# IN BRIEF

**The Keeper of the Ball** is a tale about the childhood of Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as Pelé. Football changed his life, and he became a role model for millions of kids around the world! His story inspired this pack, which is about sports of all kinds!



## 1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- If a pupil doesn't recognise a word in this month's magazine, you have an opportunity to help them build their vocabulary! Get them to look up the definition in the **Storytime Glossary**, and then challenge them to use the word in a sentence!

- What makes a great athlete, and what can we learn from them? That's the theme of the **Class Discussion Sheet**! Pupils also get to choose their own favourite sportsperson and tell you why they think they are special...

- The **Reading Comprehension Sheet** challenges children to locate different kinds of punctuation in an extract from Edson's story. Can they find a full stop, a question mark, a comma, an exclamation mark and quotation marks? This exercise would be useful as an introduction to a punctuation-focused lesson.

- Can your pupils put the events of Edson's life in the right order? The **Story Sequencing Sheet** has eleven sections, which kids should number to show the order they should be read in...

- The **Storyboard** page features colourful art from this month's issue, and there is space underneath each picture for students to write about Edson's adventures in their own words. How will they interpret the story?

- What did your pupils learn about Edson and his personality? Find out by giving them the **Character Sheet: Edson** page to fill in!

Continued on page 2...

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# 1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS CONTINUED

- Sport is all about *doing* things, so it's only appropriate to have an exercise relating to verbs! The **Athletic Action Words** page challenges children to complete ten sentences about sports by choosing with the correct verb. What 'action words' would apply to other sports?

- Your class can test their language skills and learn about the beautiful game by solving the **Fun Football Rebus!** puzzle. Can they work out which word each of the pictures in the text represents? (This exercise could be a little tricky for pupils who don't know a lot about football, so be ready to give them a hint or two...)

# 2. GEOGRAPHY LESSON IDEA

- The **Top 10 Sportspeople** pages list ten exceptional athletes that your students should enjoy learning about! They come from a variety of countries and compete in a number of different sports. Can your class find the countries they come from on a map of the world? Why not ask them which other athletes they think should be on the list and point out where they come from as well?

# 2. MATHS LESSON IDEA

- Working out who wins in a sporting event is often about working out who ran the fastest, leaped or threw the furthest or lifted the most. The **Who's the Winner?** page asks kids to figure out which athletes came first, second or third in various events, based on what their results were. Who should get the gold, silver or bronze medal in each event?

Continued on page 3...

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# 3. P.E. LESSON IDEAS

- The **Challenge Cards** were created to make doing exercises fun! Each shows an exercise that has to be performed ten times or for 30 seconds. The cards can be printed and cut out – why not try choosing a sequence of exercises randomly during a P.E. lesson to keep pupils on their toes?

- Can your class name the sports that different pieces of equipment are used in? That's the idea behind the **Name the Game!** sheet. This exercise could be used to start a discussion about the gear used in various sports. Students might be interested in trying a sport on the sheet in a future P.E. lesson.

- The **Play a Game of Tin Football!** page tells you how to set up a two-player 'football' game. It is a fun activity for a rainy day – you could even set up a class league!

# 4. ART LESSON IDEA

- Students can create their own colourful football strip design on the **Design a 'Sete de Setembro' Uniform!** page. They can colour in the shorts and top however they like – will they add spots, stripes, or other eye-catching features?

# 5. MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Showing appreciation to others is a great way of building connections and demonstrating gratitude! The wonderful folk in our lives deserve awards, and that is why we created **Terrific Trophies** for students to cut out and colour in. They can give them to their favourtite people to show them how much they are valued!

- Doing sport can be great for physical health, but it can also have great benefits for students' mental and emotional health! Studies indicate that regular play and exercise can reduce stress, boost self-esteem, improve mood and reduce depression and anxiety, which can lead to increased academic performance.
**https://sportspe.org.uk/2020/02/19/mental-health-and-the-importance-of-pe-sport-and-physical-activity-in-schools/**

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# STORYTIME GLOSSARY

1 OF 2

**Look up the meanings of any words you don't know!**

## Max's Magic Socks (Page 6)

- **Zooming** – moving very quickly
- **Pavement** – area covered with concrete or paving stones
- **Display** – show
- **Shakily** – in an unsteady way
- **Tapped** – gently hit
- **Longed** – wanted
- **Twirls** – spins
- **Stared** – looked hard for a long time
- **Picked himself up** – got up

