

Chatterbooks Activity Pack

Sporty Stories



Sporty stories!

The **2016 Olympic Games** will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from August 5 to August 21, 2016. Record numbers of countries are participating in a record number of sports. More than 10,500 athletes from 206 countries, will take part.^[2] With 306 sets of medals, the games will feature 28 Olympic sports and these sporting events will take place at 33 venues in the host city and at 5 venues across Brazil. And in June it's the UEFA EURO 2016 football tournament!

Here's a Chatterbooks pack celebrating the games and bringing you a great collection of **sporty stories and activities** for your group to enjoy, including some from author and Chatterbooks champion Tom Palmer. You'll also find ideas for discussion and suggestions for more reading.

This pack is brought to you by **The Reading Agency** and their publisher partnership **Children's Reading Partners**.

Chatterbooks [www.readinggroups.org/chatterbooks] is a reading group programme for children aged 4 to 14 years. It is coordinated by The Reading Agency and its patron is author Dame Jacqueline Wilson. A Chatterbooks group is a great way to enthuse children about books and to encourage them to read widely for pleasure. 15 000 children belong to Chatterbooks groups which can be run by library staff, teachers, teaching assistants or volunteers- anyone with a passion for reading. At each session, children talk about what they are reading, take part in fun activities inspired by the best children's books and choose new books to take home and read. It's FREE to join our network where you will find plenty of free downloadable resources to start your own Chatterbooks group. www.chatterbooks.org.uk

The Reading Agency is an independent charity working to inspire more people to read more through programmes for adults, young people and Children – including the Summer Reading Challenge, and Chatterbooks. See www.readingagency.org.uk

Children's Reading Partners is a national partnership of children's publishers and libraries working together to bring reading promotions and author events to as many children and young people as possible.

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Sporty stories!

Ideas for discussion and activities

Get together a collection of books about sport and the Olympics - fiction, non-fiction and picture books.

And have sheets of flip-chart paper for collecting people's ideas and answers in discussions.

Warm up

Sporty wordsearch

Here are some words which are all to do with the Olympics..

Look for them in the squares - across, down, up, and from right to left.

When you've found them, talk together about what you know of each of them.

OLYMPICS

RIO

GOLD MEDAL

STADIUM

ATHLETICS

FOOTBALL

SWIMMING

CYCLING

GAMES

WRESTLING

ANCIENT GREECE

RELAY

OLYMPIC TORCH

OPENING CEREMONY

Q	W	Z	H	C	R	O	T	C	I	P	M	Y	L	O	F
Y	P	L	X	V	N	P	B	C	X	A	S	F	Z	V	K
F	G	A	N	C	I	E	N	T	G	R	E	E	C	E	L
B	M	D	B	X	V	N	X	J	X	Z	V	G	W	X	L
S	F	E	D	G	N	I	L	T	S	E	R	W	B	G	A
W	X	M	X	K	V	N	Z	F	Q	Z	I	V	X	J	B
S	M	D	G	S	V	G	W	X	Z	B	O	X	Z	B	T
T	Q	L	Z	C	Y	C	L	I	N	G	F	W	J	Z	O
A	X	O	K	I	J	E	E	R	Z	A	S	G	C	H	O
D	Q	G	V	T	Z	R	Q	J	F	M	X	N	B	G	F
I	W	F	V	E	Q	E	S	Q	V	E	U	I	Z	K	F
U	V	X	O	L	Y	M	P	I	C	S	W	M	G	J	X
M	P	B	V	H	X	O	Z	Q	J	X	P	M	X	G	Q
F	E	T	K	T	Z	N	J	G	X	S	Z	I	J	V	Z
Z	Q	X	W	A	X	Y	A	L	E	R	M	W	V	Z	F
V	J	Z	V	P	M	X	B	X	W	Z	G	S	Q	W	J

Guess the sport!

Look at this list of all the Olympic sports – and get everyone each to choose a sport and then mime/act it out for the rest of the group to guess what it is.

2016 Olympics Summer Sports

Archery	Golf	Shooting
Badminton	Gymnastics	Table tennis
Basketball	Handball	Taekwondo
Beach volleyball	Judo	Tennis
Boxing	Modern Pentathlon	Track & field**
Canoe/kayak	Rowing	Triathlon
Cycling: track, road, mountain, BMX	Rugby 7s	Volleyball (indoor)
Diving	Sailing	Water polo
Equestrian: dressage, jumping, eventing	Synchronised swimming	Weightlifting
Fencing	Swimming	Wrestling
Field hockey	Soccer/football	

** Track and field events at the Olympics

Sprints	Walks	Javelin
Sprint relay	Marathon	Discus
Hurdles	High jump	Shot put
Middle distance	Long jump	Hammer throw
Long distance	Triple jump	Decathlon
Steeplechase	Pole vault	Heptathlon

Possible new sports for future Olympics

Surfing; climbing; karate

Sports at the original Olympics in ancient Greece

Boxing

Equestrian events: chariot racing; riding

Pankration (a tough mix of boxing and wrestling)

Pentathlon: discus, javelin, jump, running, wrestling

Running

Wrestling

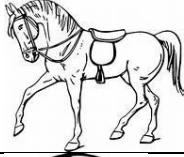
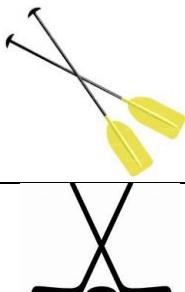
Find out more about the Olympics – maybe learn more about a particular sport, or about how the games originated in ancient Greece

Which sports do these pictures show?

