



## Go on an adventure with Jack and Annie every week!

**WAKE UP & THINK!** Exercising is great for the mind and body: start the day with a stretch or an activity! What Olympic sport do you love watching? If you had to get creative, what other ball could you use to play soccer? Do you know what *extreme sport* means? What is your favorite baseball team?

**READ & LEARN!** Read, learn, and explore with the Magic Tree House Fact Trackers. Download questions and lessons to help facilitate the exploration.

**READ & EXPLORE!** Adventure at night with the Magic Tree House fiction stories. Download crafts and activities to celebrate the fun.

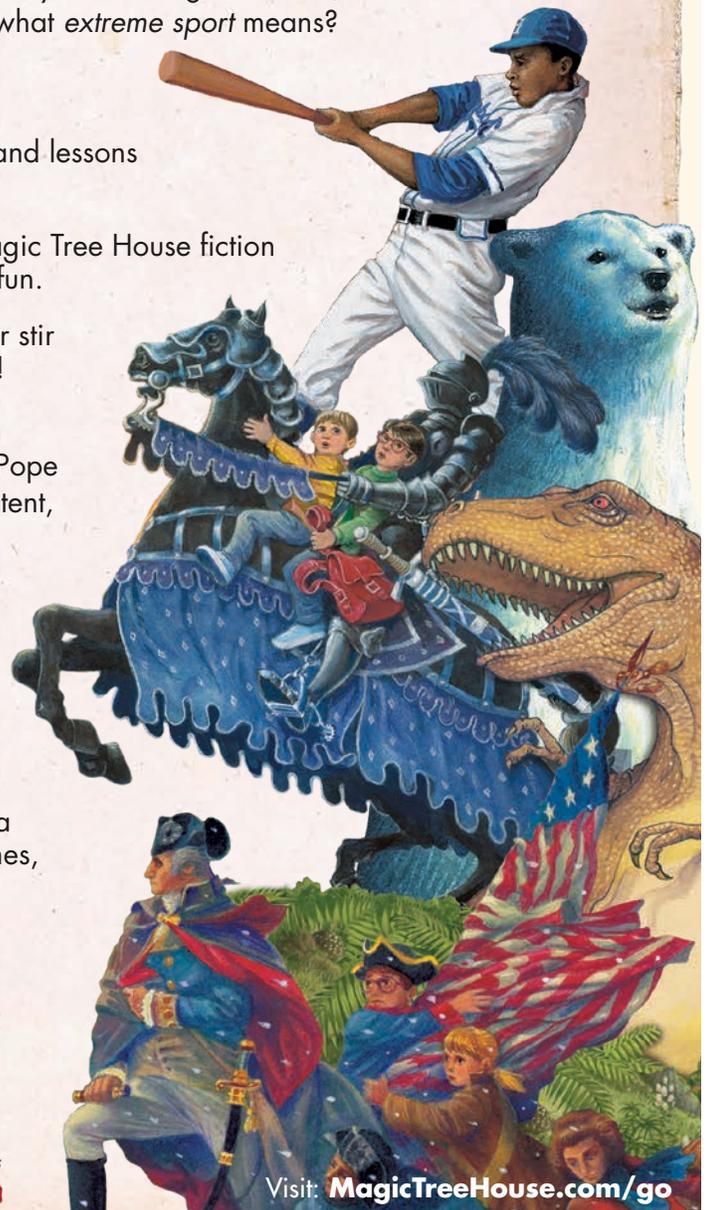
**HAVE SOME FUN!** Create thematic craft projects or stir up some adventure in the kitchen with a themed recipe!

**LISTEN & ENJOY!** Grab a snack and settle in each week for readings, viewer Q&A, and trivia with Mary Pope Osborne! Don't forget to check back for additional content, including how to stage your own Magic Tree House production at home with downloadable sing-along scenes and videos from shows to act out.

**DISCOVER MORE!** Find everything you need on the Magic Tree House website. There are books, educational resources, and crafts and activities to explore in any order!

**JOIN THE KIDS' ADVENTURE CLUB!** Become a member to participate in reading challenges, play games, collect medallions, earn passport stamps, and win exclusive prizes! Visit [MagicTreeHouse.com](https://www.magictreehouse.com) to enroll.

