

**Revised
Edition**

The MIDDLE YEARS Games BRAiNTEASERS



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Introduction

At any international sporting competition there is a special excitement in the air. The eyes and ears of the world are on athletes who meet in friendly competition to see who is the fastest runner, the highest jumper, the speediest skier, the most graceful skater. Top athletes from around the world compete for medals signifying that they are the best. This book is about international competition in the Olympic Games. It includes ideas, materials and activities that can be used with students at all primary levels.

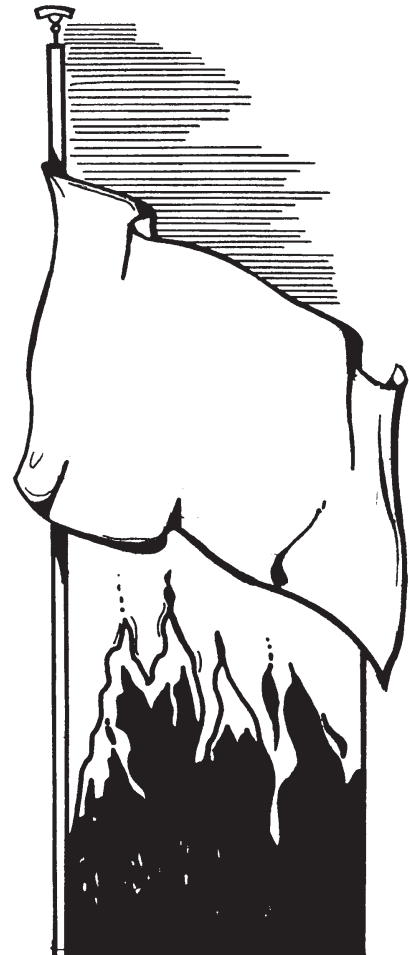
The contents are designed to provide the following:

- information and practice activities to familiarise students with the history of international sporting competitions
- creative worksheets to challenge students to recall and apply what they have learned
- a complete game to bring the spirit of international competition to your classroom
- plans for a mini Games culminating activity
- suggestions for additional activities and enrichment
- teacher resources including a noticeboard, learning centre(s), answer key, art patterns and a bibliography

These materials are appropriate for the following:

- class or group lessons
- independent enrichment and research
- cooperative learning activities

The hope for peace is renewed when countries come together in friendly competition. As we watch the ceremonies and events, we appreciate and respect the talent and dedication of individual athletes. Differences in nationalities fade as similarities in human spirit emerge. We hope this book will bring that spirit alive for you and your students.



Sydney 2000

The 2000 Olympic Games were held in Sydney, New South Wales. This was the second time Australia had hosted a summer Olympic Games. They were another huge success. In fact the president of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said they were the best Olympics ever at the closing ceremony of the Games.

At this Games Australia came fourth in the overall medal tally with 58 medals. This was also the largest ever Australian Olympic team, with 630 athletes representing Australia.

Ian Thorpe became Australia's first star of the 2000 Olympics, winning multiple gold medals in swimming. However it was probably runner Cathy Freeman who became the true star of the Games, winning gold in the 400 metres. Freeman had previously played the major role in the opening ceremony of the Games, where she lit the Olympic torch.

1. What opinion did the president of the International Olympic Committee have about the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games?
2. How did Australia do in the overall medal tally?
3. How many athletes represented Australia?
4. Which athlete could be considered to be the true star of the Games?

Sum up everything you know about the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games in 50 words.

Beijing Word Find

Beijing will host the Olympic Games in 2008. Eight words about Beijing are hidden in the word find below. They may be found in a straight line horizontally, vertically or diagonally, and may run forwards or backwards. Use the clues below to work out which words to look for.

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

1. Beijing is the capital city of C _ _ _ _
2. This food is eaten a lot in Asia. R _ _ _
3. If you went to Beijing you would see a lot of this type of religious building. T _ _ _ _
4. Summer in Beijing is hot and wet. When the weather is like this we say it is H _ _ _ _
5. Beijing used to be known by this name which you may recognise from your Chinese takeaway menu! P _ _ _ _
6. Beijing is known for having poor air quality. P _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ leads to poor air quality.
7. At the centre of Beijing you will find Tian'anmen S _ _ _ _ _ .
8. Beijing has a good underground public transportation system known as a S _ _ _ _ _