





Respect!







- a** Ben Underwood was a normal teenage boy. He loved playing basketball, riding his bicycle, listening to music with his friends and playing video games. But in one way, Ben was different to most other teenagers – he was blind. However, Ben had a special talent. He didn't have any eyes, but he could still see.
- b** Ben was born in 1992, on 26th January. For the first two years of his life, Ben was a happy and healthy baby. He had a normal life, living with his mother and two older brothers in California. However, when Ben was two years old, his life changed. In 1994, he was taken to hospital because he had problems with his eyes. The doctors looked at his eyes and told his mother the bad news – Ben had cancer. After a few months, he had an operation to remove the cancer. The operation was successful, and Ben was fine. However, the doctors had to remove his eyes and Ben became blind.
- c** After his operation, Ben developed an incredible talent. When he was three, he learned how to 'see' buildings with his ears. He listened very carefully, and he could hear noises bounce off buildings. The noises told him where the buildings were. Then, when Ben was seven, he learned to 'click'. He made clicking noises with his mouth, and listened for the noises that bounced back from things. In this way, Ben could 'see' where he was and what was around him. This is the same way dolphins see things under water, and bats see in the dark.
- d** Scientists and doctors were amazed by Ben's talent. There are only a few blind people in the world who can see like Ben. He became famous. He was on TV, and he travelled to different countries and talked to people about his life. Sadly, when Ben was 16, his cancer came back. He died soon after. However, during Ben's life, he taught people that anything is possible. Many people admired him because he inspired them and helped them feel strong. When he died in 2009, over 2,000 people went to his funeral.

Reading 1 Unit 9

Read the article match the sentences to the paragraphs (a-d)

- 1 Ben learned to 'see' again. 
- 2 Ben was an ordinary boy but he could do something amazing. 
- 3 Ben became a hero for many people. 
- 4 Ben became ill and lost his eyes. 

Read the article and answer (T/F/DNS)

- 1 Ben liked playing basketball. 
- 2 Ben was just like other teenagers. 
- 3 Ben did karate. 
- 4 Ben couldn't ride a bicycle. 
- 5 Ben was a teenage boy. 
- 6 Ben liked writing music. 

Put the following things in the correct order

- Ben learned to how to see buildings with his ears
- Ben was born
- Ben learned hot to click
- Ben's cancer came back
- Ben had a problems with his eyes
- Ben died
- Ben went on a TV Program

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