## The Two Goats (Page 11)

- **Dew** – water drops that form on cool surfaces overnight
- **Graceful** – able to move smoothly
- **Smugly** – in a proud, satisfied way
- **Basking** – sunbathing
- **Unbothered** – not upset
- **Trooped off** – marched off
- **Bossy** – liking to give orders
- **Gorge** – steep, narrow valley
- **Churned** – moved in a powerful way
- **Hoof** – hard, hornlike part of the feet of certain plant-eating animals
- **Shrilly** – in a high-pitched voice
- **Reared up** – stood up
- **Rammed** – banged into
- **Almighty** – great
- **Jeered** – said in a mocking way
- **Entangled** – tangled up
- **Engulf** – surround

## The Keeper of the Ball (Page 14)

- **Inventor** – person who came up with the idea for something
- **Humble** – not rich, fancy or important
- **Juicy** – filled with juice
- **Hideouts** – places to hide
- **Rags** – old bits of cloth
- **Dribbling** – tapping a ball along with feet
- **Glared** – stared angrily
- **Injured** – badly hurting
- **Was tackled** – had the ball taken off him
- **Rarest** – most uncommon
- **Cheered** – shouted happily
- **Foreman** – person in charge of workers

## Peter Bull (Page 21)

- **Copper** – type of orange-red metal
- **Inquisitive** – curious
- **Spoiled** – gave lots of love and treats to
- **Cud** – partly digested grass from stomach
- **Spectacles** – glasses
- **Haughtily** – in a proud but rude way
- **Fringe** – long bit of hair above the face
- **Fastened** – attached
- **Concentrate** – focus his attention on one thing
- **Commotion** – noise and disturbance
- **Trudged** – walked in a tired way
- **Sobbed** – cried quietly
- **Rapped** – knocked
- **Company** – people to spend time with

*Continued on page 2...*

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# STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

## The Snowman (Page 29)

- **Sledges** – frames for sliding on snow
- **Drifts** – piles of snow
- **Fetched** – went to get
- **Rake** – tool for combing through soil
- **Shiver** – little shake
- **Grunted** – made a noise in his nose
- **Retreated** – went back
- **Chuckled** – laughed quietly
- **Window-pane** – glass in window
- **Gleaming** – shiny
- **Trickling away** – flowing away

## Goldilocks' Hoodie (Page 34)

- **Peered** – looked
- **Snuggly** – soft and cosy
- **Hibernating** – sleeping for the winter
- **Stamped her foot** – slammed her foot down angrily
- **Ushering** – guiding
- **Toothily** – while showing many teeth
- **Rejected** – said 'no' to
- **Despair** – sadness and hopelessness

## The Crow's Necklace (Page 36)

- **Glimmering** – shining with reflected light
- **Canoe** – kind of small rowing boat
- **Cawed** – made a sound like 'caw'
- **Harsh** – rough-sounding
- **Grazing** – eating plants
- **Appreciative** – showing gratitude or pleasure
- **Discouraged** – let down and depressed
- **Strutting** – walking proudly
- **Clucked** – said in a henlike way
- **Pecking** – poking with their beaks

## The Girl Who Helped the Thunder (Page 40)

- **Slender** – thin
- **Buckskin** – leather made of deer skin
- **Bewitching** – magical-seeming
- **Retorted** – argued in reply
- **Wigwams** – buildings of a type used by Native Americans
- **Ancient** – very old
- **Rumbled** – made a low rolling sound
- **Deafening** – very loud
- **Thunderbolt** – blast of lightning
- **Praised** – gave her compliments

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# CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

## LET'S TALK ABOUT... **what it takes to be a good athlete!**

**What can we learn from sportspeople about living a healthy life and making the most of our abilities?**

1. What special abilities or talents does an athlete need to be good at a certain sport? What makes a good footballer, a good weightlifter or a good runner?

2. What do you think an athlete should do to increase their fitness and skill in their chosen sport?

3. Would you like to be a professional athlete? What would be the positive and negative things about following this career?

4. What lessons do you think we can learn from successful athletes?

## MY FAVOURITE SPORTSPERSON IS...

**My favourite sportsperson is** _____ **.**

**They come from** _____ **and the sport they compete in is** _____ **.**

**I admire them because they are** _____ **,** _____ **and** _____ **!**

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

**See if you can spot the different kinds of punctuation in this extract!**

Edson had an idea! He went up to the foreman of the group.

