



Smithsonian's History Explorer Podcast

Teacher Guide



The Early Modern Olympics

with curator Eric Jentsch

Find this podcast at: <http://amhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/EarlyModernOlympics.mp3>

Pre-Listening Questions

- How old do you think the modern Olympics are? Why do you think that?
- What do you think the first few modern Olympic Games were like? Why do you think that?
- Do you think major themes and events in history impacted the Olympic Games? If so, how?

Discussion Questions

- What were the 1904 Olympic Games like?
- Did the 1904 Olympic Games reveal anything about that time period? What and how?
- What do you think the Olympic Games will look like in another 100 years?

Related Resources from the Smithsonian

- Past Imperfect: The 1904 Olympic Marathon May Have Been the Strangest Ever
<http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/history/2012/08/the-1904-olympic-marathon-may-have-been-the-strangest-ever/>

Related Resources from the National Museum of American History

- Sports: Breaking Records, Breaking Barriers
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/sports/exhibit/olympians/first/index.cfm>
- Louis S. Nixdorff 1928 Olympic Games Collection, 1926-1978
<http://www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives/d9443a.htm>

Related Resources from History Explorer

- History Explorer Summer Sports Theme
http://historyexplorer.si.edu/search/?query=sports&search_origin=search&grade=&era=&subjects=&results=0&tab=resources&session=34972.633148512556

Related Thinkfinity Resources

- National Science Foundation—Science of the Summer Olympics: Engineering in Sports
http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/summer_olympics/

Related Standards for U.S. History (National Center for History in the Schools)

- Era 6: The Development of the Industrial United States (1870-1900)
 - Standard 2: Massive immigration after 1870 and how new social patterns, conflicts, and ideas of national unity developed amid growing cultural diversity.

Related Standards for World History (National Center for History in the Schools)

- Era 7: An Age of Revolutions (1750-1914)
 - Standard 6: Major Global Trends from 1750-1914

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Name:

Date:

Period:



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Student Worksheet

Pre-Listening vocabulary- Define these words:

Anthropology

Amateur

World's Fair

Strychnine

Pre-Listening Question:

How old do you think the modern Olympics are? Why do you think that?

What do you think the first few modern Olympic Games were like? Why do you think that?

Do you think major themes and events in history impacted the Olympic Games? If so, how?

Listen to the podcast. Take notes and answer the questions.

How and when were the modern Olympic Games founded?

What were the 1904 Olympic Games like?

Did the 1904 Olympic Games reveal anything about that time period? What and how?

What do you think the Olympic Games will look like in another 100 years?

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