
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

The return of blue whales

The story

Scientists say they've seen a remarkable number of blue whales in recent weeks near the island of South Georgia in the South Atlantic. A survey counted 55 animals – a figure unprecedented in the decade since commercial whaling ended.

Vocabulary

unprecedented

never having happened before

- Unprecedented bush fires hit Australia last year.
- Federer is hoping to win an unprecedented ninth Wimbledon.

bouncing back

becoming successful again after a bad experience

- Her hat trick shows she's really bouncing back from her broken leg.
- The Amazon will never bounce back from deforestation.

soar

increase quickly

- Markets soar when there's confidence in the economy.
- Ticket prices soared when the home team made the final.