

ACTIVITIES BASED ON *THE NIGHT OLYMPIC TEAM*

Reading, Writing, Debate, Art

READING

The Night Olympic Team is an Accelerated Reader book. At schools that use the Accelerated Reader program, students pick Accelerated Reader books and read them at their own pace, take a quiz, and teachers get immediate feedback on individual students' reading progress. For *The Night Olympic Team*, Quiz No. 121674 is available from www.renlearn.com/ (click on Accelerated Reader, then on Order Quizzes).

WRITING

1. Dream up a motto for the night Olympic team.

(Other than the book subtitle, “Fighting to keep drugs out of the Games”)

Definition

Motto: A short expression of a guiding principle, goal, or ideal.

Examples

Mottos of organizations fighting drugs in sports

- World Anti-Doping Agency: *Play True*
- U.S. Anti-Doping Agency: *My health. My sport. My victory. I compete clean.*
- Anti-Doping Research, Inc.: *Fighting to Save the Soul of Sport*

Mottos of Olympic Games

Olympic Winter Games

- Vancouver 2010: *With Glowing Hearts*
- Torino 2006: *Passion Lives Here*
- Salt Lake City 2002: *Light The Fire Within*

Olympic Summer Games

- Beijing 2008: *One World One Dream*
- Athens 2004: *Welcome Home*

Olympic Games: *Citius Altius Fortius* (Faster Higher Stronger in Latin)

Paralympics: *Spirit in Motion*

ACTIVITIES BASED ON *THE NIGHT OLYMPIC TEAM*

page 2 of 2

2. Write about a time when you were wronged because someone else cheated. What happened? How did that make you feel?

If you prefer a writing prompt, consider “When I was wronged because someone else cheated.”

3. G8-12. Imagine and write about a time when you have a choice to cheat or not to cheat in sports: on what values would each choice be based? What would be the potential consequences in each case?

If you prefer a writing prompt, consider “Why I should not cheat in sports.”

4. Plan a smarter lifestyle!

Read the Sports Smarts on page 48 of *The Night Olympic Team*.

Does your current lifestyle follow each tip? Explain your answers.

Pick one tip on which to improve. Describe how you will begin practicing, every day for a week, changing one habit to make your lifestyle healthier. What challenge might you face and what is your plan for overcoming it?

5. Make science an adventure!

Write about a scientist making an exciting discovery. Put readers in the scientist’s shoes, by using your senses and making sure readers can tell how the scientist feels. Create suspense by delaying revelation.

Note: this kind of writing is appropriate for fiction or narrative nonfiction, not for a technical report.

DEBATE

G8-12. Have students role-play pro or con figures on the issue of whether performance enhancing drugs (such as steroids) should be accepted in sports, and have them debate classmates. Use <http://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/> as a resource; it’s an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit website whose mission is to promote critical thinking, education, and informed citizenship by presenting pros and cons as stated by experts.

ART ACTIVITIES

1. Create a pennant for the night Olympic team.

Click here for printable.

2. Design a “Sports Smarts” poster based on page 48 of the book, *The Night Olympic Team*. Show your creativity and artistic talent. Illustrate the tips. Inspire students to practice a healthy lifestyle.

from www.carolinehatton.com