Animal News

Getty

Woolly jumpers help penguins until rescue workers arrive

SALTBURN

FLIPPER FASHION

TWO grans who call themselves the 'Knitting Nannas' have been knitting small jumpers to help penguins. The creations by Joyce Baxtrem, aged 94, and Joyce Wooffindin, aged 83, help to stop the birds from getting ill after oil spills at sea. Penguins can swallow oil when they use their beaks to clean themselves. The jumpers are put on the penguins to keep them safe until rescue workers can clean their feathers. They also help to keep the penguins warm while they wait. The jumpers are being sent from Saltburn in North Yorkshire to Phillip Island in Australia, where they will be used if there is an oil spill. The island is home to around 40,000 penguins.

GLOSSARY

- **oil spill** – an accident where oil leaks, often into the sea from a large boat or pipeline. The oil can cause a lot of harm to the environment and sea life
- **Phillip Island** – an island off the southeast coast of Australia, connected to the mainland by a bridge. It is known for its wildlife, including thousands of penguins

1) Which of these is **not** something the two Knitting Nannas have in common?

- [ ] They are called Joyce.
- [ ] They are the same age.
- [ ] They knit for penguins.

2) Which word in the story has the same meaning as 'nannas'?

3) What do penguins use to clean themselves?

- [ ] their flippers
- [ ] their jumpers
- [ ] their beaks

4) The jumpers help to keep the penguins safe. What else do they help with?

5) Circle the correct place name in each sentence.

1. The jumpers are knitted in **Saltburn / Phillip Island**.

2. The jumpers will be used if there is an oil spill around **Saltburn / Phillip Island**.

3. Saltburn / Phillip Island is home to around 40,000 penguins.

6) Imagine you are a penguin who received a jumper after an oil spill. Write a thank you note to the Knitting Nannas, telling them why you love your jumper!

1) Which of these is **not** something the two Knitting Nannas have in common?

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grans

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6) Imagine you are a penguin who received a jumper after an oil spill. Write a thank you note to the Knitting Nannas, telling them why you love your jumper!

Sport News

Getty

LAUNCHED INTO THE RECORD BOOKS

FOOTBALL star Megan Campbell has a long throw that would make anyone an easy first pick on the school footie team!

The London City Lionesses player, who comes from Ireland, has set a brand-new Guinness World Record for the farthest throw-in distance for a female footballer.

If you haven't seen her chaos-causing throw-ins, this should paint a good picture. Her effort of 37.55m is over 10m longer than the length of a blue whale, which is the world's largest animal!

Taking on the challenge at her team's training ground in Kent, she became the first woman to hold the record, beating a target of 35m. The 31-year-old said: "It's an amazing achievement for me personally, as the first ever to hold the record. But ultimately you want someone to beat you, I want someone to be more successful than me because then that means I've put another player in a better place."

GLOSSARY

- **London City Lionesses –** a professional women's football club, based in Bromley, Kent. The club was founded in 2019 after separating from Millwall Lionesses. Earlier this month, they were promoted to the Women's Super League (WSL), the highest level of women's football in England
- **Guinness World Record –** a world record that's recognised by Guinness World Records, the authority on record-breaking achievements, and published in the Guinness World Records reference book, which is updated each year

1) What has Megan Campbell become the first female footballer to do?

- [ ] Get picked for the school football team.
- [ ] Hold the record for the farthest throw-in.
- [ ] Set a Guinness World Record.

2) Fill in the answers to these questions about Megan Campbell.

What team does she play for?

_____

Where is she from?

_____

Where is her team's training ground?

_____

How old is she?

_____

3) Megan Campbell's throw-in is described as 'longer than the length of a blue whale'. Think of another large object that you could compare her throw to (It doesn't have to be the exact size). It could be an animal, a vehicle, a building or something else.

4) How much farther was Megan Campbell's throw than the target distance?

5) Which of these is an opinion expressed by Megan Campbell?

- [ ] It would be an amazing achievement for someone else, but not for me.
- [ ] I think someone else should have been the first to set the record.
- [ ] I want someone else to beat the record so that I've helped them to succeed.