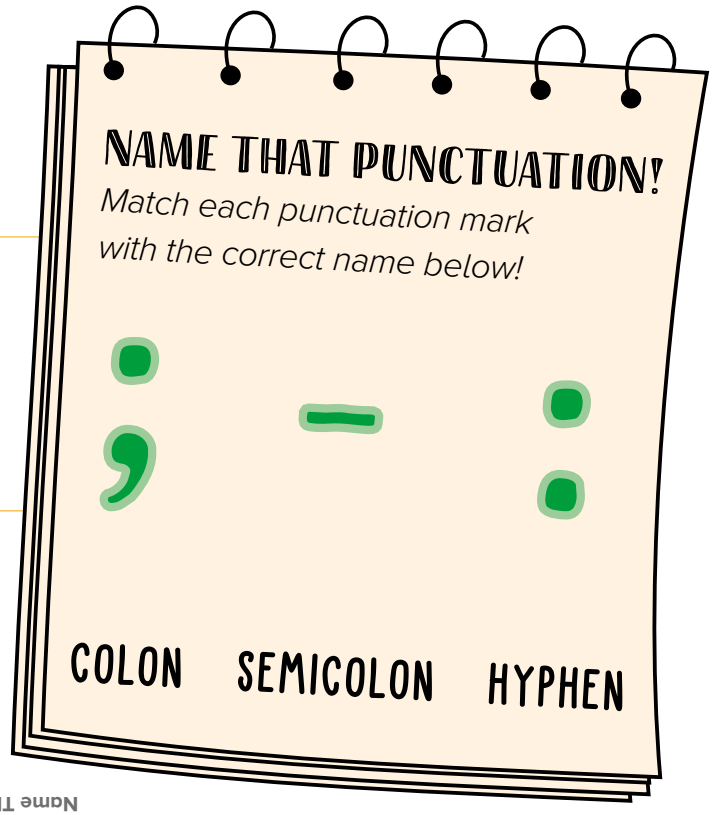
"What do you want?" the big man asked, surprised by being interrupted by a skinny ten-year-old.

"We're the Sete de Setembro team," Edson announced proudly, "and we would like to challenge you to a game of football!"

**1.** *Question marks*, *exclamation marks* and *full stops* can be used to mark the end of sentences. Circle one example of each type in this extract!

**2.** A *comma* is a punctuation mark used to separate different parts of a sentence. Circle two of them in the text.

**3.** There are several *quotation marks* in the extract – what are they used for?




**ANSWERS:** 1. ! is an exclamation mark, ? is a question mark and . is a full stop. A comma looks like this: , . 3. Quotation marks are used to show *direct speech*, which is where things people say are quoted word-for-word.
**Name That Punctuation!** : colon, - hyphen, ; semicolon.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

**Can you put the events of Edson's story in the correct order?**
**Reread the tale if you need to check anything!**

Edson decided to make his own ball by stuffing a sock with paper and rags. He started his own football games with kids from the street! ☐

One afternoon, Edson and the 'Sete de Setembro' boys even challenged some council workers to a game and had a great time... ☐

Edson and the other kids also began collecting a full album of football stickers! They traded it for a ball, which Edson kept for them. ☐

Edson was born in Brazil, in 1940. His parents named him in honour of the inventor of the light bulb. ☐

The kids were overjoyed to get their new uniforms, and Edson named the team 'Sete de Setembro', after a nearby street. ☐

Edson loved playing, but his mum didn't approve. His dad had once been a footballer, though, and he was proud of his son! ☐

After the game against the workers, Edson's dad told him that he obviously loved the game and might become a great player! ☐

One day, the boy came up with the idea of starting their own team. They would sell peanuts and old iron to pay for uniforms! ☐

The older children played football on a nearby field. Edson asked if he could join in, but they said he was too young. ☐

'Sete de Setembro' challenged other teams, who nicknamed them 'the shoeless ones' because they couldn't afford boots. ☐

When he was four, his family moved to the city of Bauru. He had fun playing with the kids in his new neighbourhood! ☐

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# STORYBOARD

**Retell the thrilling story of little Edson and his friends in your own words! Write about what happened to him underneath the pictures below...**

1



_____

_____

_____

2




_____

_____

_____

3




_____

_____

_____

4



_____

_____

_____

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# CHARACTER SHEET: EDSON



**We hope you enjoyed the true story of a young football superstar! Tell us what you think about him by answering the questions on this sheet...**

Can you think of three words to describe what Edson was like? Write them down below!

_____

_____

Which subjects do you think Edson would have enjoyed at school?

_____

_____

Which person do you think inspired Edson the most?

_____

_____

Draw a trophy for the 'Sete de Setembro' team to win!

What role do you think Edson played in his group of friends?

