Teacher's Guide

G is for Gold Medal: An Olympics Alphabet

Author: Brad Herzog
Illustrator: Doug Bowles

Guide written by Cheryl Grinn

This guide may be reproduced for use with this express written consent of Sleeping Bear Press

Published by

Sleeping Bear Press
315 E. Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 200
Ann Arbor, MI  48108
800-487-2323
www.sleepingbearpress.com
The answers needed to complete this crossword can be found in G is for Gold Medal.

1. O ___ ___ ___
2. L ___ ___ ___
3. Y ___ ___ ___
4. M ___ ___ ___ ___
5. P ___ ___ ___ ___
6. I ___ ___
7. C ___ ___ ___
8. S ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

1. Site of the 1952 winter Olympics was ________________ Norway
2. A winter sledding Olympic event ____________________
3. Junior programs are meant for ________________________
4. Olympic winners are awarded gold, silver, or bronze _____________
5. Used to break clay targets ____________________________
6. Frozen water ____________________________
7. The country that held the 2008 summer Olympics ________________
8. Men and women compete against each other in ________________
**G IS FOR GOLD MEDAL**

**CITIES BY CONTINENT**

The Olympics have been held on five different continents with number six happening in 2012.

Name the one continent that will probably never host the Olympics __________

Put each city in the box below with the continent they are on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amsterdam</th>
<th>Lake Placid</th>
<th>Calgary</th>
<th>Sydney</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
<td>Sapporo</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Tokyo</td>
<td>Seoul</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**North America**  **Asia**  **Europe**  **Australia**
SEEK AND FIND

Look high and low throughout G is for Gold Medal to find the answers to the questions below. Have fun in your search!

1. Where were the first Olympic Games held? __________________________
2. Name the author of G is for Gold Medal. __________________________
3. True or False—Chariot racing is a current Olympic event ______________
4. How many rings are on the Olympic flag? __________________________
5. In which year were the first modern Olympics held? _________________
6. True or False—Driving motorboats was once an Olympic event. _________
7. In which 3 years were the Olympics cancelled? _______________________
8. What is the Olympic motto? _______________________________________
9. Where will the 2016 Summer Olympic Games be held? _________________
10. Name the two continents that have never hosted the Olympic Games

__________________________   __________________________

Write your own seek and find question below. Make it difficult if you’d like and then give it to a friend to answer

__________________________
DESIGN A NEW OLYMPIC FLAG

Learn the meaning of the symbols on the Olympic flag in the book *G is for Gold Medal*.

Pretend the Olympic Committee has decided to design a NEW flag. Draw your flag below and explain the meaning.
An ode is a form of poetry that praises a person. Before you write your ode think about an athlete you’d like to praise.

Make a list of words that show enthusiasm. For example—great, awesome, inspiring, etc.

**Enthusiastic words**

Make your ode six lines long.

**ODE TO __________________________***

____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
G IS FOR GOLD MEDAL

Bring It Back!!

Opinion Piece

Many Olympic events have been eliminated over the years. Among these are croquet, tug-of-war, rope climbing, underwater swimming, and an obstacle race in the water!

Choose one of these sports and write a letter to the Olympic Committee explaining why the event should be brought back.

1. Write a complete sentence stating which sport you think should be returned to the Olympics.
2. State 3 FACTS that support your opinion. Each fact should be stated in complete sentences. You may need more than one sentence for each fact.
3. Re-state your opinion using different words.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Watching athletes compete in the Olympic Games is fun and exciting. Discover the facts and fun associated with the Olympics in the book *G is for Gold Medal*.

Question: Which of the sports below would you prefer to compete in?

- **Running**
- **Skiing**
- **Swimming**

Use the data you collected to make a bar graph showing the results.
Enjoy making and eating these Gold Medal cookies!