Match up the sports to the pictures!

Archery Boxing Equestrian events
Hockey Javelin Swimming

Fencing Football
Tennis Rowing

.....	Which sport?.....
	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.
	10.

Things to talk about

Winning and losing

There's a breathless hush in the Close to-night --

Ten to make and the match to win --

A bumping pitch and a blinding light,

An hour to play and the last man in.

And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,

Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,

But his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote

*"Play up! play up! and play the game!" From *Vitai Lampada* by Sir Henry Newbolt*

Have a look at www.olympic.org – the official website for the Olympic Games, where it describes the values of the Olympics:

The goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

The Olympic motto is "Citius, Altius, Fortius." These Latin words mean "Swifter, Higher, Stronger."

Talk about the how the Olympics aim to get all the countries of the world joining together as one, and athletes striving to be their best. But there is a down side to think about too - drugs, corruption, greed. Competition can bring out the best and worst in people.

Favourite and least favourite sports

What are everyone's favourite sports? And what are the least favourite?

Make lists of these – sports you like to do, sports you like to watch, and the sports people don't like. Collect the reasons for these choices – and get your group to vote for the sport they like best to do, and their favourite to watch.

Which Olympic events might these book characters enter?!

Make a list of some favourite book characters on a flip chart. Talk about what they're like and make some notes next to each of them. Then decide which Olympic sport they might go in for. (See above for the full list of sports.)

What do you think? What are your reasons for your events choices? Here are some characters you might have in your list:

Alex Rider Amazing Grace Batman Black Beauty Fantastic Mr Fox Bilbo

Baggins Harry Potter Hiccup Horrendous Haddock Horrid Henry Peter Pan

Pippi Longstocking The Jolly Postman Tigger Winnie the Pooh Norm

Activity ideas

Olympics Quiz *NB Sometimes there are two right answers!*



1. What do the 5 rings of the Olympic symbol represent?
 - a. Each country taking part has at least one of these colours on their flag
 - b. The union of the 5 continents in the world
 - c. 5 gold rings: the top award in the Games

2. Where in Greece were the very first Olympic Games held in the 8th century BC?
 - a. Athens
 - b. Rome
 - c. Olympia

3. Where were the Games held in 2012?
 - a. Bejing
 - b. London
 - c. New York

4. Which of these sports is no longer included in the Olympic Games?
 - a. Sprint races
 - b. Tug-of-war
 - c. Gymnastics

5. Which of these sports wasn't part of the Games in ancient Greece?
 - a. Running
 - b. Wrestling
 - c. Beach volleyball

6. Which of these sports is being suggested as a new addition to the Games?
 - a. Surfing
 - b. Rowing
 - c. Tennis

7. Who won a gold medal in the 2012 Games for the 5000 metres long distance race?
 - a. Mo Farah
 - b. Usain Bolt
 - c. Jessica Ennis

8. What are the 5 sports which make up the modern pentathlon?
 - a. Skate-boarding; mud-wrestling; crazy golf; hopscotch; dodgems
 - b. Fencing; swimming; show-jumping; pistol-shooting; cross-country run
 - c. Scrabble; chess; draughts; Monopoly; snakes and ladders

For another quiz group members could make up their own, based on the research they've done about the Games.

Library Games!

Run your own indoor **Chatterbooks Library Games** inspired by the Olympics!

- Divide into teams and decide on names for your teams. Each team could have their own colours and design their own flag.
- Flags from the countries taking part?
- Decide what events you are going to have – below is a list of suggested activities which would work well in the library.
- Put up a score sheet on a flip chart, listing all the events and with a score column for each of the teams.
- Make some medals! (see below, or you could have chocolate medals) and an Olympic torch (see these websites: <http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/make-an-olympic-torch> ; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccNp_LYgu7I)
- Start your games with your teams processing round the library, with someone at the front of each team holding their torch. Put the torches on display in a bowl by the score sheet – and on with your games! The group leader can be the scorer.
- Enjoy an awards ceremony at the end – with medals for everyone!

Some ideas for events:

Balloon relay

You will need: Two large baskets or dustbin liners; Lots of over-inflated balloons

How to play: Line up your teams. About 25 yards away place two large baskets or bin liners of inflated balloons. (Make sure you over-inflate the balloons to make popping easier!)

At the starting signal, the first two contestants in each team run to their basket and grab a balloon. They then sit on it until it pops! As soon as it has popped, they run back to their team and tag the next player in line. The first team to pop all their balloons wins.

Hints: You can add an obstacle course element to the game by making each player negotiate various obstacles before they reach their balloon.

Make the game more exciting by making players roll a dice (or two) before popping their balloon. They must roll a 6 (or a double) before they are allowed to try to pop the balloon.

Indoor bowling

This is a great way to reuse water bottles (or you could use an indoor bowling set if anyone has one). Line 6 to 10 water bottles up at the end of your activity space. Place a line of duct tape at the starting line. Grab a medium-sized indoor ball and start bowling! Keep score and give out medals at the end.