_____

_____

Edson was well-loved by his family and friends and had many good qualities. What is one thing that you admire about him?

_____

_____

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# ATHLETIC ACTION WORDS

Let's get active! Can you use the right verb from the list at the bottom of the page to complete each of the sentences below?

1. In the shot put event, I have to _____ a heavy weight!
2. In the sprint, I have to _____ 100 metres!
3. In the high jump, I have to _____ over a bar!
4. In football, I have to _____ the ball into a goal!
5. In tennis, I have to _____ a ball over a net!
6. In weightlifting, I have to _____ a heavy weight!
7. In rowing, I have to _____ a boat!
8. In basketball, I have to _____ a ball in the basket!
9. In cycling, I have to _____ a bike around a track!
10. In swimming, I have to _____ the pool as fast as I can!

KICK
HIT
RUN
RIDE
ROW

LIFT
THROW
JUMP
DUNK
CROSS

## DID YOU KNOW?

In some Olympic events, you compete in many different track and field events! In the heptathlon you compete in seven, and in the decathlon you compete in *ten*!

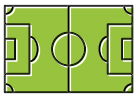
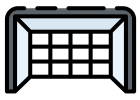
**ANSWERS:** 1. THROW, 2. RUN, 3. JUMP, 4. KICK, 5. HIT, 6. LIFT, 7. ROW, 8. DUNK, 9. RIDE, 10. CROSS

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# FUN FOOTBALL REBUS!

Find out about football by working out which word should replace each picture in the text below!

Football is a fun game! All you need is a , a  to play on and two teams with eleven  in each one.  can  the  with their feet or hit it with their . Only the  is allowed to touch the  with their ! In football, you score a  by getting the  into the , and the match is over when the  blows the final .

## WRITE OUT THE TEXT WITH THE RIGHT WORDS FILLED IN BELOW!

**ANSWERS:** ball, pitch, players, players, kick, ball, head, goalkeeper, ball, hands, goal, ball, goal, referee, whistle.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# TOP 10 SPORTSPEOPLE

1 OF 2

**Who are the greatest athletes of all time? There is no 'right' answer to that question, but here are ten that you should definitely know about! Who would *you* add to this list?**

## PELÉ

**Sport: FOOTBALL**

**From:** Brazil
**Lived:** 1940-2022

**Why he's great:** Edson Arantes do Nascimento (known as Pelé) helped Brazil win three World Cups and scored 1279 goals in 1363 games, which is a world record. He was one recipient of the FIFA Player of the Century award. (The other was Diego Maradona.)

**Cool fact:** Pelé was the youngest-ever winner of a World Cup, at age 17.



## MOHAMMAD ALI

**Sport: BOXING**

**From:** USA
**Lived:** 1942-2016

**Why he's great:** He won the light heavyweight gold medal at the 1960 Olympics before going professional. He was heavyweight champion from 1964 to 1970 and was named as BBC Sports Personality of the Century.

**Cool fact:** He refused to fight in the Vietnam War because of his pacifist beliefs, even though this affected his sports career.



## EDDY MERCKX

**Sport: CYCLING**

**From:** Belgium
**Lived:** 1945-

**Why he's great:** He is the only person to have won eleven Grand Tour events, including five Tours de France, and was the first person to achieve cycling's 'triple crown' by winning three major titles in one season. Eddy is considered to be the most successful cyclist in history.

**Cool fact:** His nickname was 'the Cannibal', because he was hungry to win!



## NADIA COMANECI

**Sport: GYMNASTICS**

**From:** Romania
**Lived:** 1961-

**Why she's great:** She won five Olympic gold medals and was the first person to get a perfect '10' for a gymnastics routine. (She scored six more perfect 10s at the same Olympic games!)

**Cool fact:** In 1989, she escaped from Romania, which was ruled by an oppressive government. She moved to the United States, where she still lives today.



## MICHAEL JORDAN

**Sport: BASKETBALL**

**From:** USA
**Lived:** 1963-

**Why he's great:** He won six American NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls and two Olympic gold medals with the US 'Dream Team'. He has dozens of NBA awards and is considered the greatest basketball player of all time.

**Cool fact:** He was nicknamed 'Air Jordan' for his jumping ability. A phenomenally successful range of trainers was named after him!



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# TOP 10 SPORTSPEOPLE

2 OF 2

## SERENA WILLIAMS

**Sport: TENNIS**

**From:** USA

**Lived:** 1981-

**Why she's great:** Serena is the only player in history to have completed a 'career Golden Slam' in both singles and doubles tennis. That means that she has won all four major tennis tournaments and an Olympic gold medal both solo and playing with a partner.

