

TEACHERS: SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 5 OF TEACHERS' NOTES. PUPILS' PAGES ARE PHOTOCOPIABLE FOR CLASSROOM USE.



Global express


The rapid response information series for schools on world events in the news



Photo - Greg Garay

Flagging it up!

These Australian schoolchildren have made their own flags. They have used the Olympic 'symbol' of five rings. The rings stand for the five continents in the Olympics. They are linked together in friendship.

 Fill in the speech bubble.




 Write a message to these children.


These flags are by Sydney harbour. They are the flags of the Aboriginal people. They have lived in Australia for thousands of years. White people have only come to Australia in the last few hundred

years. Aboriginal people's land has been taken over and they were made to change their way of life. Many of them feel they are treated unfairly. They are flying their flags to protest.



Panos Pictures

 Write a caption (a title) for the photo.

 Write a message to these people.

Meet Cathy Freeman!

Cathy Freeman was only 16 when she won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games as part of the 4x100 metres relay. She then went on to win medals at several other competitions including silver at the Olympics in Atlanta in 1996, and gold at the World Championships in Athens in 1997.

When Cathy won gold for the 400 metre races in 1994 at the Commonwealth Games, she took her victory lap with the Australian and the Aboriginal flags. "I am proud of who I am and where I come from", she said. Cathy is hoping for a win on her home ground in the Sydney Olympics 2000.

Cathy's profile

Date of birth: 16 February 1973
 Height: 164cm
 Weight: 52 kg
 Place of birth: Mackay, Australia
 Favourite food: Pasta, Japanese, Italian, Mexican, seafood.
 Favourite drink: Water



Gemini

Cathy's events and records

100 metres in 11.24 seconds
 200 metres in 22.25 seconds
 400 metres in 48.63 seconds

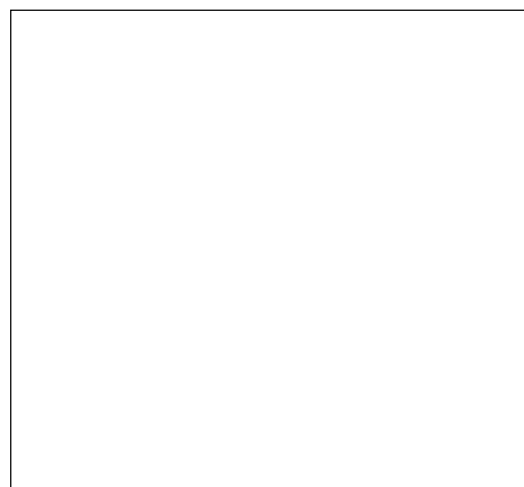
Write a motto for Cathy Freeman.

Choose a mascot for Cathy Freeman.

Write a 'good luck' message to Cathy Freeman.

Fill in Cathy Freeman's Olympic 2000 result here.

Design a running vest and shorts for Cathy Freeman to wear at the Sydney Olympics.



Green Games

Caring for the environment is a key theme for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. The International Olympic Committee recognises that a healthy global and local environment is very important to sport.

Large sporting events can mean large amounts of litter and waste, pollution from huge numbers of cars and damage to the environment. It is essential that organisers think about how to reduce these problems.



Can you think of links between sport and the environment?

In Sydney, the organisers are aiming for clean and green Games by reducing the amount of waste created, and by reusing and recycling as much as possible.



Put each of the following 'containers' into the 'best fit' bin below, so if A is an example of 'reuse' put the letter A in the 'reuse' bin below.

A The Games will be held on an area which was polluted waste ground but has now been cleaned up and landscaped.

B New sports venues have been built from recycled material whenever possible. Old buildings have been done up to be reused for the Games.

C Most of the energy for the Olympic Village where the athletes stay will be from solar power. Panels in the roof of each house will use energy from the sun to make electricity.

D People will not be able to drive their own cars to the Games - they will have to use buses or trains.

E Food will be served when possible on reusable china plates. When disposable plates, cups and cutlery are needed they will be completely biodegradable and made of paper or sugar cane fibre!

F Souvenirs for sale at the Games will be made to last, out of mostly natural materials and fibres and will have very little, if any, packaging.

G Furniture will be made out of recycled plastic and brightly painted cardboard.

H Everybody will be asked to put their litter in the right bin. Plastic, aluminium and glass will be recycled and will go in green bins. Food scraps, plates and cutlery will be composted and will go in dark red bins.



REDUCE

REUSE

RECYCLE

... Used fuel canisters from the Sydney 2000 Olympic torch will be recycled ...

The Olympic spirit?

"There is a lot of excitement in the city but also a lot of trepidation - no-one quite knows what to expect! Some businesses are closing down as they think that it will be impossible for employees to get to work because of the overload on public transport and traffic jams. And some people are fleeing the city, while others (like me) are quite intrigued; although we're expecting a bit of chaos, it's a unique experience and we want to be here to experience it."

Donald Paige, Sydney resident

"A lot is being reported on the Sydney Olympics in the local press, here. The two English dailies in Uganda and the Daily Nation of Kenya have all created an Olympic Update page. "

Dorothy Zawadi, Uganda

"Education for a culture of peace through sport, physical education and Olympism can play a key role in the establishment of the ideals of peace in the minds of men and women, at a time when armed conflicts are endangering the future of numerous societies in different regions of the world."




International Olympics Committee

"In the last 25 years or so, the huge extension in international television coverage has transformed the Olympic's global reach. The television rights for the 1996 Atlanta Games were sold for US\$456 million. There is now a huge international audience able to watch the Olympic drama. This factor has fundamentally changed the impact and the economics of the Games."

Brian Chalkley and Stephen Essex,
Learning from the Olympic Games,
Teaching Geography, July 2000

"The Olympics are great events for the youth but it is bad that the forces of the market are increasingly misusing it for commercial purposes and that it is also changing its principles of strict amateurism. The media in my country report on anything as far as the Olympics go. Of course there is great hysteria when it comes to the country's own athletes. It would, of course, be a good thing if the Olympics were hosted in my country, but we have to be able to feed ourselves first before thinking of spending billions on sports."

Melakou Tegnen, Ethiopia

-  Read the quotes above and use them to make two lists about the present Games:
 1. The advantages or benefits.
 2. The disadvantages or concerns.
-  Talk with a partner and add your own ideas to the list.
-  Agree on three important reasons for holding the Olympics.