

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

4th - 10th September 2023



**What can we learn
from new adventures?**



Let's look at this week's story

Almost ten years ago, the now 44-year-old Torbjørn Pedersen from Denmark left his job and family behind to begin a life-changing journey. His goal was to visit every country in the world without flying on a plane. In May this year, Pedersen successfully visited his 203rd and final country, the Maldives. After celebrating, he backtracked to Malaysia via Sri Lanka to board a container ship for the 33-day trip home. Now he has had time to rest and reflect, Pedersen plans to write a book about his adventure.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified

This week's story looks at events related to ...

Denmark – Torbjørn Pedersen is from Denmark.





Read through the information below,
which explains more about Torbjørn's journey.

Visiting all 203 countries of the world without flying!

1 In early 2013, Torbjørn Pedersen, a hopeful adventurer from Denmark, received an email that changed his life.
'My father sent me a link to an article, and I clicked on it. I quickly realised that no one in history had gone to every single country in the world without flying. The fact caught my interest and stuck with me.'

2 Torbjørn was already fascinated with world firsts: the first to go to the North Pole, the South Pole, the deepest sea, the highest mountain, the longest river. Now he believed he had a chance to set a world record himself. 'It was right in front of me. I could do something of significance with my life, something worth putting in a book, something worth remembering. And it would be a great adventure!'

3 Torbjørn decided to be the first person to visit all 203 countries without flying or any breaks. He had just two rules for his challenge:

1. Spend at least 24 hours in each country.
2. Not return home until he finished.

4 Torbjørn did his best to keep costs low and lived off a budget of roughly \$20 (£16) a day.



Torbjørn C. Pedersen

5 Throughout his journey, Torbjørn faced many difficulties, including spending two years instead of four days in Hong Kong, during the coronavirus pandemic that began in 2020, and being unable to support friends during difficult times back home.
He also had some incredible experiences including asking his girlfriend, who was visiting, to marry him during a snowstorm on top of Mount Kenya!

6 Torbjørn's journey came to an end on 23rd May 2023, when the 44-year-old arrived in the Maldives, the final country on his list of 203!

**Which parts do you think would have been the most challenging,
and which the most enjoyable?**



Look at the resource below, where some people share what they took with them on their adventure.

My adventure was a walk up a mountain! I took water, food, a map, a compass, waterproof clothing and a first aid kit. I put it all in a small rucksack.

Jennifer

I went on a cycling trip. I cycled for most of the day and then found a bed and breakfast to sleep at. I didn't take much with me, just one change of clothes, refillable water bottles, my money and my mobile phone.

Zenghi

I went on a family holiday. I packed all the things I would need for a whole week away from home in a suitcase with wheels and a handle. I took clothes, towels, toiletries, a few games, some spending money and my favourite teddy!

Eli

What would you need to pack for your adventure?



Which bag would you use for your adventure?





Look at the resource below, which shares some of the obstacles Torbjørn (Thor) may have faced during his challenge.



Covid-19

Thor planned to spend four days in Hong Kong but the coronavirus pandemic caused travelling restrictions. He spent two years there instead.



Being away from family

The challenge took ten years to complete. During this time, Thor was away from his friends and family.



Navigation

Thor needed to know where in the world he was and to plan and follow a route.



Money

Thor had a budget of around £16 per day.



Transport

To achieve the challenge, Thor was unable to use any mode of transport that involved flying.



Different countries

Thor visited 203 countries. Different countries have different laws, cultures, languages etc.



Can you think of any other obstacles Thor might have faced?



**What can we learn
from new adventures?**

Reflection



Beginning a new adventure can be an exciting experience, but also one that may be scary and bring its own challenges for us to overcome!





Individual Liberty

There are many challenges and adventures we will face throughout our lives. Some we may choose to do; others we do not. We can, however, choose how we respond to these challenges and the actions we take.

Protected Characteristics



Thor travelled to 203 countries, meeting many people along the way. The country someone belongs to is their nationality. Nobody should be treated unfairly because of their nationality.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



If a child lives in a different country than their parents, governments must let the child and parents travel so that they can stay in contact and be together.



Useful vocabulary



Adventurer

A person who enjoys or seeks dangerous or exciting experiences.

In early 2013, Torbjørn Pedersen, a hopeful **adventurer** from Denmark, received an email that changed his life.

Backtracked

Go back along a track or route just taken.

After celebrating, he **backtracked** to Malaysia via Sri Lanka to board a container ship for the 33-day trip home.

Encountered

Unexpectedly be faced with or experience something difficult.

Can you think of an adventure or challenge you have **encountered**?

Fascinated

Extremely interested.

Torbjørn was already **fascinated** with world firsts.

Overcome

Successfully deal with or control a problem or difficulty.

Beginning a new adventure can be an exciting experience, but also one that may be scary and bring its own challenges for us to **overcome**!

Significance

Important or has meaning.

I could do something of **significance** with my life, something worth putting in a book, something worth remembering.