**Cool fact:** Serena's doubles partner was her older sister, Venus, who also has a few Grand Slams of her own!



## ELIUD KIPCHOGE

**Sport: LONG-DISTANCE RUNNING**

**From:** Kenya

**Lived:** 1984-

**Why he's great:** He won two Olympic gold medals in the marathon (42.195km race) and ran five of the nine fastest marathons in history. He is the only person to have run a marathon distance in under two hours, but this did not count as a world record because it was not in an official race.

**Cool fact:** He also won medals in the Olympic 5000m event!



## MICHAEL PHELPS

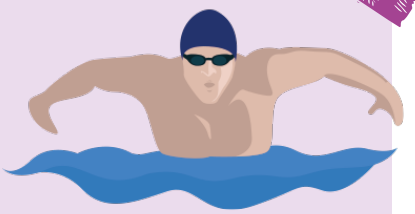
**Sport: SWIMMING**

**From:** USA

**Lived:** 1985-

**Why he's great:** He won the most Olympic medals of any athlete (28), including 23 golds. He has also held six different swimming records.

**Cool fact:** He set up the Michael Phelps Foundation to promote swimming and healthy lifestyles to kids.



## LEWIS HAMILTON

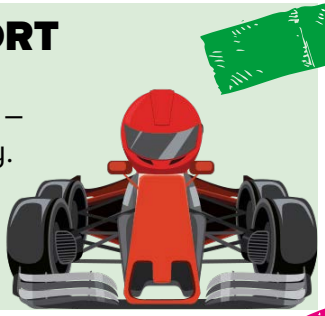
**Sport: MOTORSPORT**

**From:** Great Britain

**Lived:** 1985-

**Why he's great:** He won seven World Drivers' Championship titles – Michael Schumacher is the only other racer to have won that many. Hamilton also holds the records for the most wins (103), pole positions (104), and podium finishes (197).

**Cool fact:** He was knighted for his services to motorsport!



## USAIN BOLT

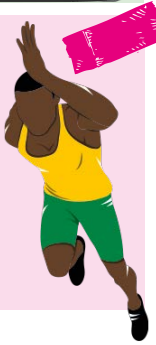
**Sport: SPRINTING**

**From:** Jamaica

**Lived:** 1986-

**Why he's great:** He is considered the greatest sprinter of all time, having won eight Olympic gold medals, including the 100m and 200m medals at the 2008, 2012 and 2016 Olympics.

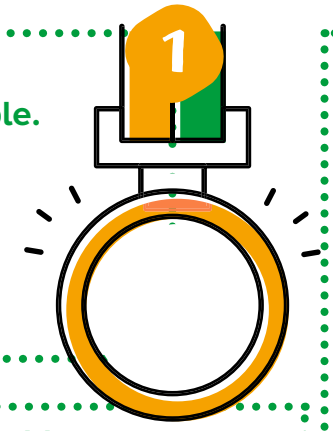
**Cool fact:** He is famous for his 'lightning bolt' victory pose where he holds his left arm out to the side and folds the right arm across his chest.



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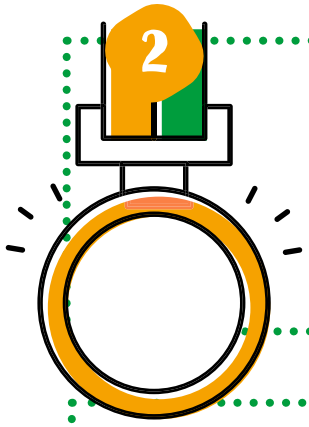
# WHO'S THE WINNER?

Can you work out who should get the gold medal (first place), silver medal (second place) or bronze medal (third place) in the events below?

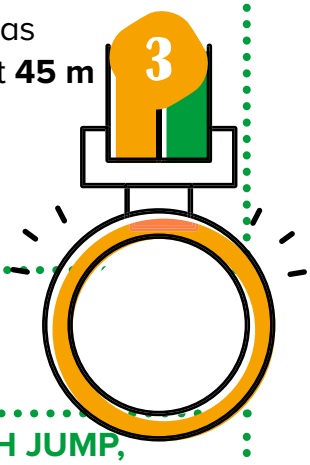


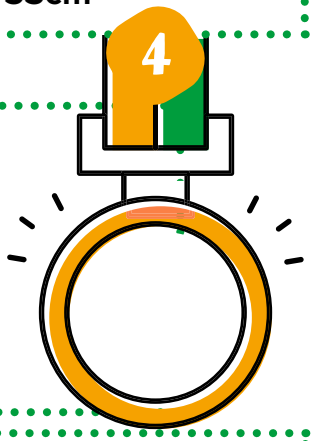

**In RUNNING events, players try to finish the race as *quickly* as possible.**
**Who would get the silver medal?**
**A.** Jennifer finished in **82 seconds**
**B.** Bradley finished in **102 seconds**
**C.** Amit finished in **61 seconds**

