

Objectives

The Olympic Rings

- ▶ To learn about countries participating in the Games.
- ▶ To learn about countries' cultures and customs
- ▶ To learn the symbolism of the five Olympic rings

- ◆ **In the words of Baron de Coubertin "These five rings represent the five parts of the world won over to Olympism (1. Europe, 2. Asia, 3. Africa, 4. Oceania 5. The Americas.) The rings represent the union of the athletes from the five regions at the Olympic Games. The colors were chosen because at least one of these colors is found on the flag of every nation.**
- ◆ Look at "The Olympic Games" list of hosting cities/countries, choose two countries from each of the five continents to research. Write the name of each continent in one of the circles. Then write the names of the research countries in the correct continent rings.
- ◆ Students may work in pairs and /or teams to locate and organize information. Things to look for: types of geography, weather, climate, types of people, food, clothing, arts, music, economy, cultural religions, resources and education.
- ◆ When the research is finished, students may write individual or group reports. Completed reports may be part of a bulletin board using the five rings.
- ◆ Find the continents and their countries on a globe or world map. Using the map or globe scale, determine how many athletes will travel from their countries to Sydney, Australia in 2000.

Optional

- ◆ Determine the kinds of food athletes from the research countries want. Would an athlete from Greece want tofu from Japan? Would an athlete from Mexico like sauerkraut from Germany?
- ◆ Look at the list of nations that have hosted the Summer Games. Select one food and one item of clothing that would be typical of each country. Example: London, Great Britain – fish and chips, a raincoat or umbrella.
- ◆ While grocery shopping with parents, student could make a list of foods and their country or origin. Example: olives-Italy, sardines-Denmark, bananas-Ecuador.

Materials

Classroom globe and/or map of the world.

"The Olympic Rings" worksheet.

A list of countries which have hosted the Summer Olympic Games

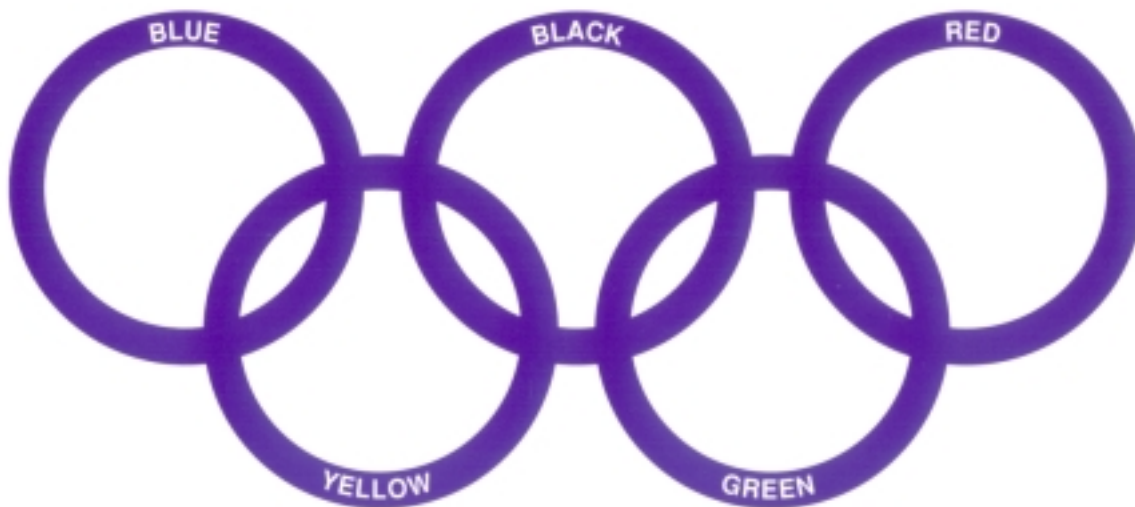
Encyclopedia, atlas, geography section of social studies books.

The Olympic Rings

▶ Name



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▶ Name

Summer Olympics Data Sheet

	YEAR	LOCATION	DATES HELD	COMPETITORS		NATIONS
				Men	Women	Represented
I	1896	Athens, Greece	Apr 6-Apr 15	311	0	13
II	1900	Paris, France	May 20-Oct 28	1319	11	22
III	1904	St. Louis, USA	Jul 1-Nov 23	681	6	12
IV	1908	London, Great Britain	Apr 27-Oct 31	1999	36	23
V	1912	Stockholm, Sweden	May 5-Jul 22	2490	57	28
VI	1916	Berlin, Germany	Cancelled (war)	—	—	—
VII	1920	Antwerp, Belgium	Apr 20-Sep 12	2543	64	29
VIII	1924	Paris, France	May 4-Jul 27	2956	136	44
IX	1928	Amsterdam, Holland	May 17-Aug 12	2724	290	46
X	1932	Los Angeles, USA	Jul 30-Aug 14	1281	127	37
XI	1936	Berlin, Germany	Aug 1-Aug 16	3738	328	49
XII	1940	Tokyo, Japan; Helsinki, Finland	Cancelled (war)	—	—	—
XIII	1944	London, Great Britain	Cancelled (war)	—	—	—
XIV	1948	London, Great Britain	Jul 29-Aug 14	3714	385	59
XV	1952	Helsinki, Finland	Jul 19-Aug 3	4407	518	69
XVI	1956	Melbourne, Australia*	Nov 22-Dec 8	2958	384	67
XVII	1960	Rome, Italy	Aug 25-Sep 11	4738	610	83
XVIII	1964	Tokyo, Japan	Oct 10-Oct 24	4457	683	93
XIX	1968	Mexico City, Mexico	Oct 12-Oct 27	4750	781	112
XX	1972	Munich, Germany	Aug 26-Sep 10	5848	1299	122
XXI	1976	Montreal, Canada	Jul 17-Aug 1	4834	1251	92†
XXII	1980	Moscow, USSR	Jul 19-Aug 3	4265	1088	81
XXIII	1984	Los Angeles, USA	Jul 28-Aug 12	5458	1620	141
XXIV	1988	Seoul, South Korea	Sep 17-Oct 2	6983	2438	159‡
XXIV	1992	Barcelona, Spain	Jul 25-Aug 9	6659	2708	169
XXVI	1996	Atlanta, USA	Jul 20-Aug 4	7060	3684	197

* The equestrian events were held in Stockholm, Sweden June 10-17, 1956.

† Some sources list this figure as 88. Cameroon, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia pulled out of the 1976 Olympics. However, athletes from each of these countries had already competed before the boycott was officially announced.

‡ Most sources list this figure as 160. However, the delegation from Brunei, which marched in the Opening Ceremonies, included one official, but no athletes.

Source: *The Complete Book of the Olympics, 1996 Edition* by David Wallechinsky
Results of the Games of the XXVI Olympiad, the Centennial Games, 1996,
The International Olympic Committee Web site