6a) Do you think that setting world records is important? Explain why/why not.

6b) If you could set a world record, what would it be for, and why? (Think of things you are good at, or love doing!)

1) What has Megan Campbell become the first female footballer to do?

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2) Fill in the answers to these questions about Megan Campbell.

What team does she play for?

The London City Lionesses

Where is she from?

Ireland

Where is her team's training ground?

Kent

How old is she?

31

3) Megan Campbell's throw-in is described as 'longer than the length of a blue whale'. Think of another large object that you could compare her throw to (It doesn't have to be the exact size). It could be an animal, a vehicle, a building or something else.

a dinosaur, an elephant, a ship, an aeroplane, a bus, a tennis court, a swimming pool

4) How much farther was Megan Campbell's throw than the target distance?

2.55m

5) Which of these is an opinion expressed by Megan Campbell?

- [ ] It would be an amazing achievement for someone else, but not for me.
- [ ] I think someone else should have been the first to set the record.
- [x] I want someone else to beat the record so that I've helped them to succeed.

6a) Do you think that setting world records is important? Explain why/why not.

6b) If you could set a world record, what would it be for, and why? (Think of things you are good at, or love doing!)

Conservation News

WORLD'S SEAWEEDS STRUGGLING

Seaweeds need our help!

SEAWEEDS are vital to the health of humans and the ocean, but they're at risk of extinction, says a new report.

Seaweeds play an essential role: they absorb carbon dioxide, provide habitats for other sea life, and are used to make food and medicine. However, they are facing huge challenges from things like overfishing, climate change, invasive species and pollution.

The *State of the World's Seaweeds* report, led by the Natural History Museum (NHM), says that if we don't act urgently to protect seaweeds from the challenges they face, many could become extinct.

Seaweed expert, Professor Juliet Brodie from the NHM, said: "A world without seaweeds means devastation to the functioning of the Earth as we know it. A world with seaweeds that are healthy and thriving offers hope of a better future for the planet."

GLOSSARY

- **invasive species** – something, such as a plant or animal, that spreads quickly in a new environment. It can harm local plants, animals, or the environment
- **The State of the World's Seaweeds** – a global study examining the health and importance of seaweeds. The report, released this month, highlights the vital role seaweeds play and the threats they face
- **Natural History Museum (NHM)** – a major museum in London that focuses on the natural world, including plants, animals, and fossils. It is also a leading research centre where scientists study to help to protect the planet

1) Find two adjectives in the story that mean 'absolutely necessary'.

2) Fill in the missing letters in this list of the challenges facing seaweeds. When the letters are used in order, what word do they spell?

___ verfishing

___ limate chang ___

inv ___ sive species

pollutio ___

The letters spell the word: _____

3) What does the report say we need to do to stop seaweeds from becoming extinct?

4) Find two reasons why Professor Juliet Brodie is a good person to quote in this story.

5) Which of these sentences is not something that Professor Juliet Brodie says about seaweeds?

- ☐ The Earth can't function without seaweeds.
- ☐ A world with no seaweeds offers a better future.
- ☐ Healthy seaweeds mean a healthy planet.

6) If you were in charge of a project to save seaweeds, what would your first actions be, and why?

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vital and essential

2) Fill in the missing letters in this list of the challenges facing seaweeds. When the letters are used in order, what word do they spell?

o verfishing

c limate chang e

inv a sive species

pollutio n

The letters spell the word: **ocean**

3) What does the report say we need to do to stop seaweeds from becoming extinct?

We need to act urgently to protect seaweeds from the challenges they face.

4) Find two reasons why Professor Juliet Brodie is a good person to quote in this story.

She is a seaweed expert.

She works at the Natural History Museum.

5) Which of these sentences is not something that Professor Juliet Brodie says about seaweeds?

- [ ] The Earth can't function without seaweeds.
- [x] A world with no seaweeds offers a better future.
- [ ] Healthy seaweeds mean a healthy planet.

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