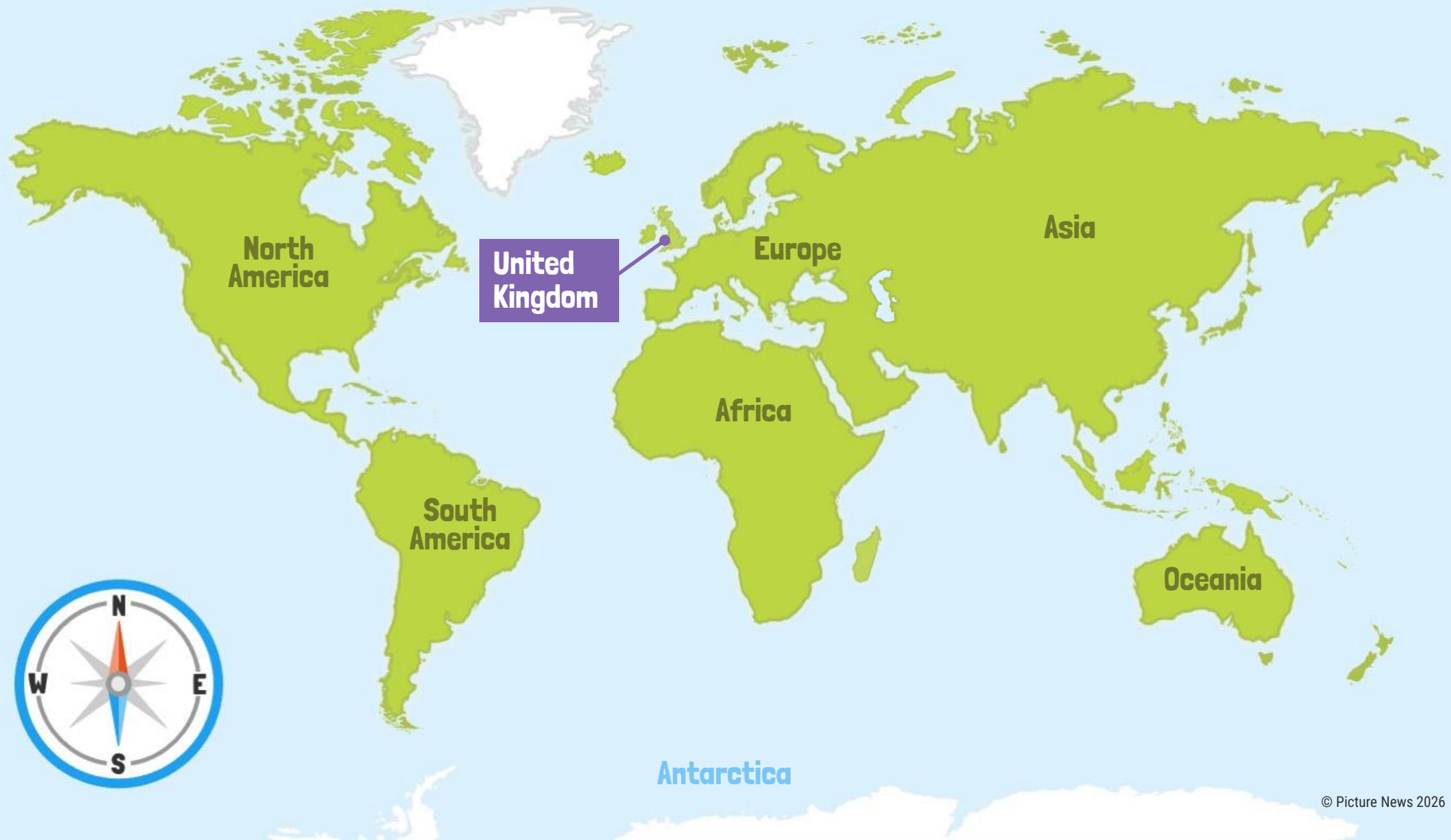


This week's story looks at events related to ...





**What makes
something popular?**





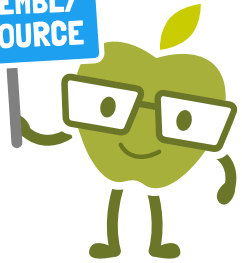
Let's look at this week's story

Squishy dumpling toys have become popular with many children in recent months. Videos showing people squeezing, collecting, and opening the toys have helped them spread quickly online. As more people have bought these types of toys, Trading Standards officers have been called in to carry out safety checks on some of the products being sold in shops and online.



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





Read the information below all about dumpling squishies and ensuring that they are safe. Who do you think is responsible for ensuring that toys are safe?

Squishy Craze!

What are dumpling squishies?

Dumpling squishies are small, soft toys that can be squeezed and stretched. Many people enjoy playing with them because they feel satisfying to hold and squish.

Why are they so popular?

Squishy dumpling toys have become popular with children and adults around the world.

Videos showing people squeezing, collecting, and opening the toy's boxes have been viewed by millions online. Some people enjoy collecting different colours and designs.



Why are they in the news?

Some squishy dumpling toys were recently taken out of shops because they did not meet safety rules. People have also been reminded to use toys safely, check safety labels, and be careful when copying things they see online.



What other sensory toys are there?



Source: Chris Western

Sensory toys come in many different shapes and sizes. Some are designed to be squeezed, twisted, stretched, or popped.

People enjoy different sensory toys for a variety of reasons. Some children like the way they feel, while others enjoy keeping their hands busy.



Look at the resource below, which shows different reasons why a toy might become popular.

What makes lots of children want the same toy?



My friend has one and it's really cool!



I want to collect them.

Protected Characteristics



Which protected characteristic do you think this week's story highlights?



No matter a person's **sex**, everyone should have the freedom to play with any toy they choose.

Share your thoughts. Do you agree?



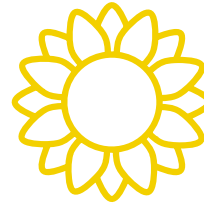
Sex



Who People Love



Age



Disability



Being Yourself



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion or Belief

British Values



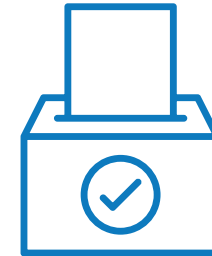
I Really Do Matter!



Individual
Liberty



Rule of Law



Democracy



Mutual Respect
and Tolerance

Which British value do you think this week's story highlights?



The story highlights **Rule of Law** because safety officers use official rules and laws to protect people and make sure shops are selling things that are safe.

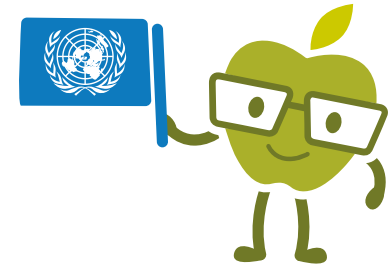
People have the freedom to buy the toys they choose and the right to know the potential risks. This is part of our **Individual Liberty**.



Do you agree with either person, or think something different?



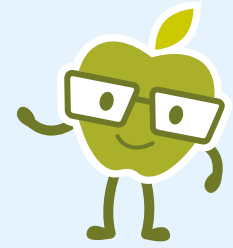
UN Rights of the Child



Adults must always do what is best for children. Trading Standards officers are checking squishy dumpling toys to make sure they are safe, helping to protect children and support their right to be safe and healthy.



Reflection



Popularity can help ideas and toys spread quickly, but it is our own experiences and preferences that help us decide what we enjoy.