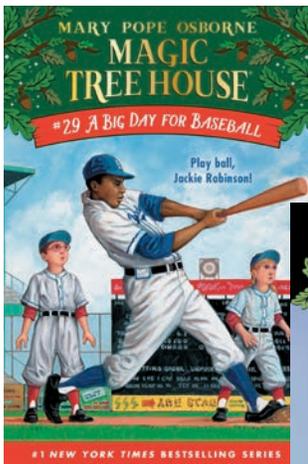
**SHARE THIS WITH FRIENDS!** Share your Home Adventures using [#MTHAdventures](https://www.instagram.com/MTHAdventures) and tag us at [@RandomHouseKids](https://www.instagram.com/RandomHouseKids) on Instagram, and you may be featured on social media!



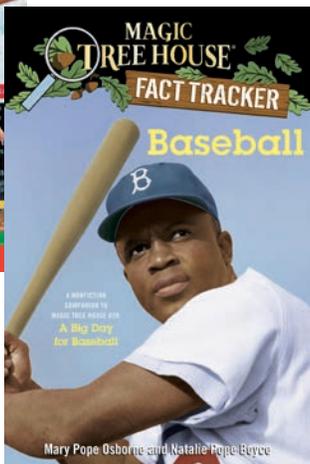
# EDUCATORS' GUIDE

# MAGIC TREE HOUSE®

## **A Big Day for Baseball** and **Baseball: A Nonfiction Companion to A Big Day for Baseball**



PB: 978-1-524-71311-9  
EL: 978-1-524-71310-2  
Grades: 1-4  
F&P: N • Lexile: 400L



PB: 978-1-101-93642-9  
EL: 978-1-101-93644-3  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: S • Lexile: 850L

### **ABOUT A Big Day for Baseball**

Jack and Annie aren't great baseball players . . . yet! When the magic tree house whisks them back to 1947, Jack and Annie find out that they will be batboys in the game—not ballplayers. What does Morgan want them to learn? And what's so special about this game? They only have nine innings to find out!

### **ABOUT Baseball:**

*A Nonfiction Companion to A Big Day for Baseball*

When Jack and Annie came back from their adventure in *Magic Tree House #29: A Big Day for Baseball*, they had lots of questions. When was baseball invented? Who was Jackie Robinson? Who are some other baseball greats? Find out the answers to these questions and more as Jack and Annie learn all about baseball.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR A Big Day for Baseball and Baseball: A Nonfiction Companion to A Big Day for Baseball**

### **Take me out the ball game!**

Jack and Annie travel back to Ebbets Field in 1947 Brooklyn, NY. If you could travel back in time to a particular baseball field, where would you go, and why? After you pick a team and time, research what life was like during that time, and how the season went. Write a creative story about going to a game!

**CURRICULUM:** *History • Language Arts*

## Baseball!

Put together a presentation using the information in *Baseball: A Nonfiction Companion to A Big Day for Baseball*. Think about the timeline, the players, the rules, and the fans. What's your favorite fact that you learned?

**CURRICULUM:** *Language Arts*

## Baseball and other sports

As you read and learn about baseball, think about inspirational athletes. Jack and Annie learn about how Jackie Robinson inspired people during their adventure. Think about athlete who inspires you, and write about it! IF you could interview this athlete, what questions would you ask?

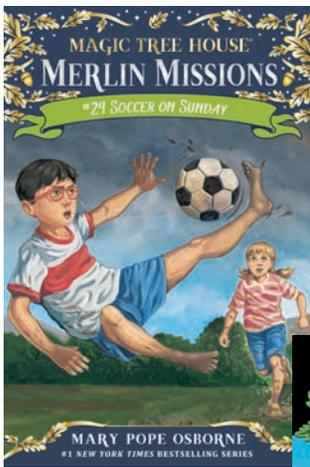
**CURRICULUM:** *Research • Language Arts*



# EDUCATORS' GUIDE

# MAGIC TREE HOUSE®

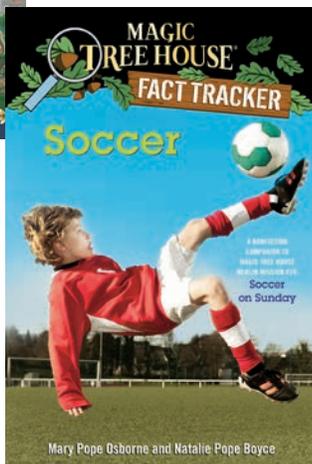
## **Soccer on Sunday** and **Soccer:** *A Nonfiction Companion to Soccer on Sunday*



