



# Go for the gold!

To receive your "Go for the gold!" fun patch, it is only necessary to "compete" in one event. However, many Olympic athletes compete in more than one event, so try as many as you would like! You may be surprised by which event becomes your favorite! ©

To order a custom "Go for the Gold!" fun patch, please visit: 1darlingcreation.com

## Earn your gold medal in Olympic history.....

Use books, the internet, or another research mode of your choice to find out the answers to the following questions:

- When did the modern Olympics begin?
- When were women allowed to begin competing in the modern Olympics?
- Has the USA attended EVERY modern Olympics? If not, why didn't we attend?
- How many times has the USA hosted the Olympics? (winter and summer)
- Has every country in the world had a chance to host? If not, why haven't some countries hosted?
- Find at least 5 fun trivia facts about the Olympic games and share them with someone.

### AND

Choose a famous Olympic athlete. Watch a documentary or read a biography about that person. What event did they compete in? Which Olympics did they compete in? Did they medal? What advice or knowledge does this athlete have for younger athletes?

# Earn your gold medal in persuasive writing......

Imagine that you are an Olympic athlete who has spent YEARS training for the Olympic games. You just received word that the United States will be boycotting the 2016 summer games. Deliver a speech or write a persuasive letter to the Olympic committee encouraging them to change their mind.

#### OR

Write a letter to the Olympic committee encouraging them to choose your hometown or state as the site for the next Olympic games. Things to think about- Would your location be better suited for the winter or summer Olympics? Do you have enough resources for the large number of spectators who will be coming to watch the games (hotels, restaurants, tourist attractions)? How much will it cost to build venues for the games? Can your city/state afford this? How do you propose to pay for this?

## Earn your gold medal in art.....

Olympic mascots are a part of every Olympic games! Search on-line for some examples of previous Olympic mascots. Which ones are your favorites? Why?

#### **AND**

Design your own Olympic mascot using the medium of your choice- paper, clay, computer drafting, etc. Name your mascot.

## Earn your gold medal in geography......

Find a world map with all of the countries in the world labeled. (Or label them yourself!) Color in each country that is represented in the 2016 Summer Olympic games.

## **AND**

Which country has the MOST athletes attending? Which country has the fewest?

## Earn your gold medal in physical education......

Try out a new sport! Choose one of the sports from the Summer Olympics and try it out! If you are already familiar with a sport, try a new aspect. For instance, if you have taken gymnastics before, you may choose to try rhythmic gymnastics for the first time. If you are a swimmer, try a new stroke.

#### OR

Create an obstacle course for yourself or have a friend or family member build one for you. (This can easily be done with household items such as chairs, pool noodles, etc.) Time yourself going through the obstacle course. Complete the course at least 10 times in a row, timing yourself each time. Did you improve? Which obstacles were the hardest? Easiest? Why? What tricks did you learn to make the course easier?

#### AND

Now that you are the expert, it is your turn to coach a friend or family member through the course. Teach them the tricks that you learned, give them advice, and time them. Did their time improve? What was the best part/hardest part of coaching?

## Earn your gold medal in events preparation.......

Opening and closing ceremonies are a big part of the Olympic games. Theses ceremonies usually teach us a little bit about the host country's history and/or culture. Watch a YouTube video from a previous Olympic games ceremony. What did you learn about that country by watching the ceremony?

#### AND

You have been hired to create part of an Opening Ceremony for an upcoming Olympics. Choose a country. Create a dance, play, or song that teaches about the history or culture of that country.

## Earn your gold medal in world culture......

The 2016 Summer Olympics are being held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Research this city and country. Use your research to create one or more of the following: a travel brochure, an authentic outfit (drawing, doll-sized, child/adult-sized), an authentic food, or a replica of a famous Brazilian landmark (drawing, etc.)

### **AND**

Portuguese is the primary language spoken in Brazil. Pretend that you are traveling to Brazil for the Olympics. Learn to say a few words and phrases that may come in handy on your trip. For instance- Hello, excuse me, please, Where is the restroom, How much is this, etc.

## Earn your gold medal in math.......

Research on-line to find out how much it would cost for you to attend the 2016 Summer Olympic games in Brazil. Budget travel, hotel, food, tours, and tickets into the games. What is your total? How could you raise that money?

## AND

Many Olympics events are won or lost by a fraction of a second. Search on-line for some such records.

# Earn your gold medal in good sportsmanship, dedication, and hard work......

A phrase that is often associated with the Olympic games is- "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat!" What does this phrase mean? Find video clips or pictures from the Olympics that show both "the thrill of victory" and "the agony of defeat."

#### AND

Many times athletes compete in the games even though they are sick or injured. One example is Kerri Strug, who represented the USA women's gymnastics team at the July 1996 Summer Olympics games in Atlanta, GA. Find a video on-line of Kerri's two vaults. What happened during her first vault? Why did she decide to try her second vault even though she was injured? What happened?

## Earn your gold medal in cinematography......

Many movies have been made about the Olympic games, including Cool Runnings, Miracle, The Cutting Edge, Nadia, and Chariots of Fire. Have an adult help you find a movie that is appropriate for you to watch. What sport was depicted? Was it based on real athletes or fictional ones? Did the athletes win the gold?

## **AND**

Why do you think so many movies have been made about the Olympics?