Afghanistan Info Report

Over the past few days, grade 5B has been working on studying Afghanistan. It has been exciting and I have started realising what tough conditions refugees have to live in. This report will cover most questions on refugee camps and life in Afghanistan. To do this piece of information text on Afghanistan, I have watched 3 videos, read 2 pages of information and read a novel called Boy Overboard.

Afghanistan is a country in central Asia. The capital is Kabul and there are a lot of deserts. Their summers are boiling hot, but their winters are freezing cold. Most parts of Afghanistan are very poor, and there are lots of wars.

There is a society of soldiers that have formed a group called the Taliban Army. They have made lots of new rules that have made an impact on many people. Their leader is Osama Bin Laden and here are some of their rules: Girls aren’t allowed to go to school, they have to wear clothes that cover their whole body (burqa), it is illegal to play music, watch TV or drink fizzy. They have also banned kite flying.

In Afghanistan, there are thousands of people living in refugee camps. These refugee camps are horrible. Firewood is normally too expensive for most families, so instead they burn plastic. This plastic lets out lots of toxic fumes, and children often end up getting sick. Most parents can’t afford medicine for all their children, so they have to pick one to give the medicine to. There are families that are living in houses made of mud, with their roofs falling in every time it snows. They are very crowded. Women and children are often sent out to beg for money on the streets. In Afghanistan there are not many jobs, so most people have to search for it themselves. The United Nations try to get everyone to safety in another country, but most refugees either don’t make the journey, or when they get to there, they get sent back.

Afghanistan has lots of land mines. They are deadly underground weapons that explode when you tread on them. More than 26,000 people are hurt or killed by mines each year. Unfortunately, Afghanistan is one of the countries that have the most. Around every 22 minutes 1 person somewhere in the world is killed or injured by a landmine. Most mines are made of plastic and contain about the same amount of metal as the spring in a ballpoint pen. This makes finding them with metal detectors useless.

As a class, we have been working on wow moments. Wow moments are things that you might read, or hear that make you feel really shocked and surprised. While watching a slide show on Afghanistan’s refugee camps, I recorded some wow moments. Did you know there’s 30,000 people living in atrocious and tiny camps? They are full of people, and more than half of them are sick. These refugees are forced to drink filthy, rotting water from dirty streams, formed from regular floods. There are 2.6 million people waiting for safety in other countries. In Afghanistan, there are cemeteries full of children who have died of cold in the freezing weather.

We have also been studying text connections. There are 3 text connections all together. They are Text to Text, Text to Self and Text to World. Text to World means connecting something from the slideshow to something happening in the real world around me. Text to Self means something that is happening in your life, and comparing it to something that you’re reading or hearing. Text to Text means comparing something from one piece of text to another.

Some of the connections I have made when I was watching an Afghanistan movie are these:

An image showed a poor man standing alone in a desert full of sand with no company. I wrote that it reminded me of when mum and I went to a shopping centre in the city really early in the morning, and we were the only ones there. This connection is Text to Self because it reminded me.

The next picture was Text to World. It was Text to World because on the news it showed a sandstorm. In the refugee camps, there is heaps of dust blowing around. This is Text to World because it was on the news.

Another picture was Text to Text. It reminded me of boy overboard because it said that there were lots of tents and huge crowds and that was what the information slide had said. This is Text to Text because I connected it from one piece of text to another.

Afghanistan is a truly shocking place to live in. I can’t believe Australia is turning the refugee boats around to other countries! It’s just so unfair. If I was living in Afghanistan, I would be so frustrated because everyone living in Australia has a roof over their head, but in refugee camps, they don’t! I am so lucky to be living in Australia!