Hint: if you need to stabilize the water bottles or make the game more difficult, simply fill them up with some water. Don't forget to screw the tops on tightly!

Indoor basketball

All you need for this is a bucket and a rolled up sock (or a small, light ball). Each player takes a turn at throwing the sock-ball into the bucket. When a player scores a bucket, he or she takes a step back and throws again until they miss. The player who shoots the ball into the bucket from the farthest distance wins.

Caterpillar Race

Line teams up next to each other behind a starting line. Instruct team members to place hands on the shoulders of the team members in front of them and race to a finish line according to the following rules of movement:

The first person in line may hop one step forward. Continue down the line until the last person in line hops one step forward. After the last person hops, he or she must shout the team name.

Then the whole team may hop one step forward at the same time. Repeat this process to move the caterpillar along. Players must keep their hands on the shoulders of the team members in front of them at all times during the race. Players may move forward only by hopping one step forward with both feet at once.

If a team member breaks any of the above rules, it must return to the starting line and begin again.

Egg and spoon race

What you need: *teaspoons *eggs - preferably hard boiled or golf balls

Activity: A race of balance and co-ordination.

Arrange all the children at a start line with an egg and a teaspoon each. When you are ready to start the race, ask them to place the egg onto their spoon and then place their other arm behind their back. When you say 'Go!' the children race as fast as they can, without the egg rolling off the spoon, to the finish line. If the egg falls, the child starts again!

Whoever crosses the finish line first with their egg still balanced on their spoon and an arm behind their back, wins.

Tower Building

Get together lots of building materials: cardboard boxes, cereal cartons, card, shiny paper, coloured paper, newspaper, toilet roll & kitchen roll cylinders, ice-lolly sticks – and lots of sellotape! Then challenge your teams: whoever builds the highest tower (which stays upright!) wins.

Body speller

Get team members to take turns standing in front of their teams and spelling out words or phrases for the team to guess. Bit the speller is not allowed to speak or mouth the words! They must use their index finger, their feet – or their whole body! – to spell out the letters of the words.

Teams win points by guessing the words or phrases correctly.

Board games

Your Library Olympics could include board games, chosen by your group – maybe draughts - or snakes and ladders!

Make your own medals



Here are two ideas you could use.

A: You will need:

Slice of stale bread
Round pastry cutter
Gold paint (or silver, or bronze)
Ribbon

Instructions: Cut a circle out of the bread with the pastry cutter. Make a small hole near the edge of the circle. Bake the bread in a low temperature oven until it is hard (about 30 minutes). When cool, paint with gold paint. Leave to dry. Thread the ribbon through the hole.

B: For really simple medals use a large circle craft punch to punch circles from gold, silver and bronze card. Use a smaller punch to make a hole in the top and thread your ribbon through.

Make up a sporty acrostic

An acrostic is a poem where the first letters of each line, when put together, make a word which is the subject of the poem. Have a go at writing an acrostic about one of the Olympic sports – here are two example poems about football and discus.

Fast
On the ball
On to the goal
Tracking your opponent
Brave
Active
Leaping
Loving the game

Direct
Into the
Sky
Curving
Upward
Streamlined

Or you could try doing acrostics with your names!

e.g. for BETH:
Beautiful eyes
Enthusiastic
Time for everyone
Helpful and friendly

Here are some ideas inspired by activities created by author and Chatterbooks Champion Tom Palmer, including some football ones to celebrate the **UEFA EURO 2016 football tournament**.

Make a Sporty Reading Display for your library or classroom!

Your display could be about the Olympics in general, or focus on the 2016 Rio Olympics. Or it could feature one particular sport, such as football, rugby, cycling – or your group's favourite sports.

Here are some ideas for what you might put in the display:

- Newspaper cuttings and reports about the sport/events
- Your own research – e.g. 'Fascinating Facts'
- Statistics - e.g. match results, league tables, the Olympic medals table
- Pictures from magazines or from the internet
- Pictures of the people in your group with the books and magazines they are reading about the sport/s or about the Olympic
- Excerpts from favourite sports stories and non-fiction – and reviews of these books
- Examples of sportswear and equipment to do with the sport/s featured – e.g a football, running shoes
- And a selection of books, magazines and newspapers – and maybe a laptop with sporty websites in front of the display - for your group to enjoy and find out more about the sport/s.

Pass the Ball!

But instead of kicking a football to each other, pass a book!

Choose a book for all your group to read. It could be a novel – or non-fiction. Then ask the children to throw it (with care!) to one another. Once a child catches it, they have to read a page, then pass it on. This could be a way of giving a lift to a traditional read-around-the-group/classroom activity.

Football Readers

Have a look at [Tom Palmer's Football Readers activity ideas](#).

These include a **Football Readers profile sheet** which people in your group can fill in – and add to it pictures of themselves holding their favourite football or sports book. Here's a Football Readers template sheet – see below - which you can use. It has a space for a picture of the reader holding their favourite book.

You could adapt it and have a Sporty Readers sheet instead.



Football Readers

First name

Town/City where you live:

Favourite football team:

Your favourite football or sports book:

What is it about?

What other books would you recommend?

What is your favourite magazine?

What is your favourite newspaper?

Want is your favourite website?

Where is your favourite place to read?