PB: 978-0-307-98056-4  
EL: 978-0-307-98055-7  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: N • Lexile: 570L

### **ABOUT Soccer on Sunday**

Jack and Annie are taking the magic tree house to the 1970 World Cup in Mexico City! They are sure the famous soccer player Pelé will tell them a “secret of greatness.” The game is nonstop action and the stands are packed. But how will they find Pelé in a crowd of 100,000 soccer fans? Have they failed their mission? Or will the answer come when they least expect it?



PB: 978-0-385-38629-6  
EL: 978-0-385-38631-9  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: R • Lexile: 840L

### **ABOUT Soccer:**

*A Nonfiction Companion to Soccer on Sunday*

When Jack and Annie got back from their adventure in Magic Tree House #52: *Soccer on Sunday*, they had lots of questions. How did soccer get started? Who are some of its greatest players? What is the World Cup? Find out the answers to these questions and more as Jack and Annie track the facts behind one of the world’s most popular sports. Filled with up-to-date information, photos, illustrations, and fun tidbits from Jack and Annie, the Magic Tree House Fact Trackers are the perfect way for kids to find out more about the topics they discovered in their favorite Magic Tree House adventures.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR Soccer on Sunday and Soccer: A Nonfiction Companion to Soccer on Sunday**

### **Practice, practice, practice!**

Get up and move! Practice ball skills in a hallway, driveway, or yard. Can you perform any tricks like Pelé?

**CURRICULUM:** *Physical Education*

## Pelé the Great!

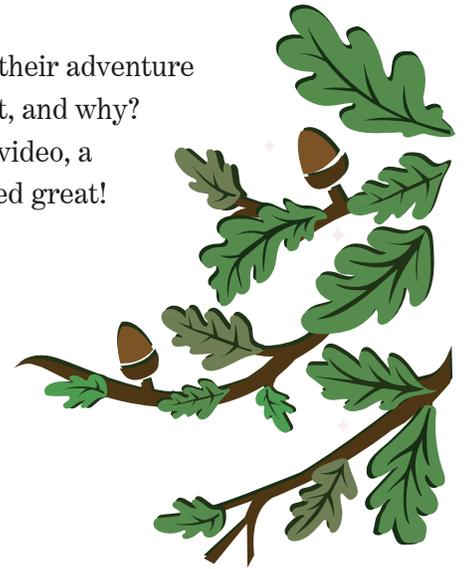
Pelé was an incredibly skilled soccer player, and Jack and Annie learn why in their adventure to Mexico. Think about famous sports people today: Who do we consider great, and why? Think of famous athletes, and pick one to research. Create a presentation—a video, a poster, or a written report—explaining why this particular athlete is considered great!

**CURRICULUM:** *Research • Language Arts*

## Soccer and other sports

As you read and learn about soccer, think about another sport. How would you give a report or a presentation on that sport? Research and create a presentation to share about a sport you find interesting.

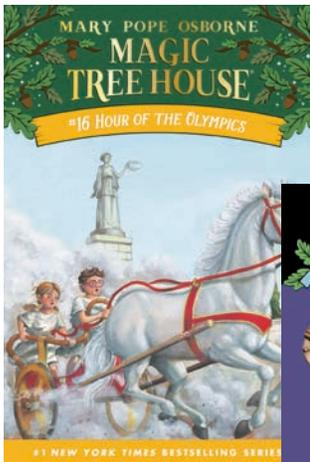
**CURRICULUM:** *Research • Language Arts*



# EDUCATORS' GUIDE

# MAGIC TREE HOUSE®

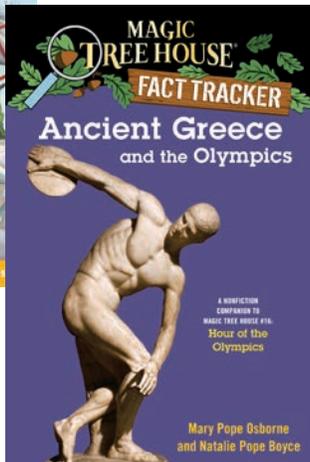
## ***Hour of the Olympics*** and ***Ancient Greece and the Olympics:*** *A Nonfiction Companion to Hour of the Olympics*



PB: 978-0-679-89062-1  
EL: 978-0-375-89473-2  
Grades: 1-4  
F&P: M • Lexile: 380L

### **ABOUT** *Hour of the Olympics*

Jack and Annie are off on another adventure! This time they are sent to ancient Greece, where a very important event is taking place. Join them as they race against time and witness the very first Olympic games!



