

Icons Welcome World to Rio



Mini Fact:
The 2016 emblem shows Brazilians embracing each other around the outline of Sugarloaf Mountain, a peak in Rio de Janeiro.

When we think of the Olympic Games, we often picture the multi-colored rings. What do the rings mean?

The symbol was the idea of a Frenchman, Pierre de Coubertin, who is sometimes called the father of the modern Olympic Games. The five colored rings, along with the white background, represent the colors appearing on all the flags of the countries that competed in the Olympics in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The rings weren't formally used until the 1920 Games.



2016 mascots

For each Olympic Games, **emblems** and characters are created that show the world something about the city and country where the events are taking place.

This year, the **mascot** of the Olympics is Vinicius, a mixture of the cats, monkeys and birds that live in Brazil.

He is named after Vinicius de Moraes, a famous musician and poet in Brazil. His best friend, the Paralympics mascot, is Tom. He represents all the plants in the Brazilian forests.



Pictogram Mini quiz

A **pictogram** (PICT-o-gram) is a symbol that represents something. For example, in ancient times, people drew pictograms (or pictographs) on rock walls to tell stories about their lives.

With each Olympics, pictograms are used to identify the sports. For the 2016 Olympics, there are 41 different sports and pictograms!

The Mini Page challenges you to a matching game. Try to match each of these eight pictograms to its sport.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

Answers: 1. Taekwondo, 2. football (soccer), 3. mountain biking, 4. water polo, 5. equestrian jumping, 6. synchronized swimming, 7. diving, 8. rhythmic gymnastics.



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

Resources



On the Web:
• bit.ly/22PBjvI
• bit.ly/22W3d2K

At the library:
• "What Are the Summer Olympics?" by Gail Herman
• "The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Adaptation)" by Daniel James Brown

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of the Summer Olympics are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ANIMALS, EQUESTRIAN, FOOTBALL, GYMNASTICS, ICON, MASCOT, OLYMPICS, PICTOGRAM, PLANTS, RIO, SPORTS, SUMMER, SWIMMING, SYMBOL, TAEKWONDO, TOM, VINICIUS.

A E B O L Y M P I C S A V V L
N H R A U P L A N T S E I N J
O D N O W K E A T I C O N I L
J Y E S Y M B O L P W R I D L
D A N I M A L S X O I R C S A
L N A I R T S E U Q E L I T B
A P S C I T S A N M Y G U R T
T Q M A S C O T C O M H S O O
S W I M M I N G Y T A E E P O
U P I C T O G R A M M R S F

Cook's Corner

Hot and Cold Potato Salad

You'll need:

- 4 cups boiled potatoes, cubed
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- 1 cup carrots, shredded and chopped
- 1/4 cup vinegar

- 2 tablespoons mustard
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon dried dill weed
- salt and pepper to taste



What to do:

1. Combine potatoes, onion, eggs and carrots in a medium bowl.
2. In a small saucepan, heat the vinegar, mustard, mayonnaise and sour cream.
3. Pour the dressing over the potato salad mixture.
4. Add the dill weed, salt and pepper. Serve hot or cold. Serves 6-8.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of Rio de Janeiro.



oufclorl _____
nautmonis _____
scimu _____
izlabr _____

Answers: colorful, musical, mountains, Brazil.

Mini Jokes



Otis: Where do champion ants like to go when they're hungry?
Olene: To the Olympicnics!
Oscar: What was the champion sneezer awarded at the Olympics?
Olivia: The cold medal!

Eco Note



Researchers fear that a man-eating reptile from Africa may have invaded Florida. Scientists have captured four Nile crocodiles from South Africa since 2000. The species can grow to 18 feet long and weigh as much as a small car.

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For later:

Quiz your family or friends about all the 2016 pictograms and which sports they represent.

Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit:
bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

The **Mini Spy Booklet** features 48 of your favorite puzzles from The Mini Page! Help Mini Spy and other classic characters from The Mini Page find hidden objects from a list of clues.

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