Olympic Games
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When Did the Olympics Begin?

Over two thousand seven hundred years ago, the Olympics began as part of a religious festival in Olympia in ancient Greece.

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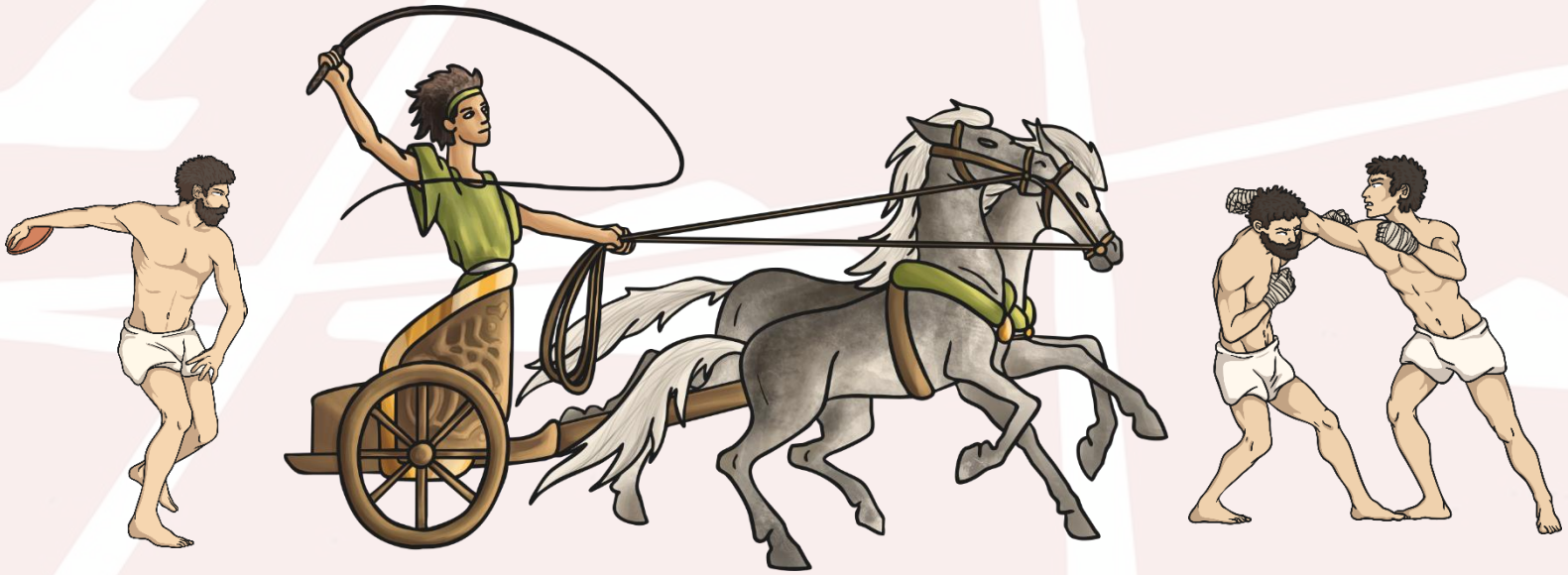
Ancient Greek Games

The Greeks took part in the Olympic Games to celebrate the Greek gods, Zeus and Hera. Only men and boys were allowed to take part and in the events, which included wrestling, boxing, long jump, javelin, discus, and chariot racing. The games occurred every four years, until the Greek Empire was defeated and they were forgotten about.



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Ancient Greek Games

In 1894, the games were resurrected and the International Olympic Committee was formed.
The Olympic Games have taken place every four years since, with athletes from all over the world taking part in different events.

