

THE OLYMPIC SYMBOLS.

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The aim:

- To study the olympic symbols
- To find information about different mascots.

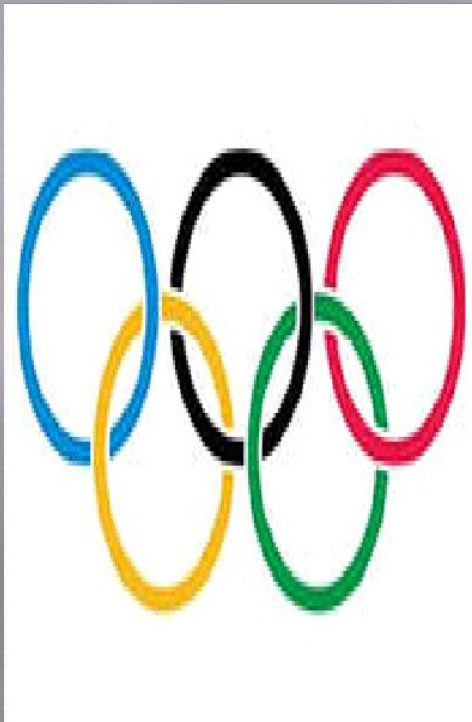
Questions:

Are the mascots necessary for Olympic Games?

Faster — Higher — Stronger

- ▣ The meaning and the values of Olympics are conveyed by symbols. Among these are the rings, the motto and the flame. These symbols transmit a message in a simple and direct manner. One of the most beautiful symbols the Olympics are the rings. They give the Games and the Olympic Movement an identity. The five rings represent the five continents. They are interlaced to show the universality of Olympics and the meeting of the athletes of the world during the Olympic Games. On the Olympic flag, the rings appear on a white background. Combined in this way, the six colours of the flag (blue, yellow, black, green, red and white) represent all nations. It is a misconception, therefore, to believe that each of the colours corresponds to a certain continent.

The Rings



The Rings

The Olympic Rings are five interlocking rings that stand for the five original continents, (Africa, America, Asia, Australia, and Europe) and the athletes from around the world.

The colours of the rings are blue, yellow, black, green, and red respectively. They were chosen because at least one of these colours is found on the flag of every nation.

The flag.

- On the Olympic flag, the rings appear on a white background.
- At the Olympic Games, the flag is brought into the stadium during the opening ceremony. After its arrival, the flag is hoisted up the flagpole. It must fly in the stadium during the whole of the Games. When the flag is lowered at the closing ceremony, it signals the end of the Games

The motto

- The motto of the Olympic Games is "Swifter, Higher, Stronger". These three words encourage the athlete to give his or her best during competition, and to view this effort as a victory in itself.
- The most important thing is not to win but to take part !

The flame

- The Olympic flame is one of the best-known features of the Games.
- From the moment the flame is lit to the moment it goes out, a very precise ritual is laid down :

The lighting

- ▣ In memory of the Olympic Games' origins, the flame is lit in Olympia, Greece, some months before the opening of the Games. The Olympic flame can only be lit by the sun's rays.

The relay route.

- The torch is carried by relay from Olympia to the host city of the Games.

Arrival at the stadium.

- ▣ The day of the opening of the Games, the flame enters the stadium. With the lighting of the cauldron by the last relay runner the flame is transferred from the torch to the place where it will continue to burn for the entire length of the Games. The flame is extinguished on the final day of the Games at the closing ceremony.

The mascots.



There are several stories about the first mascots for the Olympic Games, but most people agree that the history of having cute symbols for each Games began in 1968.

Stylised skier, Schuss - a toy created for the 1968 Olympic Winter Games in Grenoble (France). Badges and figures of Schuss became so popular that he became the unofficial mascot of the Games.



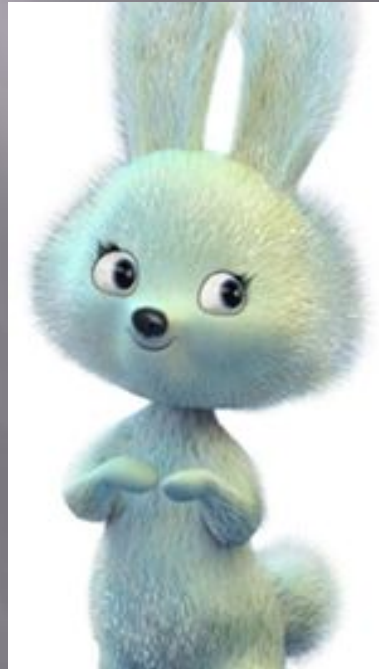
- ▣ The 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary (Canada): The polar bears Hidy and Howdy were the first pair of mascots (according to their story they are brother and sister, and their names come from the word “hi”.)

Paralympic Mascots.



The 2002 Winter Paralympic Games in Salt Lake City (USA): The mascot was Otto the Otter, an animal frequently mentioned in Native American mythology. This choice also had an ecological aspect as otters in this region were almost extinct due to contaminated water and poaching. Thanks in no small part to the popularity of the mascot, the situation has improved since.

The Mascots 2014.



- There are so many mascots. Some of them are strange, some are beautiful and some are funny. There are tree official mascots of the Olympics 2014. They are: the Snow Leopard, the Polar Bear and the Hare



Conclusion

- ▣ Olympic & paralympic games have their symbols.