

Australian Olympic Education Resource



OLYMPIC DAY

GREEK RESOURCES

LESSON 1 – Olympic Symbols

DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students begin planning for Olympic Day. They learn about the Olympic symbols including the rings, medals, motto, flag, flame and mascots. They begin to create awards to be presented on Olympic Day.

OUTCOMES:

This lesson contributes to the achievement of the following unit outcomes and students:

- Learn language associated with Olympic Symbols to participate in a range of activities.
- Participate in the planning and implementation of Olympic Day.
- Design and create posters and medals to present on Olympic Day.

SUGGESTED TIME:

60 minutes (this may be customised by increasing or reducing the time spent on class discussion, follow-up activities, homework etc).

WHAT YOU NEED:

- class copies of Student handouts
- short video clip, music recording, photo or book related to an Olympic Games which shows the various Olympic symbols including rings, motto, anthem, flame and medals
- Video or DVD player (if using video clips)
- Materials for creating posters, medals (eg. Scissors, paper, ribbon etc)
- Materials to make a large Olympic flag (either on fabric or paper)

ONLINE RESOURCES:

olympics.com.au (Australian Olympic Committee's website) Visit Education and the Multi Media Centre

www.bkzone.com.au (a new AOC website for kids) – students should visit the Golden Nuggets/Did you Know and download information about the Olympic Games

www.olympics.org (International Olympic Committee website) Search for information, media about the Olympic symbols

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Introducing Olympic Day

1. **Outline** to the students that as a class they are going to plan, organise and run an Olympic Day, to be held later in the year. **Give** a brief overview of some of the highlights of Olympic Day, explaining the importance of class participation. **Explain** that each student in the class will do a range of activities including taking on a specific role, learning more about a range of Olympic sports, deciding on some sports for their Olympic Day and making posters to promote Olympic Day.

Olympic symbols

1. **Show** the class a range of Olympic symbols (ie video, photos etc).
2. **Outline** that the meaning and the values of Olympism are conveyed by symbols - the rings, flag, motto and flame. **Explain** to the class that these symbols transmit a message in a simple and direct manner. They give the Olympic Movement and the Games an identity.

“The Olympic rings, flag, motto and flame are important symbols which convey the Olympic message”

«Οι ολυμπιακοί κύκλοι, η σημαία, το σύνθημα και η φλόγα είναι σημαντικά σύμβολα που δείχνουν το μήνυμα των Ολυμπιακών Αγώνων.»

3. **Distribute Student handout - Olympic symbols.** As each symbol is discussed, have students complete the task on the handout.

Rings

1. **Explain** that the Olympic rings are one of the most easily identifiable signs in the world, and everyone immediately associates them with the Olympic Games. **Ask** a student to read aloud the following in the target language:

“The five rings represent the five continents. They are interlaced to show the universality of Olympism and the meeting of the athletes of the whole world during the Olympic Games.” Olympic Day Resource 4

«Οι πέντε ολυμπιακοί κύκλοι συμβολίζουν τις πέντε ηπείρους. Μπλέκονται μεταξύ τους για να δείξουν ότι ο Ολυμπισμός είναι παγκόσμιος και ότι στους Ολυμπιακούς αγώνες έρχονται αθλητές απ’ όλες τις χώρες του κόσμου.»

2. **Ask** the class to think of some objects and items on which they might find the Olympics rings. **Brainstorm** their responses.
3. **Ask** students to write the colors of the Olympic rings in the target language on their worksheet.



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Flag

1. **Ask** a student to read aloud the following quote by Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympic Games:

“The Olympic flag [...] has a white background, with five interlaced rings in the centre: blue, yellow, black, green and red [...] This design is symbolic; it represents the five continents of the world, united by Olympism, while the six colours are those that appear on all the national flags of the world at the present time.” (1931)

«Η Ολυμπιακή σημαία είναι άσπρη και έχει στο κέντρο πέντε κύκλους που μπλέκονται μεταξύ τους. Τα χρώματα των κύκλων είναι μπλε, κίτρινο, μαύρο, πράσινο και κόκκινο. Οι πέντε ενωμένοι κύκλοι συμβολίζουν τις πέντε ηπείρους που ενώνονται από τον Ολυμπισμό και τα έξι χρώματα είναι αυτά από τα οποία ένα, τουλάχιστον, υπάρχει στη σημαία κάθε χώρας σήμερα.» (1931)

2. **Ask** the class to explain the purpose and meaning of these words. **Explain** the symbolism of the interlaced rings and the colours from the national flags, referring to samples if you have them.

3. **Ask** students to write the names of the continents represented by the Olympic rings in the target language on their worksheet.

Africa	
America (North & South)	
Asia	
Australia	
Europe	

Motto

1. **Explain** that a motto is a phrase which sums up a life philosophy or a code of conduct to follow. The Olympic motto is made up of three Latin words:

CITIVS ALTIUS FORTIVS which means **FASTER – HIGHER – STRONGER**
ΠΙΟ ΓΡΗΓΟΡΑ, ΠΙΟ ΨΗΛΑ, ΠΙΟ ΔΥΝΑΤΑ

2. **Ask** students to write the Olympic motto in the target language on their worksheet.





Flame

1. **Explain** to the class that the Olympic flame is one of the best-known features of the Games. A very precise ritual is followed in regard to the lighting of the flame, the relay route it follows and the arrival of the flame at the stadium.
2. **Ask** students to write or draw about a favourite memory of seeing the Olympic flag being lit. (Perhaps on the back of their worksheet)

Conclusion & Reflection

1. **Ask** students to choose their favourite Olympic symbol from those discussed in this lesson. Provide a sentence structure for them to share their favourite symbol. For example: Το σύμβολο των Ολυμπιακών Αγώνων που προτιμώ είναι ο/η/το XXX.



Australian Olympic Education Worksheet



Τα σύμβολα των Ολυμπιακών Αγώνων

Σύμβολο	Όνομα	Δραστηριότητες
	οι κύκλοι	Γράψε στα Ελληνικά τα χρώματα των ολυμπιακών κύκλων.
	η σημαία	Γράψε τις ηπείρους που συμβολίζουν οι ολυμπιακοί κύκλοι.
	το σύνθημα	Γράψε στα Ελληνικά το σύνθημα των Ολυμπιακών Αγώνων.
	η φλόγα	Γράψε ή ζωγράφισε κάτι που θυμάσαι από το άναμμα της Ολυμπιακής φλόγας.

