

The History of the Olympic Games

The Olympic Games are one of the biggest sporting events in the world. They take place every four years and bring together athletes from all around the globe.

The Olympics began in Ancient Greece over 2,000 years ago. At that time, the games were held in a place called Olympia, and only men were allowed to compete. The sports included running, wrestling, and chariot racing.

In 1896, the modern Olympics were created. Women were later allowed to compete, and many more sports were added, including swimming, cycling, and gymnastics.

Today, the Olympics are split into Summer and Winter Games. The Summer Olympics include sports like athletics, basketball, and tennis. The Winter Olympics include sports such as skiing, ice skating, and snowboarding.

The Olympic symbol is five interlocking rings, which represent the continents of the world coming together through sport. The Games always begin with an opening ceremony and end with a closing celebration.

The Olympics are not just about winning - they are about friendship, respect, and doing your best.

P.E. Reading Comprehension – Key Stage 2 – Year 4

1. How often do the Olympic Games take place?
2. Where did the original Olympic Games begin?
3. Name two sports from the Ancient Olympic Games.
4. When did the modern Olympic Games begin?
5. What are two sports included in the Summer Olympics today?
6. What do the five Olympic rings represent?
7. What is the purpose of the opening ceremony?
8. What are the three key values of the Olympic Games mentioned in the text?

P.E. Reading Comprehension – Key Stage 2 – Year 4

MARK SCHEME

1. Every four years
2. Olympia in Ancient Greece
3. Running, wrestling, or chariot racing (any two of these)
4. 1896
5. Any two of: athletics, basketball, tennis
6. The continents of the world coming together through sport
7. To begin the Olympic Games
8. Friendship, respect, and doing your best