PB: 978-0-375-82378-7  
EL: 978-0-307-97528-7  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: S • Lexile: 590L

### **ABOUT** *Ancient Greece and the Olympics:* *A Nonfiction Companion to Hour of the Olympics*

What was it like to live in ancient Greece? What gods and goddesses did Greeks believe in? How did the Olympics start? What was the winner's prize? Find out the answers to these questions and many more in this Fact Tracker. Includes fun facts from Jack and Annie, fantastic photos and illustrations, and a guide to doing further research!

## **ACTIVITIES FOR** *Hour of the Olympics*

### **No Women Allowed**

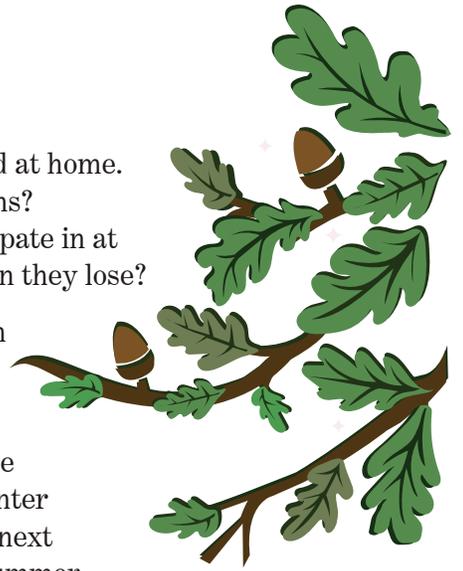
Annie is more than a little annoyed to learn that the identity of the author behind the story they seek must be listed as “anonymous” to hide the fact she was a woman.

Discuss other ways in which women were kept separate from the world of men in ancient Greece. How was freedom for “citizens” interpreted in this time and place? What were Plato's opinions on the subject?

Ask students to write a letter to Plato expressing their feelings on the discrimination shown women in his time. Have them list contributions women have made in different realms of society throughout modern history.

**CURRICULUM:** *History • Language Arts*

## ACTIVITIES FOR *Ancient Greece and the Olympics:* *A Nonfiction Companion to Hour of the Olympics*



### Getting Started

Ask students what their favorite games are on the playground, in the gym, and at home. Do they like to play games alone? With one other person? With groups or teams? Discuss the meaning of competition. What kinds of competition do they participate in at home, in school, or in their community? How do they feel when they win? When they lose?

Show students pictures of different summer and winter Olympic sports. Which events are their favorites? Who are some of their favorite Olympic athletes?

Using a map or a globe, locate Greece and explain that our modern Olympics started with the ancient Greeks almost 3000 years ago as a festival to honor the Greek God, Zeus. Create a time line showing the geographic location of the winter and summer Olympic Games for the last five years. Note where and when the next games will be held. Include information about the postponement of the 2020 summer Olympics. Explain that students are about to learn a great deal more about these games and the culture of the people who started them in this guide.

### It's Greek to Me!

The names of many of our geometric shapes have Greek origins. Polygons (Poly = many; gonia = angles) are closed figures that have several lines and angles. The first part, or prefix, in the names of these shapes tells how many sides and angles that shape has. For example:

Tri angle = 3

Quadri lateral = 4

Penta gon = 5

Hexa gon = 6

Hepta gon = 7

Octa gon = 8

Draw each of these geometric shapes on a piece of paper. Ask students to count the sides and angles in each and see if they can label each polygon correctly.

**CURRICULUM:** *Math • Language Arts*

### A Tale of Two Cities

Locate the city-states of Athens and Sparta on a map of Greece, identifying different physical features of their locations. List aspects of language, culture, and customs common to both.