**In JAVELIN, athletes try to throw a spear as *far* as possible.**
**Who would get the gold medal?**
**A.** Anita threw it **49m**
**B.** Jonas threw it **46m**
**C.** Tomas threw it **45 m**



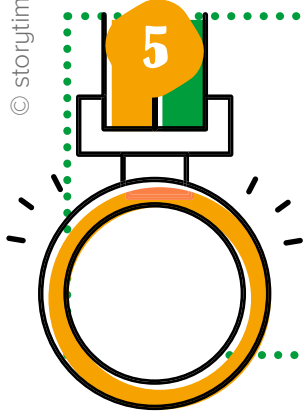

**In the LONG JUMP, athletes try to jump as *far* as possible.**
**Who would get the bronze medal?**
**A.** Mei jumped **1m 44cm**
**B.** Mary jumped **1m 32cm**
**C.** Arthur jumped **1m 53cm**



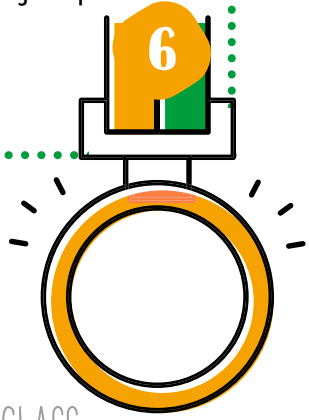




**In WEIGHTLIFTING, athletes try to lift the *heaviest* weight possible.**
**Who would get the gold medal?**
**A.** Charles lifted **45kg**
**B.** Sunita lifted **50kg**
**C.** Jill lifted **35kg**

**In HIGH JUMP, players try to jump as *high* as possible.**
**Who would win the bronze medal?**
**A.** Olivia jumped **98cm**
**B.** Sara jumped **81cm**
**C.** Dylan jumped **91cm**




**In HURDLING, athletes try to complete the course as *quickly* as possible while jumping over barriers called hurdles!**
**Who would get the silver medal?**
**A.** Pat finished in **112 seconds**
**B.** Adel finished in **90 seconds**
**C.** Louis finished in **88 seconds**




**ANSWERS:** 1. A, 2. B, 3. A, 4. B, 5. B, 6. B.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# CHALLENGE CARDS

Exercise helps us to stay healthy and makes us stronger and fitter! The nine cards below have different exercises for you to try. Print and cut them out, and then draw a card to find out which one you should do next!



RUN ON THE SPOT 30 SEC



10 AIR PEDALS



PLANK 30 SEC



10 MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS



10 ARM CIRCLES



BOAT POSE 30 SEC



10 SQUATS



10 JUMP ROPES



10 STAR JUMPS

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# NAME THE GAME!

Football is only one of hundreds of different sports. Can you match the equipment pictured on this page with the games listed below?




1. FOOTBALL
2. VOLLEYBALL
3. TENNIS
4. RUGBY
5. GOLF
6. BASKETBALL
7. CRICKET
8. BOWLING
9. ICE HOCKEY
10. BADMINTON

**ANSWERS:** A. 2, B. 5, C. 6, D. 8, E. 3, F. 7, G. 1, H. 10, I. 9, J. 4.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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# PLAY A GAME OF TIN FOOTBALL!

**Follow these steps to make a fun football game that you can play indoors – that way, you can even enjoy a game when it's raining!**

## WHAT YOU NEED

- **Two players**
- **A ping pong ball**
- **Two unopened tins**
- **Four cardboard rolls**
- **Masking tape**



## TOP TIP!

**The game is more fun if you make a barrier of books or pieces of wood around the edge of the field. This stops the ball from being knocked 'out'!**

## HOW TO PLAY:

1. Use the masking tape to mark out your field on a flat area of floor or a table! It should be rectangular in shape and about 1.5 metres long and 80cm wide.

2. Use the four cardboard rolls to mark the goals on the narrow ends of the pitch. Each goal should be 30cm wide. Tape the rolls to the playing surface so they don't move!

