

1988 Summer Olympics

OVERVIEW

The Summer Olympics usually occur every four years. Several times the Games have had to be canceled because of war (World War I and World War II). Cities compete in a selection process to win the honor of hosting the Olympics. In 1981, the International Olympic Committee selected Seoul, Korea, as the site for the 1988 Games. Each Olympics has a motto, and Seoul selected "Peace, Harmony, and Progress" as the motto for the 24th Summer Olympic Games.

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON

- Students will become familiar with the history of the ancient Olympics.
- Students will identify locations for previous Summer Olympics.
- Students will understand the sense of national pride that Koreans felt in hosting the 1988 Summer Olympics.

MATERIALS

- newspapers, sports sections from several weeks
- oak tag or poster board
- worksheet #1 (story of the Olympics)
- worksheet #2 (locations of Modern Summer Olympics)
- worksheet #3 (map of world)
- worksheet #4 (official symbols)
- worksheet #5 (Hodori & sports)

Time Frame: 1 day

THE LESSON

1. Distribute sports sections from past newspapers. Ask students to find and cut pictures of people playing sports. Cut out headlines about sports and make a sports collage. Large posters can be made in smaller groups.

Ask students which sports pictured on the collage might be represented in the Summer Olympics. Make a web of all sports that the students think may be represented at the Summer Olympics.

2. Ask students if they know where the first Olympic games were held. Read or ask students to read worksheet #1 for a history of the Olympics. Have students locate Athens on a world map.
3. Pass out worksheet #2 and worksheet #3. Read about the Olympic games and have students use atlases or maps to label countries that have hosted the Olympics. Discuss how many have been held on each continent. (This is an excellent activity to follow with a journal entry. The students can make observations about the distribution of the Olympics around the world.)
4. Lead into a discussion about how students would feel to have the Olympics in their town or state. Determine how many times the Olympics were held in Asia. Relate this to Seoul and how proud the people of Korea felt when they were selected to host the Olympics.
5. Use worksheet #4 to show the official mascot of the Seoul Olympics and the South Korean flag. Talk about their significance.
6. Tell students that South Korea was represented in 23 official sports in the 1988 Olympics and that 234 events took place. Ask students if they can guess which sport was exhibited for the first time in the Olympics (answer: traditional Korean martial arts).

Pass out the 12 cards and ask students to label the sports. For younger children, a set of the sports' names may be given to the students to match with the pictures.

7. Have students write a paragraph that describes the event they would like to participate in and why. Students can draw a picture of themselves in action.

EXTENSIONS

1. Ask students to prepare reports, with maps, on the routes for the torch. Different years of Olympics can be chosen by or assigned to students. The Internet is a good source for this activity.
2. Have students research the results of the 1988 Olympics and find out if any world records were broken.
3. Design a mascot and/or symbols for the Olympics to be held in 2000 in Sydney, Australia.
4. Create flags of all the countries that have participated in the Summer Olympics and hang them around the room.

ASSESSMENT

Have students write three paragraphs or an essay to include the three following topics: the ancient Olympics, world locations for the modern Olympics, a report on why your city would be a good host for the next Summer Olympics.

WORKSHEET #1

STORY OF THE OLYMPICS

Ancient Games

The history of the Olympic Games dates back to 776 B.C. Messengers were sent around the Greek world to invite men to compete in games. The games were to honor Zeus, a Greek god. The games were celebrated every four years at Mt. Olympus.

There were footraces, wrestling, boxing and horse racing. Then came the pentathlon, a five-event competition that required sprinting, long jumping, javelin hurling, discus throwing and wrestling.

The winners were given crowns of wild olive leaves and lived the rest of their lives with money given to them by the state and people.

The games continued until 394 A.D. when Theodosius I, a Roman emperor, stopped them. That means that the games had been held every four years for 1,170 years.

Modern Games

The modern games were first held in 1896 in Athens. Thirteen nations came to the event, including the U.S. and Great Britain. Male athletes played in nine different sports with 42 events.

After that, the games were held every four years except during times of war.

In 1988 when the games were in Seoul, Korea, 160 nations sent athletes to participate. It was the first boycott-free Olympics in twelve years. Why would countries choose to boycott the Olympics?

In 1996, 196 nations sent athletes to Atlanta, Georgia. The 2000 Summer Olympics will be held in Sydney, Australia. The next games will be held in Athens, Greece. What year will that be?

During the opening of the Games, athletes form a parade into the stadium, led by the Greek team, in honor of the Ancient Olympics. The nation that is hosting the games enters the stadium last. The Olympic hymn is played and the official Olympic flag is raised. The official flag has five rings on it. A runner then comes into the stadium with a torch, carried from Olympia, Greece. At the end of the games, doves, a sign of peace, are freed.

Three medals are given for first, second and third place winners of each sport competition. Gold is for first, silver is for second and bronze is for third.

WORKSHEET #2

LOCATIONS OF THE MODERN
SUMMER OLYMPICS

Directions: Use a world map or atlas and find these locations on the map. Color in the country or state where the Olympics were held. Draw a star on those countries or states that have held the Olympics more than once. Answer the questions at the bottom of the worksheet.

