



## ***School Libraries in Action***

### **Reading Olympics – Cloze Activity**

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# ANCIENT AND MODERN



The call number or Dewey number for the Olympic Games is \_\_\_\_\_

The first recorded Games were held in \_\_\_\_\_ BC at \_\_\_\_\_, a sacred site in Ancient \_\_\_\_\_ dedicated to the God \_\_\_\_\_. The Ancient \_\_\_\_\_ held regular festivals here in his honour. These included a sprint race in a stadium on a track 192 metres long. The athletes carried shields and wore helmets, but no \_\_\_\_\_.

From \_\_\_\_\_ BC onwards, the Games took place at \_\_\_\_\_ yearly intervals, called O\_\_\_\_\_; the Games were so important that the O \_\_\_\_\_ was used as a way of measuring time. More running events were added, together with jumping, throwing, wrestling and chariot racing. Processions, feast and poetry recitals remained part of the festival, which came to last for five days.

It was forbidden for \_\_\_\_\_ and slaves even to watch the Games, let alone take part.

After Rome conquered Greece, the Olympics became less important. Finally they were banned in AD \_\_\_\_\_.

Archaeologists have uncovered the ruins of the site of the original Olympic Games. There were temples to Zeus, king of the gods and \_\_\_\_\_, Zeus's wife. The stadium, entered through an archway, held over 20,000 spectators and the athletes trained in a luxurious gymnasium with hot and cold baths.

In \_\_\_\_\_ some \_\_\_\_\_ years after the Ancient Olympics finished, a French Baron, \_\_\_\_\_ (1863-1937), had the idea of bringing the Olympic Games back. He convinced sporting authorities all over the world that the revived Games would strengthen young people's bodies and minds, as well as helping international understanding.

It was decided to hold the Olympic Games every four years, as before. The first Games of modern times were held in the Greek capital, \_\_\_\_\_. In 2008 the Olympic Games will be held in \_\_\_\_\_ the capital city of \_\_\_\_\_ during the month of \_\_\_\_\_.

A famous quote from Baron de Coubertin was "*The most important thing in the Olympic Games is \_\_\_\_\_, but to \_\_\_\_\_,*"

