

The Winter Olympics

The Winter Olympics will be held February 7 - 23, 2014, in Sochi, Russia. Use these games to teach your students many skills! If you begin studying this in January, by the time of the Olympics the students will be much more interested.

Learn about the world, and the continents and oceans. Teach your students to use both the globe and flat world maps and be able to find the major countries. Talk about the parade of nations and try to find the different countries.

Find out: how many countries will be represented in the Winter Olympics?

Which country sends the most athletes?

How many Canadian athletes will be in the Olympics?

Learn the names of the continents, and the major countries on each continent.

Learn about the Olympic symbol of the five interlocked circles.

<http://www.first-school.ws/t/apflagfriends.htm>

Here is a flag to colour. The circles represent the 5 major continents.



We want to cheer our own athletes. Who are the highly ranked athletes? Find out about these men and women and keep track of the results in their races.

The Olympics will be held in Sochi, Russia. Learn about the big country of Russia. Be able to find Russia and Sochi on a world map.

Learn about the Olympic history. When did the Olympic Games originate? When did the modern Olympics begin?

Learn about the torch. The Russian torch is an interesting shape. Find pictures on the internet of the torch.

Make a cone for the torch from brown butcher paper. Stuff with newspaper or more butcher paper and staple ribbons of red, orange and yellow crepe paper at the top so the flames flutter out behind with running..



Run a relay, where everyone gets a turn to run with the torch and pass it to the next person.



Learn about the different flags of the world, and especially the Canadian flag.

<http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/>

or <http://www.flags.net/>

If you want flags for your students to colour, go to:

<http://www.lil-fingers.com/coloring/flags.html>

Have small groups or single students research a country and present the information to the class. Discover on what continent the country is located, the flag, the size of the country, and something about the people.

Grade 3s could do their projects on the computer and cut and paste photos from on approved internet sites.

Make a list of all the events that are in the Olympics, and find out about them. Graph the ones the students would like most to see or do themselves. There are a great variety of winter sports. Do research on the different sports.

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/slideshow/olympic-games/64809.html>

This is a simple slideshow of the different events.

As the Olympics are on, talk about the athletes that win gold, silver or bronze for Canada. Keep track of the medal scores.



Have reading and/or math Olympics! See how many books the students can read in a certain period of time, and graph the results as they come in.

Make gold medals! <http://www.kidsdomain.com/craft/goldmedal.html>

Make a torch.

<http://familycrafts.about.com/cs/sportscrafts/l/blolytorch.htm>

<http://www.educatall.com/page/17/Winter-Olympics.html>

Learning about Canada for Kindergarten

http://www.first-school.ws/theme/h_canada_day_activities_crafts.htm

Sing *It's a Small World....* And *Oh Canada*.

Do math with the country scores - 3 points gold, 2 points silver and 1 point bronze. Put medals on students and have the others add to find a total.

Use measurement skills to learn about the distances in the different sports.

Graph the results for the top 10 nations each day, adding to the graph.

http://www.wbrschools.net/technology/connectedtechmath/grades12/m6/M6.Classroom_Olympics.unit_plan.pdf
Classroom Olympics—lots of good ideas.

<http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/olympics/activities.htm>
Puzzles, word search and word scrambles and more.

Learn to say hello around the world.....

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/02/lp253-02.shtml

An Olympic bulletin board

<http://teachers.net/lessons/posts/1925.html>

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/olympic-games/teacher-resources/6651.html>
A great resource with lots of ideas and information,.

From Teachers

"Here's an activity that uses the popular Olympic RED MITTENS that you find at the Bay. It's an easy activity for K's and grade 1's:

- Photocopy a mitten on 11 x 17 paper.
- Have students finger paint or sponge paint the other side with red paint
- Dry and cut out
- Decorate the painted side

OR use pre-cut mittens out of red construction paper and have students paint, colour, glue things on to decorate them. I did it this way with my Kindergarten kids and they had a lot of fun.

"Another primary teacher and I were just talking about how we were going to incorporate the Olympics into our teaching. I always call February "The Month Of Celebrations", so I would like to have the same apply to the Olympics. We were thinking of having a chart and following Canada's results with the medals. We would also like to include the origins of the Olympics and discuss what each ring of the Olympics means. These are very similar to our own Social Responsibility Goals at our school. Since we are in the middle of our "Winter" theme, we are discussing all of the different winter events that the athletes are participating in. We pretend to be in these events in the gym."

Graph the medal count each day, finding the countries that win gold medals.