3. The players take turns using their tin to tap the ball towards their opponent's goal. Place the ping pong ball in the middle of the field. The youngest player taps first, but before they do, the other player can place their can wherever they want on the field.

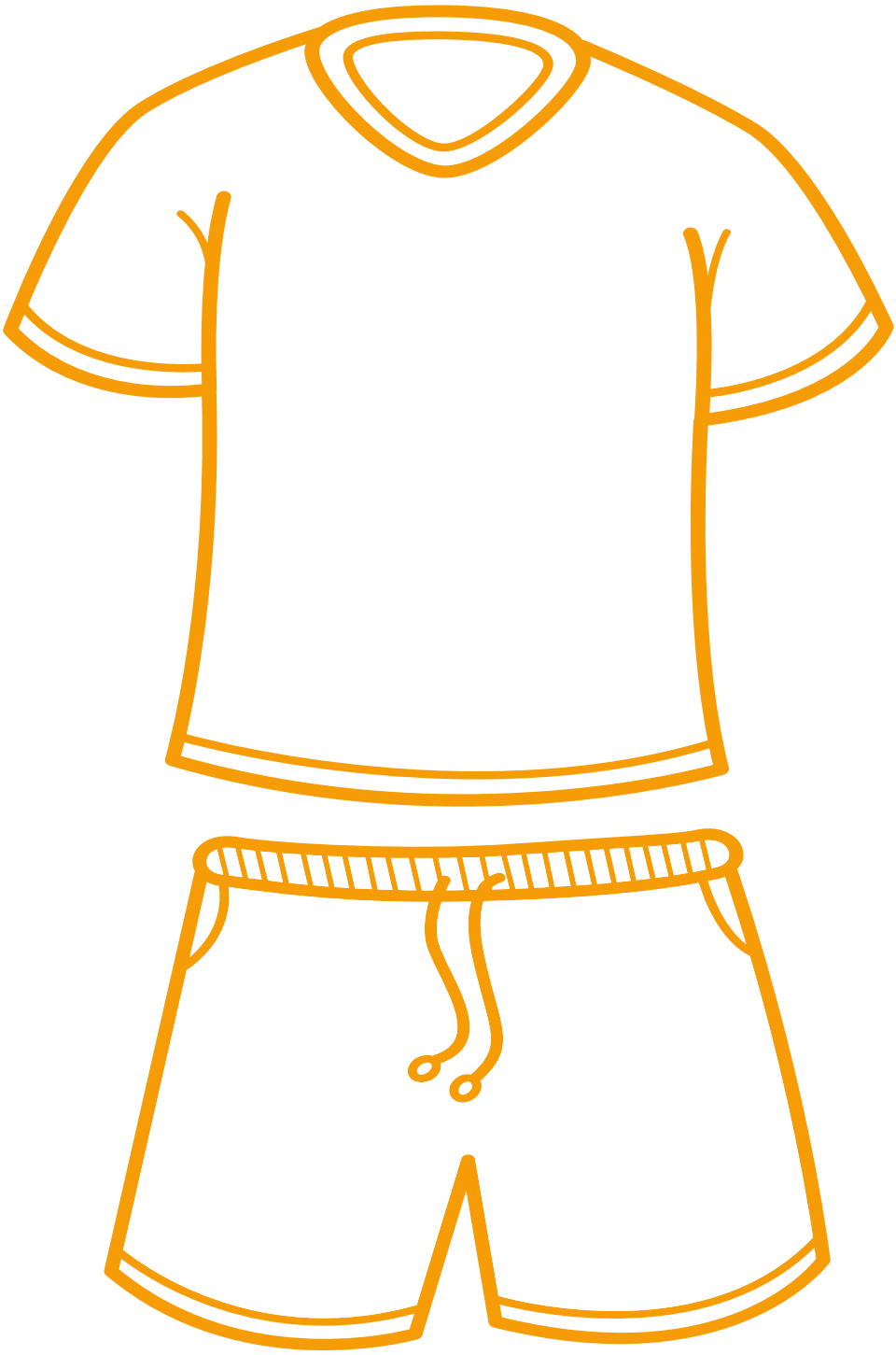
4. The youngest player uses their tin to tap the ball towards their opponent's goal. If they get it in, they score a goal and their opponent gets to tap the ball from the middle of the field. If they don't, they can place their can anywhere in the field, and their opponent gets to tap the ball.

5. The players take turns tapping the ball and trying to score goals. If a player taps the ball off the field, their opponent can tap in the ball from the place where it went out. The game ends after each player has had ten taps – the one with the most goals win!

