ‘tribute’ mean?

● Look at the article ‘Somerset, UK’.

- 4. Why did the Taylor family colour in the bricks of their house?
- 5. What has the rainbow become a symbol of?

● Look at the article ‘Hair-larious Hairdos’.

- 6a. Which is your favourite hairdo and why?
- 6b. What character’s hairstyle do you think the hairdresser should try next?
- 7. Give two reasons why hairdresser Heidi has styled Geoff’s hair in this way.

● Look at the article ‘Self-Isolate!’

- 8. Which two language features do the words ‘self-isolate’ and ‘exterminate’ share?

Rhyme

Onomatopoeia

Alliteration

The same number of syllables

● Look at the article ‘Keeping your distance’.

- 9. Describe how the ‘Social Distancing Circle’ invention works.
- 10a. Were you surprised by the size of the invention when you looked at the photograph? Explain your thoughts.
- 10b. Can you think of another idea or invention that could be created to help while social distancing rules apply? Explain your idea either in a short paragraph or with a diagram and annotations.

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## TEACHER ANSWERS

**AIM OF THE NEWS COMPREHENSIONS:** News reports are unique non-fiction texts. Being real, they naturally engage students, and with the range of topics that are covered, help to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the wider world outside the classroom. The reports are ideal for short, focused comprehension or discussion activities. Along with the opportunity to find fascinating facts and appreciate the opinions of those involved, there is plenty to be inferred and deduced to understand in more depth what is being reported. Like authors, journalists play with language, so news 'stories' are rich nuggets of text to investigate and provide the opportunity for literacy programmes.

**TEACHER ANSWER GUIDE:** The teacher answers are intended to provide a quick reference guide. Suggestions are given for the 'Expected response' or starting point that pupils could give. The 'Development' then gives more in-depth ideas that students can work towards as they develop their reading comprehension skills.

For a list of the reading skills used, please email [schools@firstnews.co.uk](mailto:schools@firstnews.co.uk).

● Look at the article 'Cardiff, UK'.

**Q1. What did the artist Nathan Wyburn use to create his collage?**

READING SKILL: Find and explain information (NC2a)

• **Expected response**

Photographs

• **Developed response**

Individual photographs of NHS staff who are working hard to look after sick people during the coronavirus outbreak.

**Q2. Explain the message the artist is trying to get across and why.**

READING SKILL: Infer information and justify with evidence from the text (NC 2c and 8)

• **Expected response**

To say thank you.

• **Developed response**

It is a tribute to the NHS staff working so hard at the moment. The artwork is to say thank you to all the individual people that make up the NHS. The word 'thank you' can be seen at the bottom of the artwork.

**Q3. The journalist uses the word 'tribute' to describe the piece of art. What does the word 'tribute' mean?**

READING SKILL: Understand vocabulary in context (NC2a)

• **Expected response**

To honour someone.

• **Developed response**

A tribute can be spoken words, a piece of artwork, an action or event in honour of someone or something. It is to say thank you, or to remember someone or something.

● Look at the article 'Somerset, UK'.

**Q4. Why did the Taylor family colour in the bricks of their house?**

READING SKILL: Find and explain information (NC2a)

• **Expected response**

To create a rainbow pattern that would 'lift people's spirits'.

• **Developed response**

The Taylor family decorated their house as a rainbow to represent the symbol of hope during the coronavirus pandemic. This would have kept them busy and entertained. They also hoped it would cheer up neighbours and make them smile.

**Q5. What has the rainbow become a symbol of?**

Reading Skill: Infer information based on own knowledge (non-text based inference) (NC 6, 7 & 8)

• **Expected response**

Hope.

• **Developed response**

The rainbow has become a symbol of hope and joy as well as thanks to the NHS staff. Many people have put rainbows in their windows.

● Look at the article 'Hair-larious Hairdos'.

**Q6a. Which is your favourite hairdo and why?**

**6b. What character's hairstyle do you think the hairdresser should try next?**

READING SKILL: Develop personal ideas from reading News stories (NC 6, 7 & 8)

**Possible response**

Pupils should choose one of the hairstyles and give a reason why they like it, such as: Poppy from Trolls because it is my favourite film.

**Q7. Give two reasons why hairdresser Heidi has styled Geoff's hair in this way.**

READING SKILL: Infer information and justify with evidence from the text (NC 2c and 8)

● **Expected response**

To practise her hairdressing skills.

To spread joy to others.

● **Developed response**

To practise her hairdressing skills while she is unable to style customers' hair.

To entertain others and cheer them up at a worrying time.

● Look at the article 'Self-Isolate!'

**Q8. Which two language features do the words 'self-isolate' and 'exterminate' share?**

READING SKILL: Recognise the effects of language choices (NC 1e and 1f)

● **Expected response**

Rhyme

The same number of syllables

● Look at the article 'Keeping your distance'.

**Q9. Describe how the 'Social Distancing Circle' invention works.**

READING SKILL: Find and explain information (NC2a)

● **Response**

A person wears the invention, which has a two-metre span to stop others coming closer. It also means that the person wearing the invention cannot go within two metres of anyone else.

**Q10a. Were you surprised by the size of the invention when you looked at the photograph? Explain your thoughts.**

READING SKILL: develop opinions and provide justification of viewpoints (NC 6, 7 & 8)

● **Possible responses:**

Yes, I was very surprised because it is so big! I didn't realise you had to stay so far away from people. This is quite difficult in places such as the supermarket, for example, as you wouldn't fit down the aisles.

No, not really because social distancing rules mean you have to stay two metres apart, so I expected the device to be two metres.

**10b. Can you think of another idea or invention that could be created to help while social distancing rules apply?**

**Explain your idea either in a short paragraph or with a diagram and annotations.**

READING SKILL: Develop personal ideas from reading News stories (NC 6, 7 & 8)

● **Possible ideas could include:**

Another device to keep people two metres away from you, perhaps using different materials.

A device to pass items to neighbours

A device to safely deliver food and/or medicine to people in isolation

A poem or song describing things that are two metres long to help reinforce understanding of the length of two metres