Can you use them in your writing this week?



Happy Hellos

Research conducted by the University of Sussex, Transport for London (TfL) and research company, Neighbourly Lab, has revealed that passengers saying, 'good morning' or 'thank you' had a positive impact on bus drivers' happiness and job satisfaction, making them feel 'respected', 'seen' and 'appreciated'. The small study showed that although 80% of passengers questioned at one bus stop believed it would have a positive impact to say 'hello' to their bus driver, on average only two in ten passengers did. The bus company have now introduced signs on buses encouraging people to speak to their driver. This has increased the number of interactions to three in ten. Grainne O'Dwyer, who led the research, said, 'This research makes an exciting contribution to our understanding around the value of small, daily interactions. The positive impact that something as small as a 'hello' or 'thank you' can make for our brilliant bus drivers demonstrates the power of these small actions. It argues the case for looking up from your phone, even briefly, and giving a friendly smile or greeting when on your daily commute, grabbing

your daily coffee, grabbing a few bits from the shop. After all, a thanks or hello means more than you know.'

Do you think a friendly greeting is always a good idea?



Pictured: Buses in London. **Source:** Canva



Pictured: A bus driver greeting children as they board a school bus. **Source:** Canva

Sardinian Seagrass

One million seagrass seedlings will be planted by 2050 as part of a new project to protect Sardinia's beaches. Scientists working at the Med Sea Foundation say the reintroduction of seagrass meadows in the Mediterranean sea, surrounding the Italian island, will not only protect their beaches, but help to combat climate change, and contribute towards saving the planet. The amazing plant provides habitat for nearly all species in the sea, and importantly gives a nursery area for young wildlife. The sea forests anchor the sediment on the seafloor and dissipate wave energy, helping to protect the seabed and prevent the erosion of beaches. The plant also produces and releases oxygen, which helps to regulate the ocean's acidity. Seagrass



Pictured: Caprera Island, Sardinia, Italy. **Source:** Canva



Pictured: Posidonia oceanica in the Mediterranean sea. **Source:** Canva

stores 35 times more carbon per area of rootstock than trees in rainforests. Seagrasses are also the only flowering plants able to live and pollinate whilst fully submerged in seawater. 'If there was no seagrass there, then the coastal areas would get much more damaged. It's important for biodiversity, it's important for the life that lives in the ocean, but it's also important for those of us who live on the land,' says Lucy Woodall, a marine biologist who is involved with the project, and works at the University of Exeter, UK. Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea (measuring 24,090 km²). It has around 1850km of coastline and beautiful beaches.

Cheetahs Check-in

Two cheetahs have arrived at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, which provides a walkthrough wildlife experience near Doncaster. Darcy, a 4-year-old female, and Brooke, a 13-year-old male, are both endangered Northern Cheetahs. The pair will move into the specially designed Cheetah Territory that covers 10,000 square metres of bespoke habitat. 'The habitat comprises three new reserves and two houses, forming a breeding complex which, at approximately 2.5 acres, is believed to be the largest in Europe. The landscape is enriched with trees, rocks, sandy areas to relax, caves and lookout points which are expected to be popular

with the new arrivals. Cheetahs have excellent sight and can see prey up to 3 miles away,' said Dr Charlotte Macdonald, Director of Animals at the park. Cheetahs, the smallest of the big cat species, are known to be the world's fastest land animal, capable of running at 128 km/h in short bursts. However, they usually chase their prey at half this speed. They also need about 30 minutes to recover before they eat their catch. Another interesting fact about the spotted feline is instead of roaring, they meow and purr!

Do you know any other interesting facts about cheetahs?



Pictured: A Cheetah sitting and running Source: Canva

Last week's topic: What makes art valuable?



Although I enjoy looking at pretty art, I do think the millions of pounds could be spent better to help people in need.

Marika

I love painting. I keep all my pictures and my Gran puts them up.

Ismay

I think art has different value to each person looking at it, it's a matter of opinion.

Norman

I think a story behind art can make it very valuable - sometimes hearing about what the artist was thinking when they painted their piece is more interesting to me than what the art is.

Jess

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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TAKEHOME



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from new adventures?

In the news this week

Almost ten years ago, the now 44-year-old Torbjørn Pedersen from Denmark left his job and family behind to begin a life-changing journey. His goal was to visit every country in the world without flying on a plane. He had just two main rules: to spend at least 24 hours in each country, and to not return home until he finished. In May this year, Pedersen successfully visited his 203rd and final country, the Maldives. After celebrating, he backtracked to Malaysia via Sri Lanka to board a container ship for the 33-day trip home. Now he has had time to rest and reflect, Pedersen plans to write a book about his adventure.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts on Pedersen's journey. What do you think could be some of the reasons he decided to take on the challenge?
- What things do you imagine Pedersen would have found most difficult about the ten-year challenge? What might he have enjoyed the most?
- Do you think you would enjoy that type of challenge?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