Athens, Greece	1896	Helsinki, Finland	1952
St. Louis, Missouri	1904	Melbourne, Australia	1956
London, England	1908	Rome, Italy	1960
Stockholm, Sweden	1912	Tokyo, Japan	1964
Berlin, Germany	not held	Mexico City, Mexico	1968
Antwerp, Belgium	1920	Montreal, Canada	1976
Paris, France	1924	Moscow, USSR	1980
Amsterdam, Netherlands	1928	Los Angeles, California	1984
Los Angeles, California	1932	Seoul, Korea	1988
Berlin, Germany	1936	Barcelona, Spain	1992
Tokyo, Japan	not held	Atlanta, Georgia	1996
London, England	not held	Sydney, Australia	2000
London, England	1948	Athens, Greece	2004

Fill in the countries or states under each continent.

Antarctica

Asia

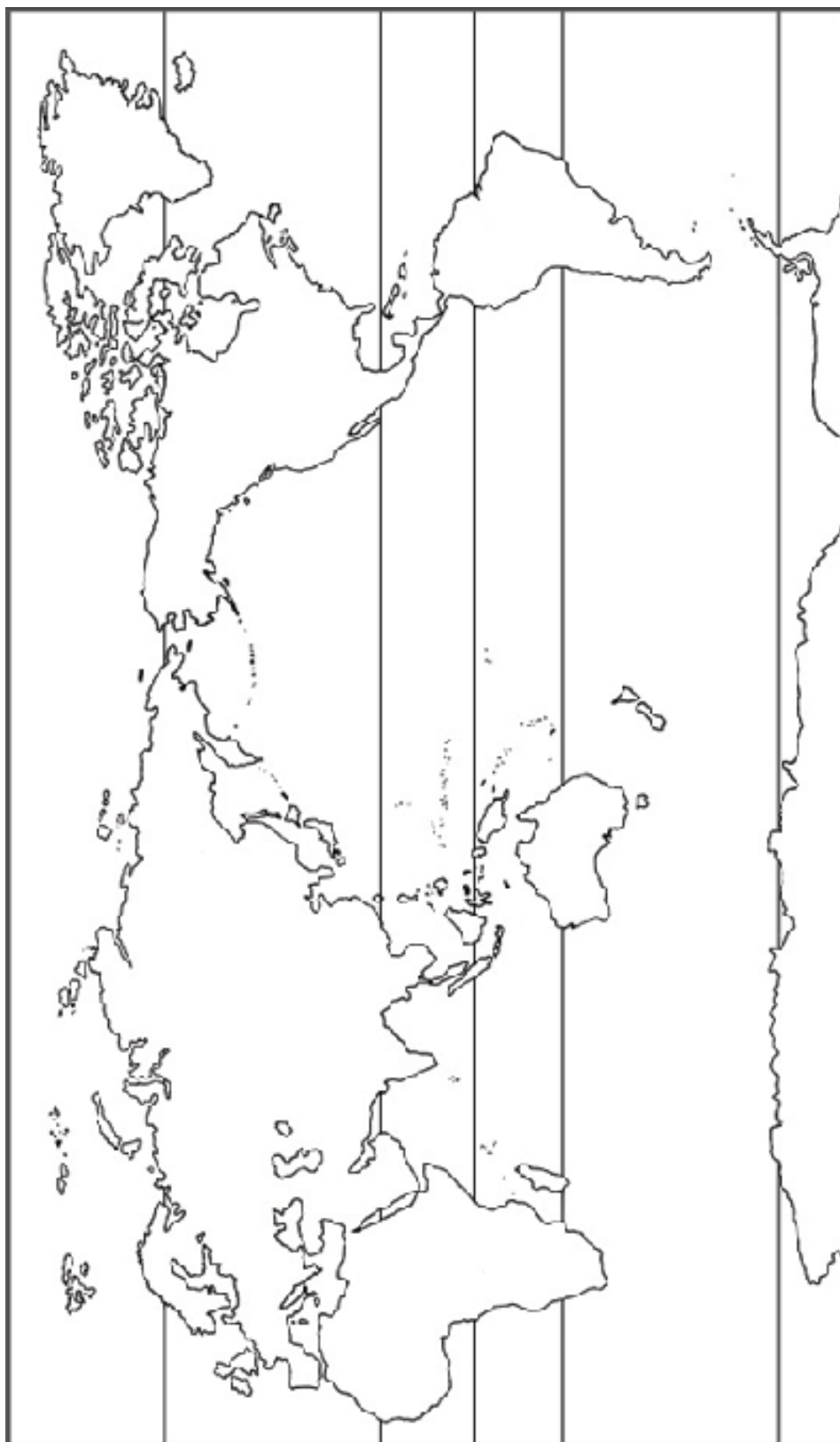
Australia

Europe

North America

South America

Africa



WORKSHEET #4

OFFICIAL SYMBOLS FOR THE 1988 OLYMPICS IN SEOUL, KOREA



This is the official symbol for the Games of the 1988 Summer Olympics. "Peace, Harmony and Progress" was the motto for the Summer Olympic Games.



Here is Hodori, the official mascot for the Olympic Games in Seoul. In Korea tigers are not seen as ferocious beasts. They usually appear as friendly messengers.

WORKSHEET #5

1988 OLYMPIC EVENTS

Twenty three official sports played in the 1988 Summer Olympics. Here are some of the sports that were played. Can you guess which sports each represented? Write the name of the sport under each picture.



