

Week 11

Topic: Sports

Guiding Questions:

How have sports developed/evolved in my community?

What is the purpose of sports? What are the benefits of sports to a culture?

How can sports act as a catalyst of globalization?

Goals:

- I. To explore sports as a mechanism for cultural growth and expression
- II. To explore sports as a stimulus for global peace and unity
- III. To learn to play and appreciate different sports from around the world

Activities:

1. Create Your Own Sport: Have students use their imaginations to dream up a sport of their own. This could be a short speaking activity, or a longer project. Students can define the rules of the sport, different teams, country of origin, all-star players, etc. As a cumulative activity, the students could vote on one sport to play as a class. A recorded video of students playing, along with a written set of the rules, could be sent to a partner classroom.
2. Play Videogames! This is a great way for students to learn about different games in an engaging way. For American games, check out the ESPN [Arcade](#). Have students compete in a slime [volleyball](#) or slime [soccer](#). Virtually travel to India and Pakistan and have students compete in [cricket](#). As homework, assign students to briefly report on the international history of the sport they played online or another sport of their choosing.
3. Sports and Athletes From Around the World: Assign students athletes or sports, in groups or individually, then have them research and prepare presentations. Although a cliché assignment, many students will be excited and interested because they get to learn and talk about sports. A few example athletes include Pele, David Beckham, Muhammed Ali, and Jackie Robinson

4. Get Out and Play! Teach the students new sports like [Sepak Takraw](#) or [Quidditch](#) from inside the classroom, then go outside and test it out. Alternatively, the class could play a big game of football (soccer) following a lesson on football/futbol/fussbol around the world.

Active Cross-Cultural Exchange:

Create Your Own Sport: Have students construct their own sport with an explicit set of rules and a video of the students playing the sport so it can be sent to a partner school. Videos can be uploaded to the Global Playground website or to the YouTube account (<https://www.youtube.com/TheGlobalPlayground>). For more information contact info@globalplayground.org