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Olympic Events

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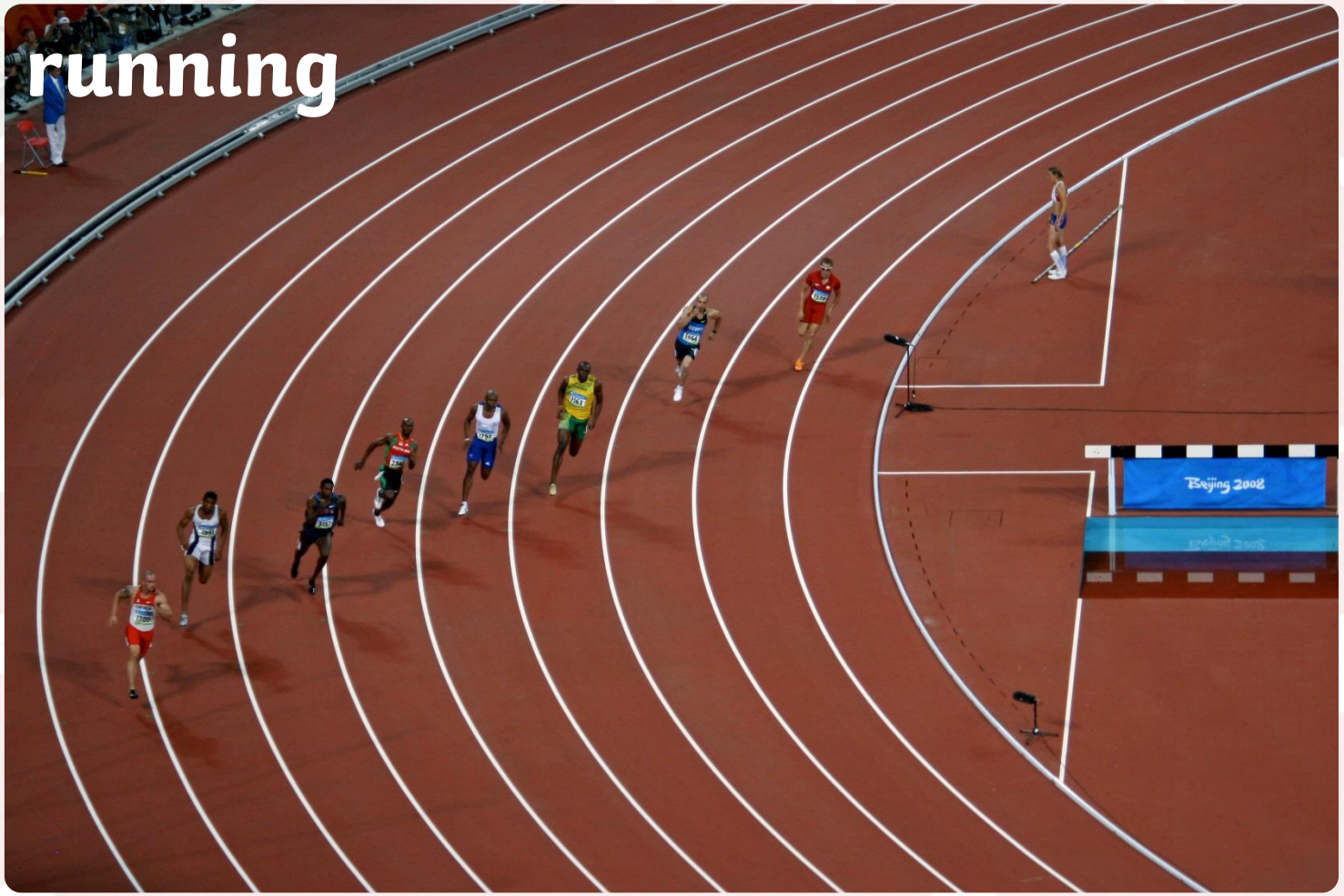
Olympic Events



