

Choose the Sport That's Best for You

What sport would you like to play? There are many to choose from. You may think it's hard to decide on one, but maybe it isn't hard, after all. To begin with, think about the skills you have and what kind of **athletes** you want to be.

A good question to ask yourself is whether or not you like to work in groups. If you do like to work in groups, you might enjoy playing a team sport like soccer or baseball. During soccer games, players pass the ball to one another, and they work together to move the ball toward the net. During baseball games, players throw the ball to one another, and they work together to keep their **competitors**, or the people they are playing against, from getting to home base. It can be a great feeling to be part of a team. Everyone plays an important role.

However, if competing alone is more your **style**, you may want to try a sport like track, tennis, or golf. These sports focus on how well one person performs against another. You are your own team in sports like these.

Or do you enjoy nonstop **action**? Hockey and basketball provide plenty of that. During hockey games, the hockey puck whizzes over the ice. During basketball games, players race for the ball back and forth across the **court**.

Some people like sports where players **score** a lot of points. Basketball games usually end with high scores. Soccer matches are fast-moving, but usually not a lot of points are scored.

Over time, you'll find you have skills that can help you succeed in a sports game. Maybe you're great at throwing a ball or running for long periods of time. Maybe you have a positive attitude that will inspire your teammates to succeed. What you should remember is that there's a sport for you, whatever your size or skill. Find it, and have fun!

COMPREHENSION What words describe things you should think about when choosing a sport to play? What kinds of skills do you have that could help you choose a sport?

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Days 1 and 2

“Choose the Sport That's Best for You,” Vol. 2, pp. 58–59

Thrills at the Game

It was a beautiful afternoon at the playing field. Everywhere Jack looked, there were noisy, excited people. He and his parents had come to see a soccer game between the best high school teams in the county. The game was the **championship**, and it would decide the best team in the **league**. Jack's big sister, Keri, played for one of the teams. Jack hoped her team would win.

Happy **fans** filled the **stands** on both sides of the field.

As Jack sat down, he saw many people around him wearing pink and white hats and jackets. Keri's team was wearing pink and white uniforms. On the other side of the field, people were **rooting** for the other team. Many of these fans wore red and gold clothes. Red and gold were the colors of the other team's uniforms.

Suddenly Jack's mother said, “There they are!” Keri's team ran onto the field at top **speed**. They ran so fast that everyone around Jack burst into cheers and applause. When the other team appeared, their fans cheered, too.

Jack saw Keri and her teammates listening to their coach. Then both teams stretched and got ready for the beginning of the game.

Jack cheered and clapped whenever Keri's team had the ball. Nobody scored for a long time. But just before the end of the half, the team in red and gold got a goal. “Don't worry,” said Jack's mother. “We can still win.”

Early in the second half, Keri's team tied the score. Jack and his parents jumped up and clapped. A little while later, Keri kicked the ball past the other team's goalkeeper! The game ended, and Keri's team had won the championship.

Jack felt proud and happy. Maybe he would kick a winning goal himself, someday.

COMPREHENSION What words help you understand that the people watching the game are excited for their teams? Why does Jack feel proud at the end of the game?

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Days 3 and 4

“Thrills at the Game,” Vol. 2, pp. 60–61

Assessment

Pretest/Posttest Administration p. 91

Pretest/Posttest Blackline Masters pp. 150–151

Day 1

Introduce Meanings

Assess To assess what word meanings children already know, copy and distribute the **Pretest/Posttest** on pages 150–151. Use page 91 to administer the test.

Explain Write each oral vocabulary word below on the board. Read it aloud. Offer an explanation and a brief example for each word.

Words About Playing Sports

action *n.* what is happening
The game was exciting because of all the action.

athlete *n.* a person who plays a sport
A good athlete practices the sport often.

competitor *n.* a person who plays against an athlete
The competitors shook hands before they went to their benches.

court *n.* the place where basketball or tennis is played
The players ran all over the court.

score *v.* to earn a point in a game
Asha was always able to score the most points.

style *n.* a way of doing something
Is it your style to play alone or on a team?

Discuss Guide children to see the relationship between each word and the category of playing sports. Have them use the vocabulary words as they tell about the sports they play.