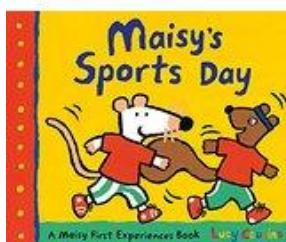
Football Shaped Reviews

Print and cut out these footballs for children to write on them with reviews of books they have read. Then display them creatively against a backdrop like a football net or a crowd of faces.



Sporty Sporty stories and fun!

Picture Books



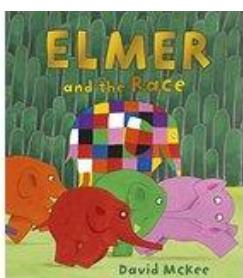
Maisy's Sports Day **Lucy Cousins** **Walker Books** **978-1406365184**

This is about experiencing sports day for the first time. Maisy and friends all join in for sporty fun and Ostrich referees. The competitions include an egg-and-spoon race, a wheelbarrow race, a sack race, a relay race, a three-legged race and even a get-dressed-up-silly race! There are winners and losers, but everyone gets a medal in the end. See [Maisy's website](#) for activities, newsletters, games and more.

Lucy Cousins lives in Hampshire. Her other books include the Smarties Book Prize-winner *Jazzy in the Jungle* and *Peck Peck Peck*, which won Best Picture Book in the Booktrust Best Book Awards.

They all wear funny clothes for the get-dressed-up-silly race! Cyril is the winner! 'Three cheers for Cyril!' everybody shouts.

This race would be good in your Library Olympics! Or you could dress as favourite book characters!

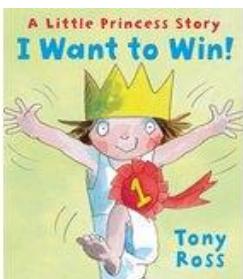


Elmer and the Race **David McKee** **Andersen Press**
978-1783444175 (Published August 2016)

The young elephants want to prove who is the fastest, so Elmer and Wilbur organise a race. Each decorated a different colour, the racers set off around the course – Blue may be first and Orange second, but White is kind, Pink is funny, and Yellow is a cheat. Luckily he also learns he is good at saying sorry, so each young elephant gets a medal from Elmer.

David McKee has written and illustrated numerous children's books, including the popular *Elmer* series, *Not Now Bernard* and *King Rollo*. He also illustrates for other writers including Michael Bond's *Paddington Bear*.

It was a busy, noisy week. The other animals promised to come and watch. There was always one or the other of the young elephants practising and older elephants cheering them on.



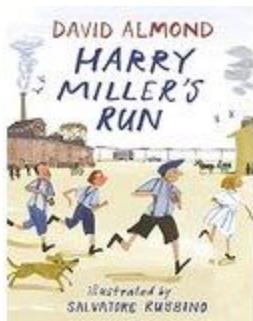
I Want to Win! **Tony Ross** **Andersen Press** **978-1849394741**

The Little Princess loves to win - and at home everyone usually lets her. At school she tries her hardest, but it seems she can't do anything right. Then she soon discovers that winning is much more fun when she really deserves it!

As well as his *Little Princess* series **Tony Ross** has illustrated many children's books including *Pippi Longstocking*, the *Dr Xargle* titles, and the *Horrid Henry* series. He lives in Cheshire.

'I want to win!' she said when she played games at home, and since everyone lost on purpose, she usually did.

Fiction



Harry Miller's Run David Almond & Salvatore Rubbino Walker Books 978-1406362244

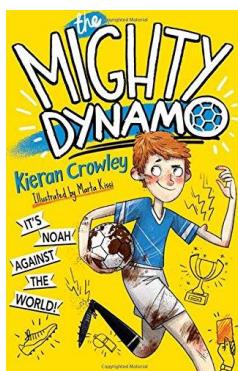
A joyful, uplifting story of times gone by, illustrated in full colour. Liam just wants to go out running with his mates - it's not long till the Junior Great North Run, and there's training to be done. But Mam needs him to help old Harry clear out his house. Harry knows a thing or two about running. When he was a lad, he says, he ran all the way from Newcastle to South Shields. This is the story of that day: of sweltering heat, clattering boots, briny sea air and the heavenly taste of ice cream; the day when Harry and his pals ran through the blazing sunlight all the way to the sea.

David Almond is the author of *Skellig*, *My Name is Mina*, *The Savage*, *A Song for Ella Grey* and many other novels, stories and plays. He has won the Carnegie Medal, two Whitbreads, the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, and the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the world's most prestigious prize for children's authors. He lives in Northumberland.

Salvatore Rubbino Salvatore grew up in London and his first picture book was *A Walk in New York*. He was judged one of the country's top ten new illustrators in the Booktrust Best New Illustrators Award 2011. His picture book *Just Ducks!* was shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal.

'Good lads!' they say. 'Good lass! Run! Run! There's a wolf at your tail! Run for your lives!' And people give us watter, and a baker in Hebburn gives us cakes. And we run and run and run and run.

Find out about the Great North Run – and other long distance runs such as the London Marathon. What is the Marathon? – and when and how did it originate?



