

Rio Olympics 2016

The Olympic Games 2016 will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is the first time the Olympic Games have been held in South America. The Games will run for nineteen days from the 5th – 21st August 2016.

Facts about Brazil

- It is the largest country in South America.
- The official language is Portuguese.
- The country shares a border with all the South American countries, except Chile and Ecuador.
- The Amazon River flows through Brazil.
- Football is the country's most popular sport and Brazil have won the men's World Cup five times!

Celebrations

Many Festas, or festivals, occur throughout the year to celebrate different events. The most famous Brazilian carnival is called 'Carnaval do Brasil' where people celebrate for days through the busy streets of Brazil's main cities. It is also known for beautiful beaches, huge rainforests and wide range of animals.

The History of Medals

In Ancient Greece, Olympic winners were awarded a crown of laurel leaves. In the 1904 St Louis Games, gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded for the first time and were pinned to the athletes' chests.



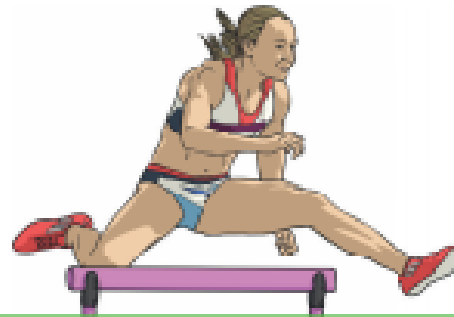
The Olympic Torch

The torch represents peace, unity and friendship. During the run-up to the Opening Ceremony of the Games, it is passed from one bearer to another during a relay.

The design of the Rio 2016 torch symbolizes Brazil's characteristics: its harmonious diversity, its contagious energy and its exuberant nature.

The Events

There are many different types of sport at the Olympics. Some of the sporting events include: athletics, handball, basketball, rhythmic gymnastics, boxing, volleyball, mountain bike cycling and wrestling.



Did you know?

At the Rio Games 2016 there will be:

- 42 different sports;
- 306 events;
- a total of 2,102 medals given out;
- more than 200 nations taking part.

Volunteers

There will be more than 140,000 volunteers helping to make sure everything runs smoothly during the Olympics. Ready for the events, everyone (from health professionals to torch bearers) is trained by 120 instructors. They learn about excellent service, leadership and details about the different sports.

Training

Weeks before the Olympics are due to start, the athletes all have to start to train in Brazil. This is called acclimatisation and it is very important so that the competitors are used to the Brazilian weather, heat and general environment.

The Olympics are held every 4 years. The next host country for the Games will Tokyo in Japan.

Questions about Rio Olympics 2016

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. Where are the 2016 Olympic Games being held?

2. What is the official language of Brazil?

3. Name two things Brazil is known for.

4. What were the winners in the first Olympics awarded?

5. Which of the 'Did you know?' facts surprised you the most? Why?

6. Name two things that the torch represents

7. Name one of Brazil's characteristics.

8. Which sport would you most like to see and why?

9. Name one thing the volunteers are trained in.

10. Why do the athletes have to train in the country before the games start?

Questions about Rio Olympics 2016

Answers

1. Where are the 2016 Olympic Games being held?
The Games are being held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2. What is the official language of Brazil?
Portuguese
3. Name two things Brazil is known for.
Accept TWO of the following; festivals, Carnaval, beaches, rainforests or a range of animals.
4. What were the winners in the first Olympics awarded?
A crown made from laurel leaves.
5. Which of the 'Did you know?' facts surprised you the most? Why?
Pupil's own response.
6. Name two things that the torch represents.
Accept TWO of the following; peace, unity or friendship.
7. Name one of Brazil's characteristics.
Accept ONE of the following; harmonious diversity, contagious energy and exuberant nature.
8. Which sport would you most like to see and why?
Pupil's own response.
9. Name one thing the volunteers are trained in.
Accept ONE of the following; excellent service, leadership and the details of different sports.
10. Why do the athletes have to train in the country before the games start?
To acclimatise with the conditions, and get used to the environment and heat.