

# THE XXI WINTER OLYMPICS - VANCOUVER, 2010

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This integrated unit was developed to help teachers use the 2010 Winter Olympics with the students in their class. It is very flexible and can be adapted for any grade level and time period.

The unit consists of a series of sixty activity cards for independent or group work covering research about the history of the Winter Olympics and its ceremonies, winter sports, athletes, mathematics, creative writing and art. There is also a set of cards that ask the students for their opinions on various topics pertaining to the Olympic Games.

Also included are suggestions organizing and teaching the unit, resources, tracking sheets, peer and self-evaluation sheets and a rubric for evaluation.

There are two tracking sheets: one is for all the activity cards the other can be modified for students requiring an individual program.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To introduce students to the geography, history and culture of other countries.
2. To introduce students to the various sports at the Summer Olympics.
3. To familiarize students with the map of the world.
4. To encourage students to learn more about other countries.
5. To encourage students to utilize a variety of materials for research projects.
6. To demonstrate how various subjects can be integrated into a single theme.
7. To demonstrate various methods of recording information.

### **The XXI Winter Olympics - # 1**



Where is the 2010 Winter Olympics being held?

In what year was the first Winter Olympics held?

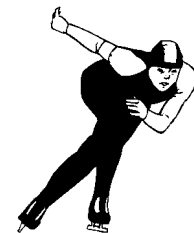
Where was the first Winter Olympics held?

How many countries took part in the first Winter Olympics?

How many countries are participating in the 2010 Winter Olympics?

Write your answers in the form of a newspaper article.

### **The XXI Winter Olympics - # 2**



How many sports are there in the Winter Olympics?

Make a list of these sports.

Create a system for dividing them into categories.

Create a chart to show the categories you have chosen and which sports fall into each category.

### Research 3

Choose one event from the Winter Olympics.

Write a brief history of this sport.

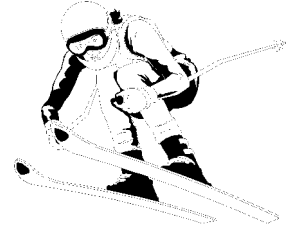
What kind of sport is it?

How and where was it invented?

What is needed for this sport? ( equipment, venue, etc.)

What are the rules? What does the sport require regarding training?

Include any other information that you find interesting.



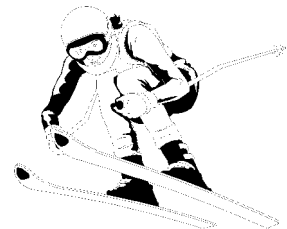
### Research 4

As we watch the Winter Olympics we learn  
Something about the various participants.

Choose one of the participants from any of the sports and research  
this person using any of the resources available to you.

Your information should include their country of birth, the country they  
represent, their age, their family, how they first became interested in  
their sport and what they hope to accomplish.

You may include any other interesting information and a picture.



## Mathematics 5

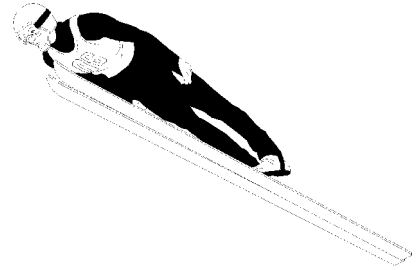
Find the results from some skiing events in a newspaper or magazine.

Use these results to create a series of six mathematical word problems.

Provide the statistics needed to solve the problems.

Solve the problems and create an answer list.

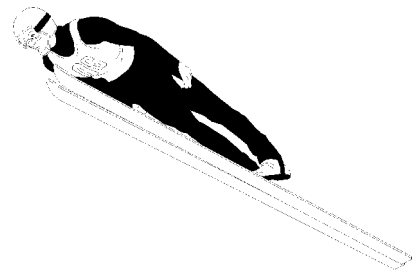
Ask a classmate to solve the problems. Check their answers.



## Mathematics 6

Use the resources available to you to find the following:

- a) The number of competitors from each country.  
Write them in order from least to greatest.
- b) The number of medals won by each country.  
Write them in order from greatest to least.
- c) The speeds of the winners in one of the skiing events.  
Write them in order from fastest to slowest.
- d) The distance jumped in a ski-jumping event.  
Write them in order from greatest to least.



## Think About It! 2

We frequently hear about athletes being penalized for taking drugs.



What are your feelings on this subject?

Why do athletes take drugs? Should athletes be permitted to take drugs?

What are the dangers associated with taking drugs?

How can it be stopped? Should it be stopped?

What penalties should be imposed?

Justify your answers.

## Think About It! 3

There has been a great deal of discussion concerning the expense incurred by cities hosting the Olympic Games.



Can you think of a solution to this problem?

One suggestion was that a permanent site should be selected.

What do you think of this idea? Is it a practical idea?

Write an essay supporting or condemning this idea.

Give reasons for your choice and include details of how this could be done or suggest an alternative plan.