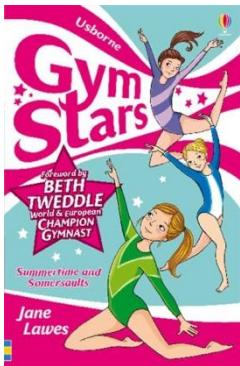
The Mighty Dynamo Kieran Crowley & Marta Kissi Macmillan 978-1447299783

Noah longs to be a professional footballer - and playing in the Schools' World Cup qualifiers might be just what he needs to get scouted. But when he's banned from his school team for something he didn't do, all his dreams are in doubt. Determined to live up to his Mighty Dynamo nickname, Noah must find his way to enter the contest - no matter how!

Kieran Crowley is from Cork in Ireland. His first book, *Colm & the Lazarus Key* was shortlisted for the Bisto Children's Book of the Year Award 2010 and was followed by a sequel, *Colm & The Ghost's Revenge*.

Noah was out on the left wing now, moving into space, just as he always did. Most people thought football was about skill and effort and it was about those things, but mostly it was about space and decisions. Finding space on the pitch in which to receive the ball and then making the right decision – when to pass, when to dribble, when to shoot.

Do you agree with Noah that football is especially about space and decisions? What do you think matters most in playing the game? And what is key in other games – such as tennis or basketball?



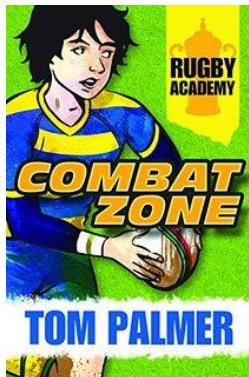
Gym Stars: Summertime and Somersaults Jane Lawes Usborne 978-1409531791

Tara loves gym and spends every spare moment practising in her garden. When she joins the Silverdale Gym Club, Tara is catapulted into their star team. But with so many new things to learn - like backflips, somersaults and handsprings, how will Tara catch up with her talented teammates? This book has a foreword by Beth Tweddle, Olympic Medal winner.

Jane Lawes studied American Literature and Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. She currently works in publishing by day, and as an author by night and weekends. *Gym Stars: Summertime & Somersaults* is Jane's first novel.

As the week went on, Tara got to try lots of new things. She loved working on the trampoline, where Lucy taught her to do light, bouncy handsprings. And the beam was fun too, though she couldn't do anything more than walk up and down on her tiptoes, and balance with one leg held out straight behind her in an arabesque. She sort of got used to the vault, though she still felt scared every time she ran towards it...

Friendships and Backflips 978-1474922944 Handsprings and Homework 978-1409531814



Combat Zone (Rugby Academy) Tom Palmer & David Shephard Barrington Stoke 978-1781123997

Borderlands is no ordinary school - all of the students boarding there have parents in the armed forces, and the UK is drawing perilously close to war in the Middle East. New boy Woody is desperate to escape the school and find his way to his dad's military base, but his dad has been mobilised. He's gone. Worried and unhappy, Woody turns to the only thing that could help get him through - rugby. This is the first title in a trilogy and is particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 8+

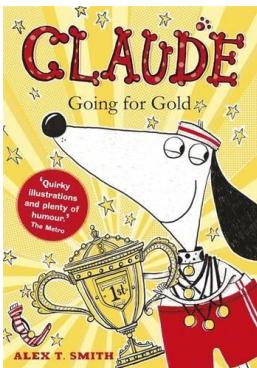
Tom Palmer is best known for his *Football Academy* and *Foul Play* series. He credits articles about football with getting him into reading and libraries across the country attest to the fact that he is one of the main motivating factors for boys getting into books today.

The last ten minutes of the match felt like an hour to Woody. Every time he got the ball, he did as the coach had told him. Gathered pace. Gained ground. Hit the defence hard. And he did it time after time.

Collect the Rugby Academy Top Trumps cards! You can find some in each book or you can download them from [Tom's website](#).

Have a go too at the reading quizzes – and see the activities from Tom on page 11 of this pack.

Deadlocked 978-1781123997 Surface to Air 978-1781123980



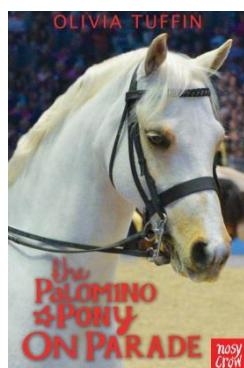
Claude: Going for Gold **Alex T Smith** **Hachette**
978-1444926484

When Claude and Sir Bobblysock discover a Very Exciting Sports Competition at their local sports centre, they are very excited. They are even more excited when they are asked to take part. But Claude's doggy paddle isn't fast enough, and he's not quite as good at gymnastics as he thought he might be. Then some robbers steal the Gold Cup - can Claude run fast enough to catch them? **Alex T. Smith**'s first book *Claude in the City* was selected for the Richard and Judy Children's Book Club 2011 and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize in 2012. There are nine books in this series. Alex was the World Book Day Illustrator 2014.

He clanged through the fencing hall, hoofed it round the horse racing...and...ping-ponged through some very tense table tennis matches. But it was no good – he just couldn't catch up with the robbers. If they made it round the track once more they'd be able to run out of the stadium and escape with the trophy and medals!