Point out that democracy, the form of government we have in our United States, originated in Athens. Write a definition of democracy and compare the ancient Athenian democracy with our modern democracy in America. Discuss if it is possible for a society to be democratic when all citizens do not enjoy equal rights.

Point out that totalitarianism, a form of government practiced in countries of our modern world (e.g., North Korea ), originated in Sparta. Write a definition of totalitarianism. Using a Venn diagram, illustrate the similarities and differences between life in Athens and life in Sparta.

Under which form of government would students prefer to live? Why?

**CURRICULUM:** *History • Geography • Math*

### The Nature of Heroism

Tales from the ancient Greeks generally connect heroism with physical strength and courage in confronting great dangers. Modern society, however, has recognized new kinds of heroes and different types of heroism. Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., actor Christopher Reeve, and astronaut Neil Armstrong have all been called heroes. What qualities do they possess? Who else, in our modern world, might be viewed as heroes in light of their spirit and contributions to contemporary life? Have students choose and research a person they believe

to be a hero of our times and write a profile explaining what this person has done to deserve this status in his/her eyes.

**CURRICULUM:** *Research • Language Arts • Social Studies*

### Let the Games Begin!

Allow students to experience the satisfaction of competition and good sportsmanship in their own Class Olympics. Create a flag displaying a symbol for your Olympic competition. Select events to be included. Make it fun! Have students design medals with poster board and paint them gold, silver, and bronze to recognize winners in each event. Review game rules for each event and let the games begin!

**CURRICULUM:** *Research • Language Arts • Social Studies*

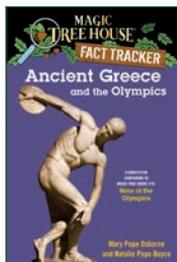
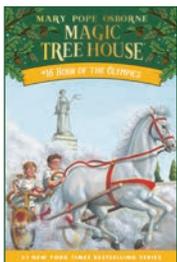
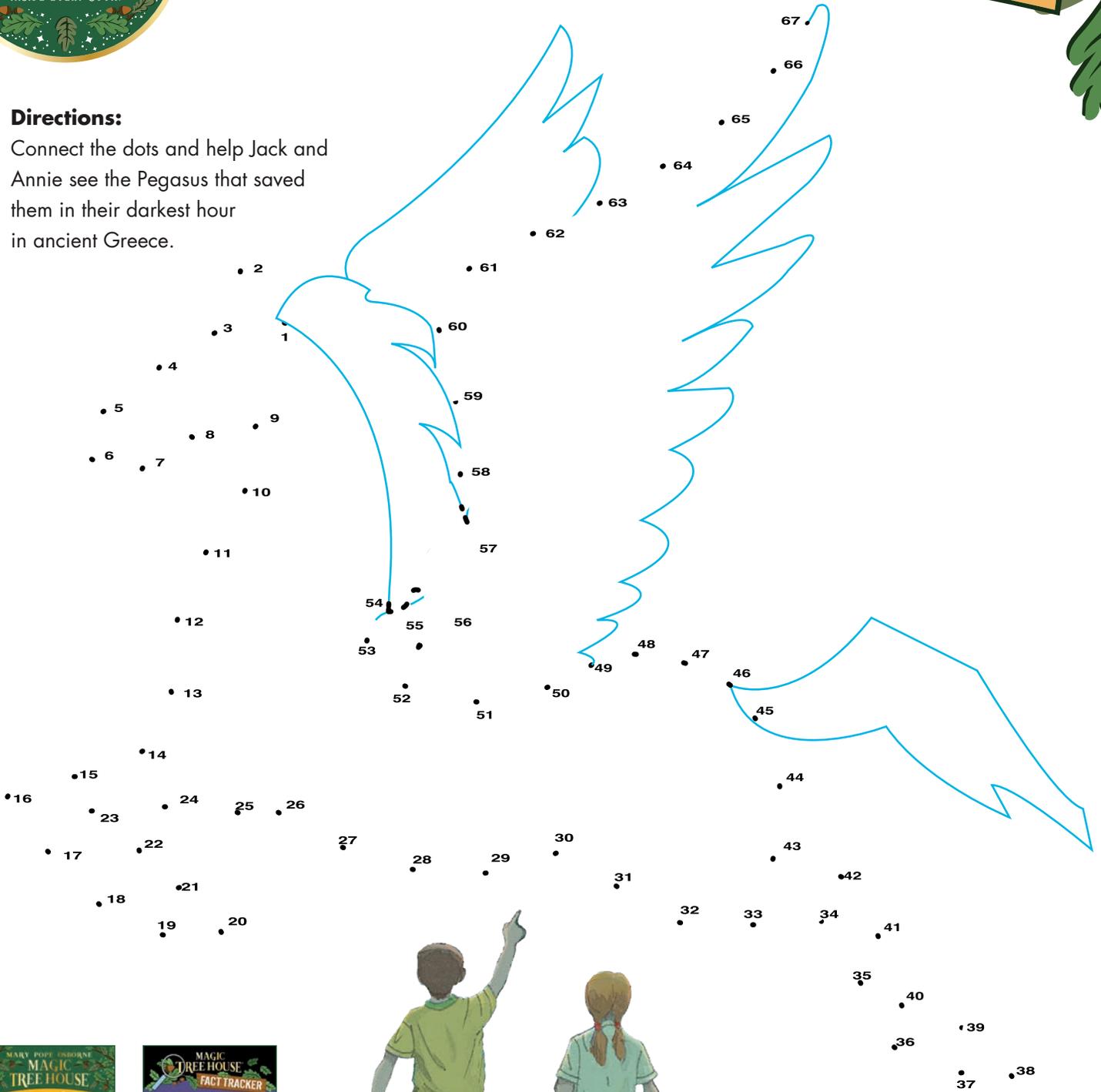
*Teaching ideas by Rosemary B. Stimola, Ph.D., former professor of children's literature at City University of New York.*