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# DESIGN A 'SETE DE SETEMBRO' UNIFORM!

**Pelé's team needs an eye-catching outfit to play in!**
**Colour in the kit below in a unique pattern!**



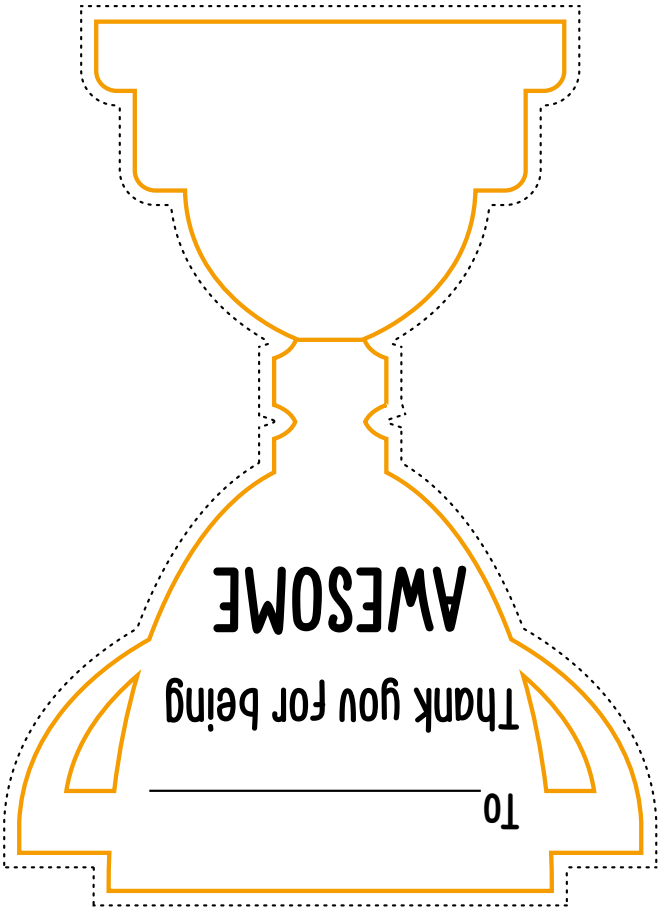
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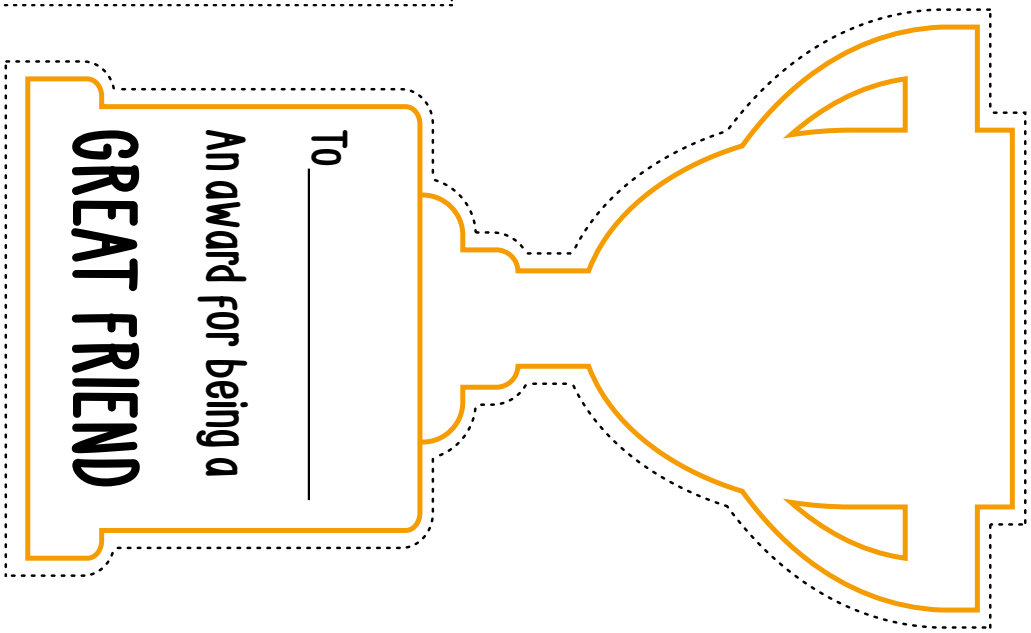
NAME _____ CLASS _____

# TERRIFIC TROPHIES

**Awards aren't just for athletes! Print out and colour in the trophies below so you can give them to the amazing people in your life!**




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