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Olympic Events

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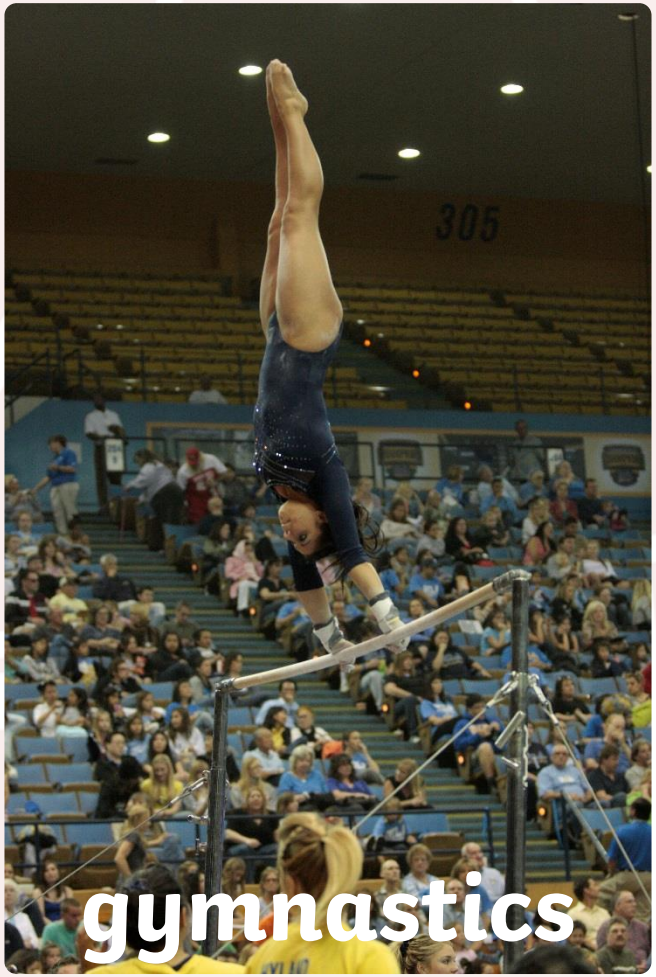
Olympic Events



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Olympic Events

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Olympic Events

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Olympic Medals

Olympic medals are awarded to athletes who come 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their event. Gold is awarded to the winner who came 1st, silver is awarded to 2nd place and bronze to 3rd place.

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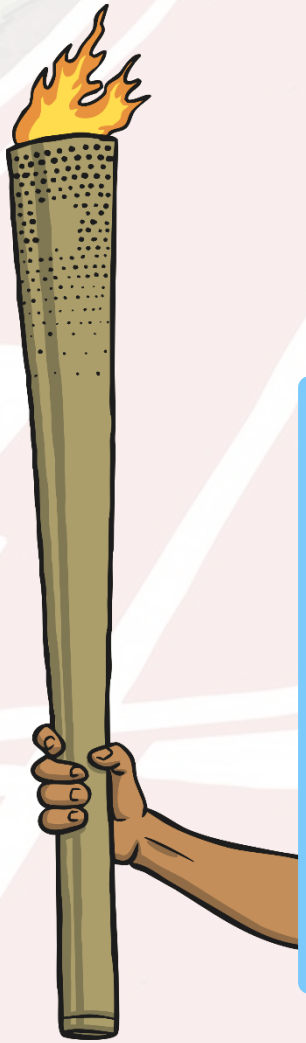
The Olympic Torch



A torch was lit outside of the Temple of Hera using flames created from rays from the Sun. Messengers took the torch around the country so that people knew about the games.

Today the torch is lit as it was during the ancient Olympic Games. The flame travels around Greece and then to the country where the games will be taking place.

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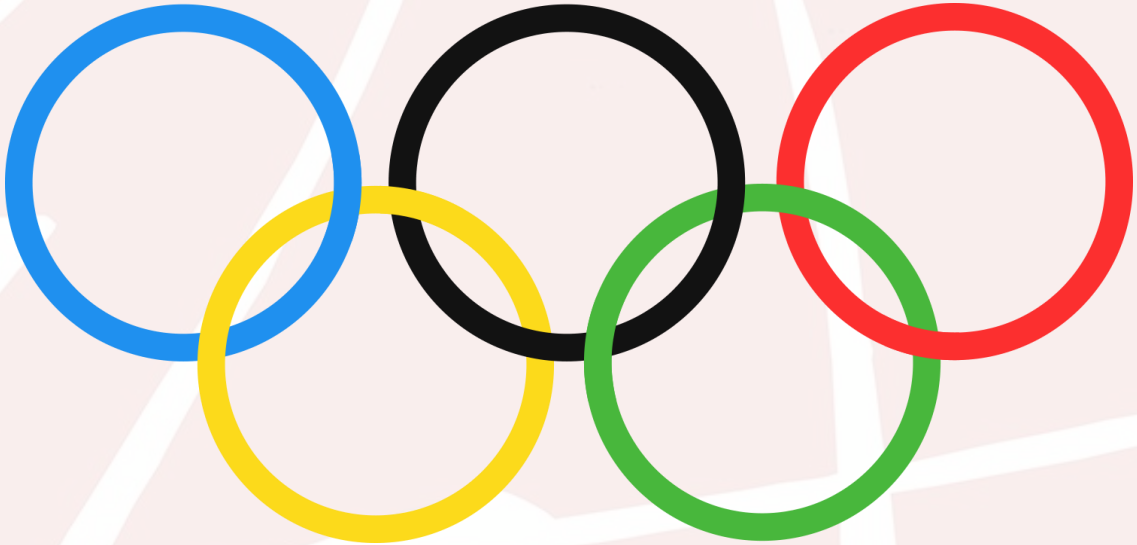
Olympic Rings