# NIGHT SKY CONNECT THE DOTS

**Directions:**

Connect the dots and help Jack and Annie see the Pegasus that saved them in their darkest hour in ancient Greece.





# TITLES TO TREASURE

**Directions:** The book of Aristotle's writings was a treasure. Make a treasure hunt for your favorite book, writing clues to help others discover your treasure.

1. Inside the treasure chest draw a picture from your favorite book.
2. Under the gem stones, write clues about the book. For a fiction book, your clues may include the author's name, setting, description of a character, or a problem in the story. For a nonfiction book, your clues may include the topic and a few interesting facts.



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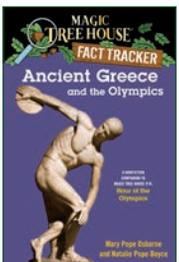
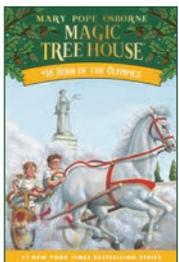
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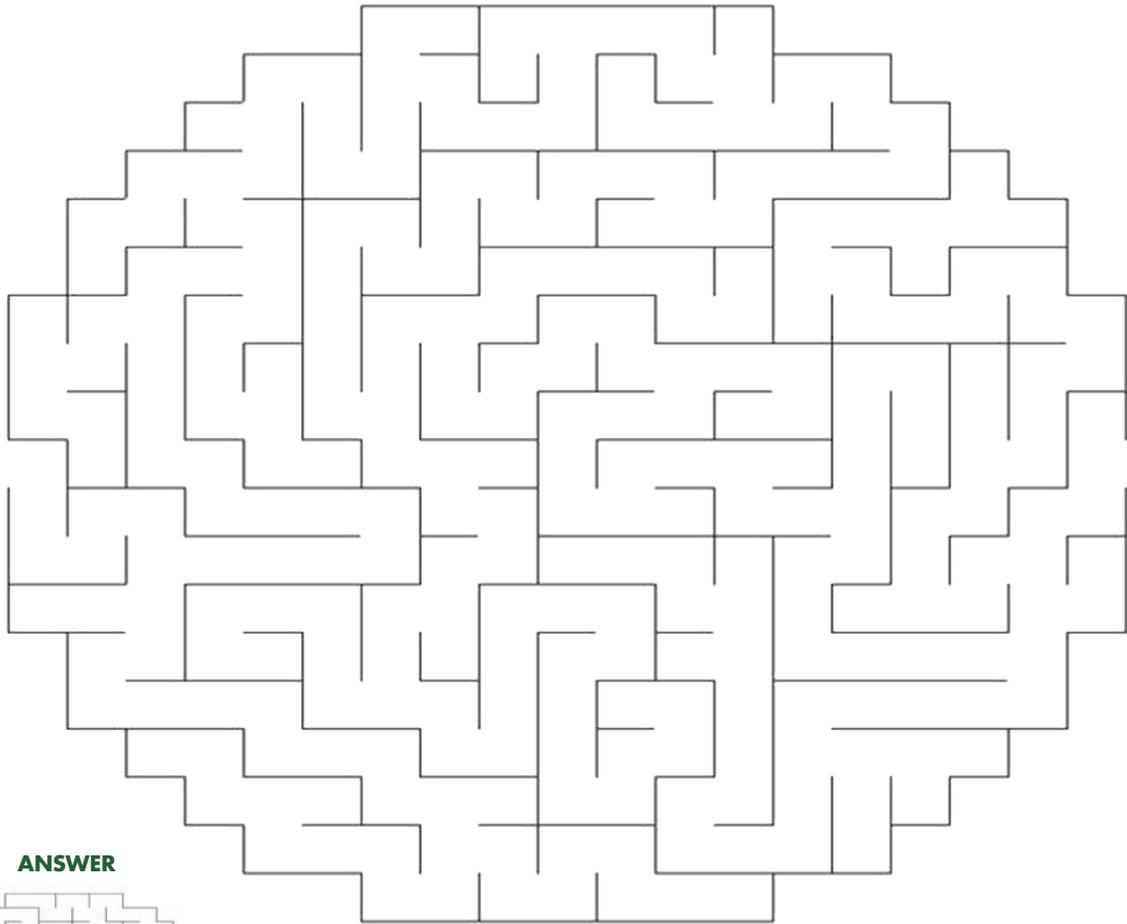
Activity for *Ancient Greece and the Olympics: A Nonfiction Companion to Hour of the Olympics* by Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce.

