



Short & Curly new season

The ethics show for kids and their family is back with questions to make your brain pop!

Molly Daniels and Carl Smith return with five new episodes sure to spark debate in your family or your classroom. And we're joined as usual by our resident philosopher Matt Beard.

This season [Short & Curly](#) turns invisible, considers life in a virtual reality machine, gives children the vote, finds out how unfair luck is, and we ask a question sure to upset fans of flat faced dogs, should pugs should exist at all?

This show is especially designed to be listened to alone or in groups, and has a built in pause button to allow time to think and debate the topics.

"Short & Curly is more silly than preachy and it doesn't offer simple answers," explains the show's producer, Kyla Slaven. "It's up to our young listeners to come up with their own conclusions, after they have considered different ideas and points of view."

All five episodes of *Short & Curly* are available now on the [ABC Radio app](#). [Subscribe on iTunes](#) or via your favourite podcast provider.

For updates and information about the show:



[ABC Podcasts](#)

Here's what's available in Season 4

Who wants a virtual life?

Let's say you can hook your brain up to a machine which feels 100 percent real and offers you the kind of life you've always wanted. You could climb one of the world's tallest mountains, get yourself some great friends, and even program in some challenges to keep it interesting. The catch is this perfect world isn't real... it's a simulation. Molly thinks it sounds cool but isn't sure about leaving her real life dogs behind. The show takes us on a thought experiment to work out what it is we really want from life and what things are important.

Why can't children vote?

Kids have to live by the rules of the society they are born into but don't get a say on what those rules are. Unfair, right? Decisions made by governments today affect kids' futures but we don't let them near the ballot box. Are children wise enough or informed enough to make big decisions about government? Short & Curly mounts our own political debate with surprising results. Guest Amara is a smart kid who doesn't think it's necessary. How would you vote?

Should pugs exist?

Carl thinks they have the cutest squashest faces and biggest googley eyes of the entire canine world. He definitely wants to buy one. But the life of a pug is not always a happy one. Over time, dog breeders have made pugs so flat-faced that many have serious trouble breathing. They can't run around and play as much as other dogs and get overheated in summer. Many pugs end up needing major surgery just to help them get enough oxygen. So, should Carl be buying a dog like that, even if he would love it and look after it really well?

Are some people just unlucky?

Many cultures believe it's good luck if a bird poos on your head, like what happened to Carl (eww!). Others say it's bad luck if you break a mirror. For centuries, humans have tried to understand things like right and wrong, fair and unfair. So, how much does luck play in your life, in good or bad ways? And how might understanding luck make us think differently about the world?

The ethics of invisibility

What would you do if you had the power of invisibility? Would you sneak around, spy on people, commit crimes, pull practical jokes, or find out what other people really think about you? The military is putting tonnes of money and effort into trying to make things invisible, but don't hold your breath. We introduce a new superhero, Invisibilia, to help us explore some really big questions. How would you behave if you thought no-one could see you? Is it about doing the right thing or is it the "getting caught" part that stops bad behaviour?

For interviews please contact:

Kyla Slaven

Producer, Short & Curly, ABC

e: slaven.kyla@abc.net.au

T: +61 2 8333 2636 M: +61 427 270 057

