



School Libraries in Action

Reading Olympics – Cloze Activity

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ANCIENT AND MODERN



The call number or Dewey number for the Olympic Games is _____

The first recorded Games were held in _____ BC at _____, a sacred site in Ancient _____ dedicated to the God _____. The Ancient _____ held regular festivals here in his honour. These included a sprint race in a stadium on a track 192 metres long. The athletes carried shields and wore helmets, but no _____.

From _____ BC onwards, the Games took place at _____ yearly intervals, called O_____; the Games were so important that the O _____ was used as a way of measuring time. More running events were added, together with jumping, throwing, wrestling and chariot racing. Processions, feast and poetry recitals remained part of the festival, which came to last for five days.

It was forbidden for _____ and slaves even to watch the Games, let alone take part.

After Rome conquered Greece, the Olympics became less important. Finally they were banned in AD _____.

Archaeologists have uncovered the ruins of the site of the original Olympic Games. There were temples to Zeus, king of the gods and _____, Zeus's wife. The stadium, entered through an archway, held over 20,000 spectators and the athletes trained in a luxurious gymnasium with hot and cold baths.

In _____ some _____ years after the Ancient Olympics finished, a French Baron, _____ (1863-1937), had the idea of bringing the Olympic Games back. He convinced sporting authorities all over the world that the revived Games would strengthen young people's bodies and minds, as well as helping international understanding.

It was decided to hold the Olympic Games every four years, as before. The first Games of modern times were held in the Greek capital, _____. In 2008 the Olympic Games will be held in _____ the capital city of _____ during the month of _____.

A famous quote from Baron de Coubertin was "*The most important thing in the Olympic Games is _____, but to _____,*"