Claude on Holiday **978-0340999011**

Claude on the Slopes **978-1444909302**



The Palomino Pony on Parade **Olivia Tuffin** **Nosy Crow** **978-0857635563**

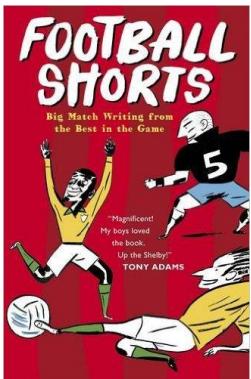
Georgia is excited to be competing at Olympia! It's a dream come true, and she's really looking forward to it. Especially the Parade at the end, where she can show off her gorgeous little palomino, Lily, to the world – however there are adventures and challenges ahead first!

Olivia Tuffin lives in Dorset and has written six books in the *Palomino Pony* series.

The actual show part was much the same as every other show Georgia had done – a go-round with the other ponies, an individual show and a trot-up in front of the confirmation judge. The same as very show bar the enormous crowds and Christmas decorations everywhere, and the fact that they were cantering around one of the most famous equestrian arenas in the world!

The Palomino Pony Wins Through
The Palomino Pony Runs Free
The Palomino Pony Comes Home

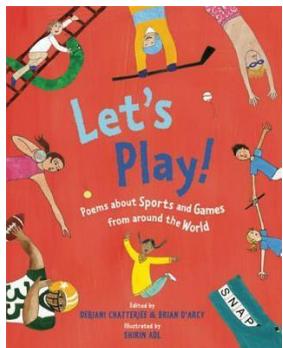
978-0857633231
978-0857634443
978-0857633033



Football Shorts Tom Watt (ed.) Walker Books 978-1406345117

Here is big match writing from the best in the game. Billy's telling tall stories about his "famous" grandfather, Raphael suspects his coach of murder, Tom and Jerry surprise a talent scout and Katy gets picked to play for England. This is a collection of short stories and poems about football, by a fantastic line-up of children's authors, football writers and players, including Paul Cookson, Alan Davies, Curtis Davies, Matt Holland, Nick Hornby, Mal Peet, Tom Palmer and Faye White.

Some of the biggest matches happened right there in our hallway. Mum and Dad's bedroom door was one goal and the cupboard at the end was the other. One against one, and the winner would get a free flick at the loser's ear. That hallway was Manor Park or the Emirates, Wembley or the Bernabeu. From A Quick One-Two by Tomas Rosicky



Let's Play! Poems about Sports Debjani Chatterjee, Brian D'Arcy & Shirin Adl Quarto Kids 978-1847803702

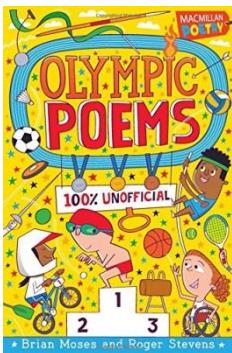
The sports featured in these poems are: cricket, football, American football, baseball, basketball, running, relay race, tobogganing, skating, swimming, diving, netball, pole vault, shotput, kung fu, judo, boxing, tennis, table tennis, kite flying, hockey, surfing, riding, horse racing.

The games include: skipping, swinging, circle game, computer game, scrabble, chess, snakes and ladders, and a clapping game!

The illustrations portray games and sports being played all over the world by children and adults of many different cultures.

And the authors include Grace Nichols, Colin West, Wes Magee, John Masefield, and many more.

*There's a breathless hush in the Close to-night --
Ten to make and the match to win --
A bumping pitch and a blinding light,
An hour to play and the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,
But his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote
"Play up! play up! and play the game!" From Vitai Lampada by Sir Henry Newbolt*



Olympic Poems -100% Unofficial Brian Moses & Roger Stevens Macmillan 978-1509812240

Here are poems about winning, and about taking part; poems about having all the right kit, but no talent; poems that show that if you are at school, being the best egg and spoon racer really is as important to your mum and dad as being an Olympic athlete; poems about being a team player, and about being an individual hero.

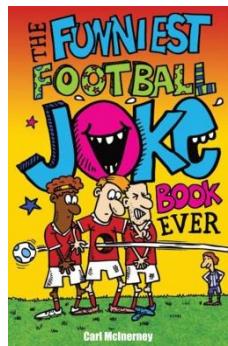
Brian Moses has compiled numerous collections for Macmillan including *The Secret Loves of Teachers* and *Aliens Sole My Underpants*. He lives in Sussex.

Roger Stevens' books include *The Jumble Book*, compiled for Dyslexia Action, and *Why Otters Don't Wear Socks*. Roger also runs the [Poetry Zone](#), a website for children and teachers.

*You need a lion's heart
And a swift pair of feet,
To be champion
Olympic athlete.*

*You need exercise,
So get up off the settee,
Jog in the park,
Instead of watching TV.*

From To Be an Olympic Athlete...

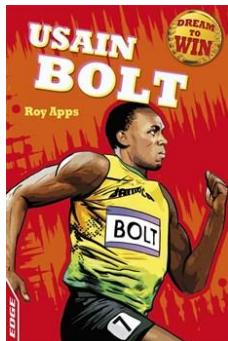


The Funniest Football Joke Book Ever Carl McInerney & Nigel Baines Andersen Press 978-1849391115

We all know that football is a serious game. But now it's time to have a laugh. Here are some of the best football jokes you'll find !

