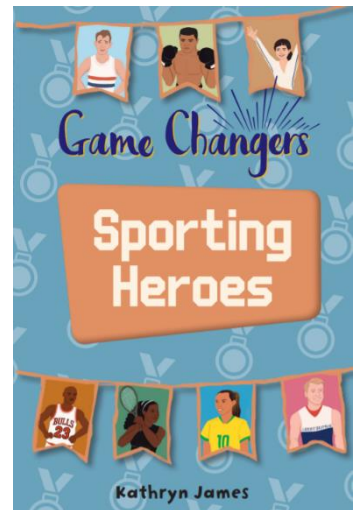


Week 1

Suggested reading/ writing activities for children in Y6 based around the new book 'Game Changers' on Rising Stars Saturn: blue red

This book includes brief biographical recounts of a number of game changers from the world of sport, from the athlete Roger Bannister to football icon Marta and Paralympic star Jonnie Peacock. Each chapter follows a similar structure: defining why the subject is a game changer and then recounting their early life and achievements. Each chapter includes quotes from the subject and 'Did you know?' panels highlighting interesting facts about the athlete and their sport. Each chapter also includes a brief biography of another athlete, which can provide a useful comparison.



Before reading

- Ask children if they have any sporting heroes. These could include players in their favourite football team.
- You could create a list of qualities that are important for a successful athlete, such as determination, leadership and fairness (sportsmanship).

Writing tasks

- The sporting heroes in this book often make headlines in the newspapers. Write a sports report with a sensational headline for your favourite sporting hero.
- Start a sporting diary. Write down how much you practice your sport each day or week. If you don't have a regular sport, don't worry! Think about starting one or write a diary about another hobby that requires practice.
- Michael Jordan and Serena Williams both redesigned their own sports kit. Try drawing and designing your own sports kit for your favourite sport and write a letter to a sports brand asking if they would consider making your design to sell in sports shops. Think about what makes your outfit stand out and different from other competitors.
- Re-read the quotes from the sporting heroes in this book and write your own inspirational quote that will keep you practising and perfecting your sport.

Using the Glossary This book includes lots of technical vocabulary about sport. In many cases, you can turn to the glossary at the back of the book to find an explanation for words such as 'amateur', 'diplomacy' and 'preceding'.

Suggested Follow-up activities

Organise a family debate to choose the ultimate sporting hero, either using the examples in this book or children's own choices. Ask them to persuade their family members why their athlete is the ultimate game changer. They could talk about their hero's sporting achievements, personality or their ability to overcome obstacles.

Thanks for all working so hard, if your parents or carers could take a photo and email it to year6@oliprimaryschool.co.uk, we would love to see it!

The year 6 team

Mr Cotton and Miss Gallagher

Additional tasks to try once you have read the book

Synonyms and antonyms

When we read biographies of sports stars, there are some words that seem to crop up all the time, such as 'ambition', 'hero', 'success' and 'determination'.

Writers try not to use the same words all the time so they look for different words with similar meanings (synonyms). You will find some synonyms for the words below in this book, but you may be able to think of more examples. Try to come up with words that mean the opposite (antonyms) too.

	Synonyms	Antonyms
hero		
skill		
inspire		
difficulty		
success		
ambition		
determination		
greatest		
nervous		
winner		

Challenge: Use some of the synonyms you have found to write about your own sporting hero.

Fact and opinion

Can you find facts from the text to support the author's opinions about these sporting heroes?

1 Billie Jean King was determined to fight for equal rights for girls and women in tennis.

2 Nadia Comăneci's 'great contribution was to achieve something that no other gymnast had managed before'.

3 At the age of 18, all Michael Phelps' hard work and dedication paid off.

4 Michael Jordan 'didn't mind that he had failed at becoming a baseball player'.

5 Zhuang Zedong's gift to an American table-tennis player brought China and the USA closer together.

6 Serena Williams' talents are not just limited to tennis.

7 When she returned home after winning the FIFA award for the best female player, Marta had won the admiration of her home town.

8 Jonnie Peacock's success meant that people 'who had never watched disability games now became interested'.