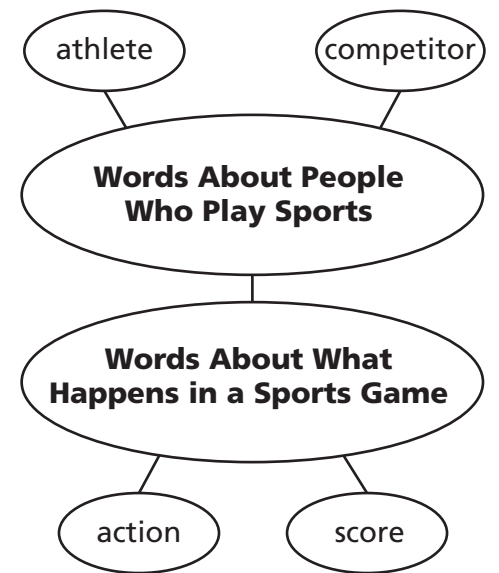
Read Aloud Explain that you will read aloud a story about choosing a sport you will enjoy. Then read aloud “Choose the Sport That's Best for You.” Discuss the Comprehension questions.

Day 2

Categorize and Classify

Reread and Explain Reread “Choose the Sport That's Best for You.” At the end of each sentence that includes an oral vocabulary word, stop and repeat the explanation of the word. Then reread the sentence.

Use a Graphic Organizer Use the graphic organizer and the questions below to reinforce understanding of the relationship between each word and the category.



1. The Hawks and the Bears play on different teams. They are _____. (**competitors**)
2. Can a basketball or tennis court be found inside or outside? (**both; inside or outside**)
3. Choose an athlete you like and tell about his or her style of playing. (**Answers will vary.**)



Day 3

Introduce Meanings

Explain Write each oral vocabulary word below on the board. Read it aloud. Offer an explanation and a brief example for each word.

Words About Watching Sports

championship *n.* a game that decides who is the best player or team of the season *They played so well that they went to the championship game.*

fans *n.* people who cheer for a player or team *The fans clapped loudly when their team won.*

league *n.* a group of teams *The league has teams from six schools.*

rooting *v.* cheering *Fans were rooting for my sister's team to win.*

speed *n.* how fast someone moves *He ran up the field with more speed than anyone could keep up with.*

stands *n.* seats for watching sports *We had a great view of the game from the stands.*

Discuss Guide children to see the relationship between each word and the category. Prompt them to talk about sporting events they have attended. Encourage them to use the vocabulary words.

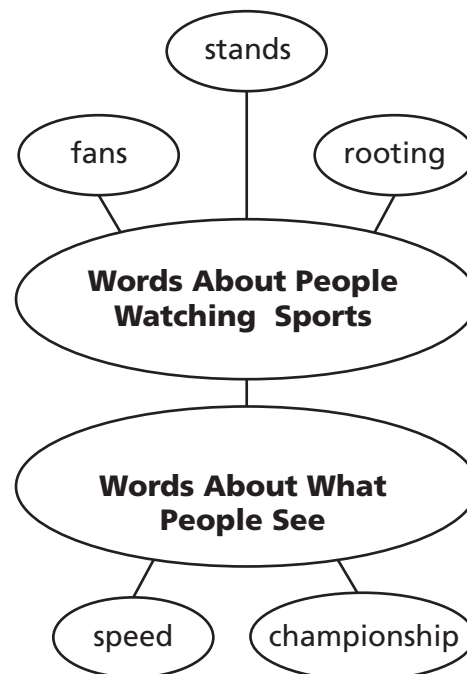
Read Aloud Explain that you will read aloud a story about watching a favorite team play. Then read aloud "Thrills at the Game." Discuss the Comprehension questions.

Day 4

Categorize and Classify

Reread and Explain Reread "Thrills at the Game." At the end of each sentence that includes an oral vocabulary word, stop and repeat the explanation of the word. Then reread the sentence.

Use a Graphic Organizer Use the graphic organizer and the questions below to reinforce understanding of the relationship between each word and the category.



1. What are some other words about what people see when they watch sports? Add these words to the graphic organizer. (Sample answers: kick; winning; goal)
2. The swim meet included all the teams in the _____. (league)
3. The team that had won the most games that season won the _____. (championship)

Day 5

Deepen Understanding

Review Repeat explanations for all oral vocabulary words. Use the definitions and examples from Day 1 and Day 3.

Guide Partner Activities Have partners work together to complete each of the activities below. Circulate and listen to partners as they work. Provide corrective feedback.

Describe Imagine that your team has just been named the best in the league! Using any sport of your choice, describe your great season to a partner. Use the following words: speed, competitor, score.

Draw Make a picture of an exciting sports game. Draw the action going on between the athletes. Then draw the fans rooting on the sides. Explain your picture to a partner.

Examples Decide what your style of playing sports is. Do you like playing alone or on a team? Do you like practicing a lot or not at all? Give examples of your style to a partner.

Role-Play Pretend you are in the stands at a championship basketball game. Tell a partner what is happening on the court.

Assess To assess what word meanings children have learned, copy and distribute the Pretest/Posttest on pages 150–151. Use page 91 to administer the test. Compare scores with Day 1 assessment.