*What's claret and blue and delicious? A West Ham sandwich.
Why did the winning team spin their trophy round and round?
It was the Whirled Cup
Why was the footballer upset on his birthday? He got a red card!*

Non-fiction

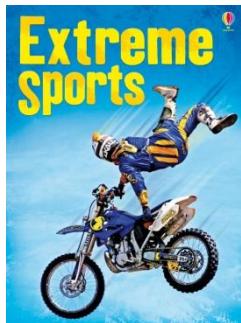


Usain Bolt: Dream to Win Roy Apps & Chris King Franklin Watts EDGE 978-1445141428

Usain wanted to play cricket but an eagle-eyed coach spotted his sprinting talent at school in Jamaica. Usain soon discovered that the path to becoming a pro-athlete is tough going, and he would need every ounce of determination, plus a great sense of humour. This is the story of Usain's discovery, his first athletic events and the Olympic Games.

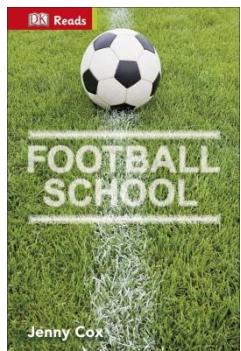
Roy Apps has written of the *Dream to Win* series for Franklin Watts and also writes for radio, theatre and TV, including *Byker Grove*.

By the time Usain went trackside to warm up for the race, his heart was pounding and his legs felt weak. The crowds were going wild, waving flags, banging drums and chanting the name of the only Jamaican in the race: 'Bolt! Bolt! Lightning Bolt!'



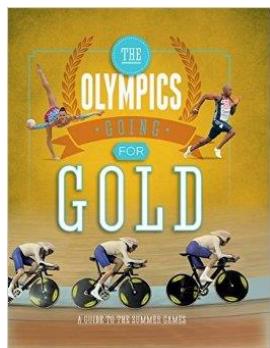
Extreme Sports **Emily Bone Usborne** **978-1409564225**

This is an introduction to extreme sports including extreme cycling (BMX and mountain biking), air extremes such as skydiving and BASE jumping (including the highest ever skydive from space), urban sports skateboarding and parkour, high-risk free and solo rock climbing, and watery extremes such as surfing and whitewater kayaking. Internet links allow readers to access more information online via carefully selected and monitored websites.



Football School **Jenny Cox** **DK** **978-0241182888**

Football School is a "Starting to Read Alone" book, with the combination of a short story, linked with football facts and tips. Meet Josh who is off to Football School to train with a mix of young soccer stars. Although a great striker, Josh needs to overcome his nerves when it counts in his first match against the team's biggest rivals.

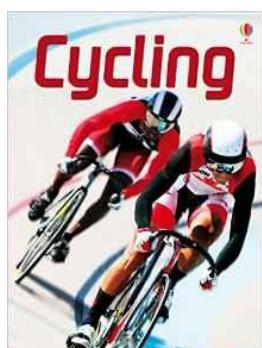


The Olympics: Going for Gold. A Guide to the Summer Games
Joe Fullman **Wayland** **978-0750295468**

Going for Gold gives the lowdown on all the key Olympic sports, from rowing and gymnastics to cycling, athletics and swimming. It also looks at the new Olympic sports - rugby sevens, kite surfing and golf, focussing on the format of each sport, how it is scored, and the key rules. There is background information to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, their history and traditions, and a look ahead to the Games in Rio in 2016. Feature boxes

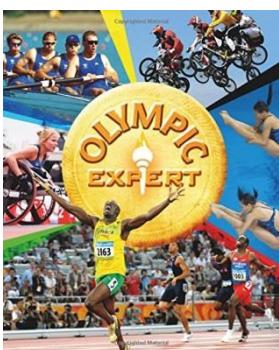
describe highest-achieving Olympians and Paralympians in each sport.

See also ***The Olympics Ancient to Modern*** **978-0750295475**



Cycling **Hazel Maskell** **Usborne** **978-1409582014**

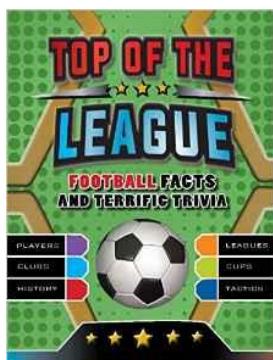
A guide to the world of cycling, which covers everything from mountain biking to the Tour de France. It shows you what different types of competitive cyclists wear, how they train, and what rules they must follow. It also features information about road cycling, including hints, tips and vital safety precautions.



Olympic Expert Paul Mason Watts 978-1445148212

Published to coincide with the 2016 Olympic Games, this book gives young readers all the facts and stats, lists, quotes and trivia that they need about the Olympics. It also looks at the history of the Olympics. *Olympic Expert* offers information on all the different Olympic events, highlighting some 'must-see' moments, and the book concludes with a big quiz.

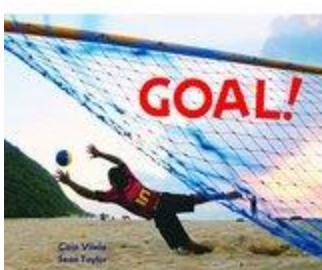
Paul Mason lives on the west coast of Europe. His books are mostly about sports, the world's different peoples, places, and animals, or the weird and wonderful.