**Ingredients**

2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour  
½ teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 cup softened butter  
1 egg  
1 ½ cups white sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
Gold-colored icing for decorating

**Directions**

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.  
2. Stir together flour, baking soda, and baking powder. Set aside.  
3. In a separate large bowl cream together butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in egg and vanilla.  
4. Add dry ingredients from small bowl and blend together.  
5. Roll teaspoonful of dough into balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet.  
6. Bake 8-10 minutes. Let set for three minutes before removing from the pan. Decorate with gold icing to look like medals. EAT AND ENJOY!
G IS FOR GOLD MEDAL

HOW MANY GAMES DOES IT HAVE?

Write the number of games that it takes to make up each of the following events.

1. Triathlon _____________
2. Decathlon _____________
3. Heptathlon _____________
4. Quadruple _____________
5. Pentathlon _____________
6. Biathlon _____________

Write a paragraph explaining in which event you would like to participate and describe the event and why you chose it.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
**G IS FOR GOLD MEDAL**

**WHAT’S MY SPORT??**

Match each person in the box below with the Olympic event that made him or her famous.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rulon Gardner</th>
<th>Michael Phelps</th>
<th>Bonnie Blair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dick Fosbury</td>
<td>Carl Lewis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Owens</td>
<td>James Connolly</td>
<td>Luciano Giovannetti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Lou Retton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Trap shooting ________________________________
2. Vault _______________________________________
3. High jump _____________________________________
4. Long jump ____________________________________
5. Triple jump ____________________________________
6. Greco-Roman wrestling __________________________
7. Speed skating _________________________________
8. Track and field ________________________________
9. Swimming ______________________________________
G IS FOR GOLD MEDAL

Olympic Math Averages

To find the average of several numbers add the numbers together and divide by the number of numbers you added together. Example 8+ 12+10 = 30; 30/3 = 10; the average is 10.

Have fun finding these averages.

1. Jimmy ran the mile in 5 minutes, James took 7 minutes, and George ran it in 12 minutes. What is the average number of minutes it took the boys to run the mile? ________________

2. Gary made three jumps on the high jump. He jumped 10 feet, 8 feet, and 15 feet. What was his average? ________________

3. Carol is an expert speed skater. During two competitions she skated the course in 4 minutes and 20 seconds and 6 minutes and 40 seconds. What was her average? ________________
The ABC’s OF THE OLYMPICS

Each of the cities in the box below has hosted the Olympics. Put these cities in alphabetical order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grenoble</th>
<th>Athens</th>
<th>Sochi</th>
<th>Moscow</th>
<th>Amsterdam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>Seoul</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albertville</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Place cities in alphabetical order.

1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________
6. __________________________
7. __________________________
8. __________________________
9. __________________________
10. __________________________
Many boys and girls watch the Olympics hoping that they will someday be an Olympic athlete. Write a short story about your adventures and hardships as if you competed in the Olympics.
ARE THE OLYMPICS IMPORTANT?

Some people feel the Olympics are a waste of money for countries. Others feel that they do a tremendous amount of good. What do you think? Make one list with reasons to keep the Olympics and a second list with reasons to stop having the Olympics. This will take some brain power on your part.

Reasons to keep the Olympics

Reasons to stop having the Olympics

What is your opinion?
Athletes spend many, many hours training to become Olympic athletes.

Eating healthy is essential for athletes. Plan a day of healthy meals for an athlete.

These meals will also help YOU to be healthy.

**BREAKFAST**

**LUNCH**

**DINNER**

**SNACK**
ANSWER SHEET

**Olympic Crossword**- 1) Oslo 2) luge 3) youth 4) medals 5) pistol 6) ice 7) China 8) sailing

**Cities by Continent** North America—Lake Placid, Calgary, Los Angeles; Asia—Sapporo, Tokyo, Seoul; Europe—Amsterdam, Stockholm; Australia—Melbourne; Antarctica will probably never host the Olympics

**Seek and Find**- 1) Athens, Greece 2) Brad Herzog 3) false 4) 5 5) 1896 6) true 7) 1916,1940,1944 8)Swifter, Higher, Stronger 9) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 10) Africa, Antarctica

**How Many Does It Have?**- 1) 3 2) 10 3) 7 4) 4 5) 5 6) 2


**Math Averages**- 1) 8 2) 11 3) 5 minutes 30 seconds