The symbol of the modern Olympic Games is five interlocking rings. The five rings are blue, yellow, black, green and red. The five rings represent the five continents, or parts of the world which took part in the first modern Olympic Games.

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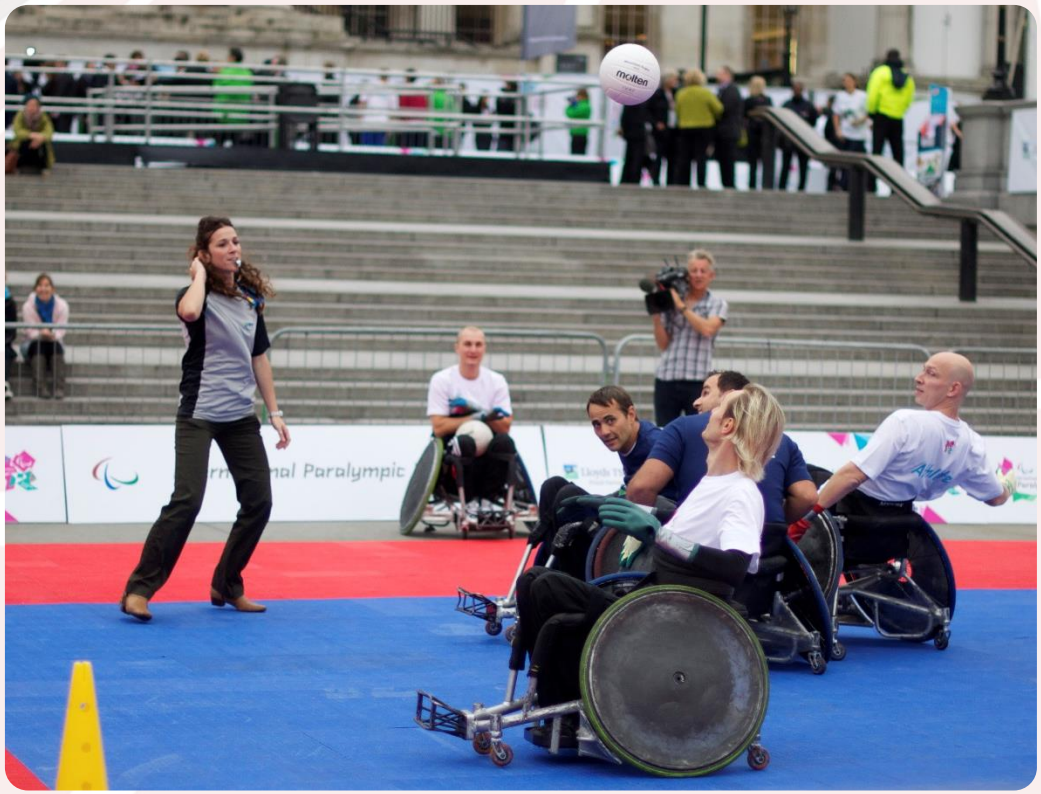
Paralympic Games

The Paralympic Games take place after the Olympic Games. Sportsmen and women who have a disability meet up and compete.



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2020 Olympic Games

Each Olympic Games takes place in a different city across the world.

- In 2012, London, UK was the host city.
- In 2016, the Olympics were held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- The next Olympics are being held in 2020 in Tokyo, Japan.

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