



An innovative project that provides themed activities and allows classrooms around the globe to connect and share learning.

History of the Olympics

Background

The first ancient Olympic Games can be traced back to the year 776BCE. These games were dedicated to the Olympian gods and were held in Olympia, Greece. During the Olympic Games all wars and fighting would stop.

The Olympic Games were revived in 1896 in Athens, Greece. At this time, there were 14 nations competing. Today, 204 nations come together to compete and celebrate success. Currently the Olympic Game occur every two years. They alternate between the winter and summer Olympic Game and are held in countries all over the world.

Lesson Sequence

Print the following pictures and place them around the room. Give the students 3 minutes to look at all of the pictures. Have them determine what all of the pictures have in common. What theme ties all of the images together? Have them share what they think the theme is and why. Record their answers.

[American Flag](#)
[Wilma Rudolph](#)
[Canadian Flag](#)
[Mexico's Flag](#)

[Jackie Joyner Kersey](#)
[Olympia](#)
[Karl Hein](#)

Watch the Video Segment: Discovering Ancient Greece: Olympia -

<http://app.discoveryeducation.com/player/view/assetGuid/1BCCF961-B159-447D-83C2-D06D8563A7E0>

Use the SOS strategy Connect the Dots <https://discovery.app.box.com/s/0zg6v8wsxhrabvgty3wl>

Students can begin with Olympics in the center of their page with a dot.

While students watch the video, they must create a series of dots to connect what they are learning to why it has meaning to them.

Once the segment is over, have students share what they learned about this history of the Olympics.



An innovative project that provides themed activities and allows classrooms around the globe to connect and share learning.

Activities

Option 1

Students can research Zeus, Hera and Herakles - all had connections to the original olympic games in ancient Greece. Students can create a Fakebook page for each mythological character and follow the format laid out in the Fakebook SOS strategy

- <https://discovery.app.box.com/s/fytigjoyfwt7yqxpbg3z>

Option 2

Show them this event - [http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/teacherCenter/calendar/?guidAssetId=0AD66875-0658-4061-BB8C-](http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/teacherCenter/calendar/?guidAssetId=0AD66875-0658-4061-BB8C-AD690BD4D294&skipSSO=true&includeHeader=true&layout=default)

[AD690BD4D294&skipSSO=true&includeHeader=true&layout=default](http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com/teacherCenter/calendar/?guidAssetId=0AD66875-0658-4061-BB8C-AD690BD4D294&skipSSO=true&includeHeader=true&layout=default)

Students can create a timeline of all the modern day olympic games and their location.

Option 3

Show students this picture of the entrance to the stadium of Olympia.

<http://app.discoveryeducation.com/player/view/assetGuid/6C390E35-7F8D-4FD0-9AEA-5A4B89223FD7>

Have them write a descriptive narrative about how an athlete would have felt walking through that archway.