Top of the League: Football Facts and Terrific Trivia Andrea Mills QED 978-1784934576

This book is packed with facts and information about the world of football and the biggest leagues and tournaments – including star players and dream teams, clever managers, fanatical fans, memorable matches and incredible goals. Learn great tactics and know your 4-4-2 from your 3-5-1-1! Get familiar with the rules of the games and marvel at brilliant goal-scoring stars! Graphics and photographs bring facts to life, in action-packed spreads.

Andrea Mills is the author of many children's and family reference books, including football and sports titles.



Goal! Football Around the World Caio Vilela & Sean Taylor Quarto Kids: Frances Lincoln 978-1847805973

"Where there's a ball . . . there will always be someone who wants to play football."

New in paperback, this book celebrates this hugely popular game, played all over the world – sometimes on a top quality football pitch, sometimes in the desert, sometimes on the street. The text with action photographs from 15 countries shows the joy of football, wherever it is played, as well as its ability to unite children across the globe.

Sean Taylor's books include *The Great Snake*, the *Purple Class* series, *The Grizzly Bear with the Frizzly Hair*, and the multi-award-winning *When a Monster is Born*. He lives in England and Brazil.

Caio Vilela is a photographer and journalist who has travelled to more than 60 countries, producing stories for newspapers and magazines such as the Brazilian editions of *National Geographic*, *Rolling Stone* and *Elle*.

You don't need to buy anything to make football. You can make a goal out of two stones, two sticks or two shirts.

If you don't have a real football, you can make one out of tolled-up socks, newspaper and string, or even an orange in a plastic bag.

More Sporty Stories!

AUTHOR	TITLE	PUBLISHER	ISBN
Picture books			
Lucy Cousins	<i>Maisy Plays Football</i>	Walker Books	978-1406358148
Jenny Desmond	<i>The Zebra Who Ran Too Fast</i>	Walker Books	978-1406360745
Brian Moses & Amy Husband	<i>The Frog Olympics</i>	Wayland	978-0750296830
Fiction			
Michelle Bates	<i>Sandy Lane Stables: A Horse for Summer</i>	Usborne	978-1409590620
Kit Downes	<i>Zal and Zara and the Great Race of Azamed</i>	Walker Books	978-1406340853
Elizabeth Laird	<i>The Fastest Boy in the World</i>	Macmillan	978-1447267171
Frank Lampard	<i>Frankie's Magic Football: Deep Sea Dive</i>	Little Brown	978-0349132136
Jane Lawes	<i>Perfect Pirouette (Ballet Stars)</i>	Usborne	978-1409583530
Lorrie Mack	<i>Ballet Academy (DK Reads)</i>	DK	978-1409351955
Daisy Meadows	<i>Francesca the Football Fairy</i>	Orchard Books	978-1846168895
Chris O'Dowd & Nick Vincent Murphy	<i>Moone Boy 2: The Fish Detective</i>	Macmillan	978-1447270980
Sean Stockdale, Alex Strick, Ros Asquith	<i>Max the Champion</i>	HarperCollins	978-1847805195
Steve Voake & Emma Dodson	<i>Hooey Higgins and the Awards of Awesomeness</i>	Walker Books	978-1406334302
Non-fiction			
Roy Apps	<i>Dream to Win: Leo Messi</i>	Franklin Watts	978-1445141459
Rob Lloyd Jones & Paddy Mounter	<i>The Story of Football</i>	Usborne	978-0746077085
Paul Mason	<i>Cycling</i>	Franklin Watts	978-1445141343
Paul Mason	<i>Gymnastics</i>	Franklin Watts	978-1445141312
Susan Meredith & Galia Bernstein	<i>Olympic Games Sticker Book</i>	Usborne	978-1409564119

Have a look too at our Chatterbooks football action activity pack [**Kick Off!**](#)

Wordsearch answer

Q	W	Z	H	C	R	O	T	C	I	P	M	Y	L	O	F
Y	P	L	X	V	N	P	B	C	X	A	S	F	Z	V	K
F	G	A	N	C	I	E	N	T	G	R	E	E	C	E	L
B	M	D	B	X	V	N	X	J	X	Z	V	G	W	X	L
S	F	E	D	G	N	I	L	T	S	E	R	W	B	G	A
W	X	M	X	K	V	N	Z	F	Q	Z	I	V	X	J	B
S	M	D	G	S	V	G	W	X	Z	B	O	X	Z	B	T
T	Q	L	Z	C	Y	C	L	I	N	G	F	W	J	Z	O
A	X	O	K	I	J	E	E	R	Z	A	S	G	C	H	O
D	Q	G	V	T	Z	R	Q	J	F	M	X	N	B	G	F
I	W	F	V	E	Q	E	S	Q	V	E	U	I	Z	K	F
U	V	X	O	L	Y	M	P	I	C	S	W	M	G	J	X
M	P	B	V	H	X	O	Z	Q	J	X	P	M	X	G	Q
F	E	T	K	T	Z	N	J	G	X	S	Z	I	J	V	Z
Z	Q	X	W	A	X	Y	A	L	E	R	M	W	V	Z	F
V	J	Z	V	P	M	X	B	X	W	Z	G	S	Q	W	J

Which sports do these pictures show?

1. Archery
2. Javelin
3. Boxing
4. Tennis
5. Equestrian events
6. Football
7. Fencing
8. Rowing
9. Hockey
10. Swimming