

# Sporting Changes

*Introductory Activity circa 1-2 periods*

*Main Activity circa 1 period*

*Conclusion circa 1 period*

*Activity covers English, History and PSHE*

1520 – Henry VIII was a good wrestler and a good fencer. ‘When he moves, the ground shakes under him,’ said a visiting Venetian nobleman



## Overview

**In this activity, pupils will look at the ever changing face of sport and investigate how it has evolved and developed from the Ancient Olympics to the present day. They will examine sports that no longer exist or are banned and also consider how and why other sports have changed and developed to make them acceptable for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.**

Sport has played an important part in many cultures and civilisations throughout the history of man. It has been considered both recreational and as a useful preparation for war.

## Resource List

*What on Earth? Wallbook of Sport*

*What on Earth? Wallbook of Sport Introductory Presentation*

**PUPIL SHEET 9.1 BANNED OR OUTDATED SPORTS**

## Learning Aims and Objectives

In this activity pupils will:

- gain historical perspective by investigating timescales
- collect visual and other information to help them develop their ideas
- vary contributions to suit the activity and purpose, including exploratory and tentative comments where ideas are being collected together, and reasoned, evaluative comments as discussion moves to conclusions or actions
- use discussion in order to plan
- choose form and content to suit a particular purpose.

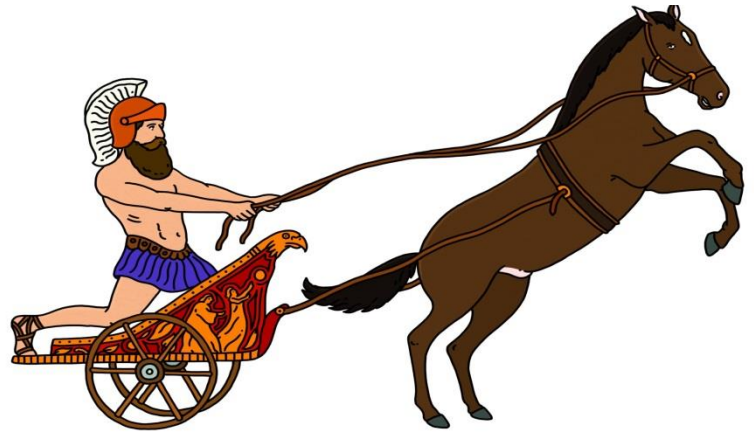
AD 146 – A monument to the greatness of charioteer Gaius Appuleius Diocles is erected in Rome where, according to experts, he earned about £10 billion in today's money, winning nearly 1,500 races

## Introductory Activity

1. If you have not done so before, you might want to begin by watching the *What on Earth? Wallbook of Sport Introductory Presentation* as a class. This will establish the context for the activity. You can find it online at

[www.whatonearthbooks.com/wonderboxsport](http://www.whatonearthbooks.com/wonderboxsport)

2. Divide the class into eight groups and allocate each one a panel of the Wallbook of Sport.
3. Pupils look at all the sports in their panel and categorise them according to whether they are still played or no longer played. Note that some sports may have changed, but are still played today, but in a different way, for example, wrestling.
4. Ask the pupils to identify these sports and give a reason why they have changed over time.
5. Each group presents their findings to the whole class and the lists of sports and changes should be noted on the board.



## Main Activity

6. Ask each group to choose two sports from their panel. One should be a sport that is still in existence and one that is no longer played or is played in a different way.
7. Using what they find, the groups should produce a poster for each of these categories, showing the history of the sport and how it has changed and, if it's applicable, why the sport no longer exists. They can use the Wallbook to trace the history of their sport. How has it changed or been adapted over time? Has it evolved to create a completely new sport?
8. Display the posters to give the pupils an opportunity to look at the changes.
9. Hold a class discussion on how sport, in general, has changed since the start of the Common Era (CE) until the present day.
10. Ensure you point out that all sports have developed and changed since their conception and that new sports are being invented every year.
11. Ask pupils to identify some recently invented sports such as Kiteboarding where a kite is attached to a windsurfer's board and the rider is propelled forward and upward. You may wish to point out that many new sports are becoming more and more extreme in nature.

1900 – women are allowed to compete in the Olympics and Charlotte Cooper is the first gold medallist, winning in tennis for Britain



## Conclusion

12. Each group looks through the *Wallbook of Sport* to find any sports that have been banned or that are no longer played. Pupils choose one and suggest how to adapt this sport to be acceptable in the modern world.



1809 – Olaf Rye, a Norwegian lieutenant, launches himself 9.5 metres in the air. He is the first known ski jumper

## Support Activities

Younger pupils, or those who need more support, could use the **PUPIL SHEET 9.1 BANNED OR OUTDATED SPORTS** which provides a list of banned or no longer played sports. The sheet includes a selection of changes that could be made to each sport and pupils highlight the changes that they would make to make it acceptable for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## Extension Activities



Older pupils, or those who respond well to additional challenge, could be asked to choose a modern day popular sport and write an article explaining why it is successful and if they think it will survive into the distant future. If so, they need to say whether it will change and how. For example, you could ask whether Rugby Union will still have 15 players in a team or whether there will be fewer players in the future due to the players' increased strength, speed and fitness.



AD 340 – Roman 'bikini girls' play a form of handball called 'harpaston' – as depicted on a 4<sup>th</sup>-century Roman mosaic

## Banned and Outdated Sports

Banned/Outdated Sports	Changes that could be made
<b>Gladiator Fighting</b>	Man against machine rather than animals
	Man versus man using harmless laser guns
	Man versus robotic animals using lasers
<b>Cockfighting</b>	Robotic machines versus each other
	On screen virtual robotic machines
	People dressed in funny cockerel costumes racing
<b>Bare Knuckle Fighting</b>	People wear gloves and head protection
	On screen virtual fighting
	Boxing using computers like the Wi or Xbox
<b>Bull Fighting</b>	Robotic Bulls
	Virtual bulls in a computer game
	Bull running where contestants have to loop a horn with a garland of flowers