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# RUN THE STADE!

How quickly can you run the footrace called the Stade?  
It was the only event in the first Olympic games.

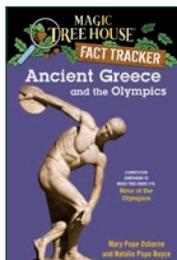
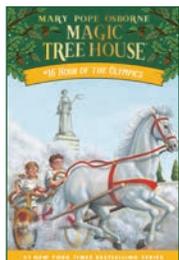
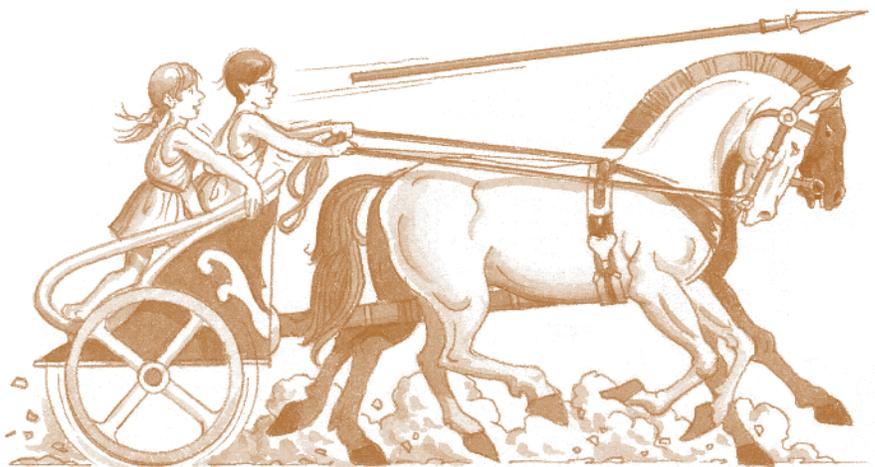
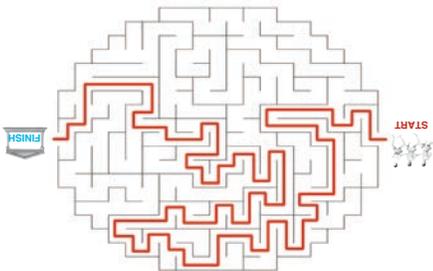


START



FINISH

ANSWER



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Activity for *Ancient Greece and the Olympics: A Nonfiction Companion to Hour of the Olympics* by Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce.

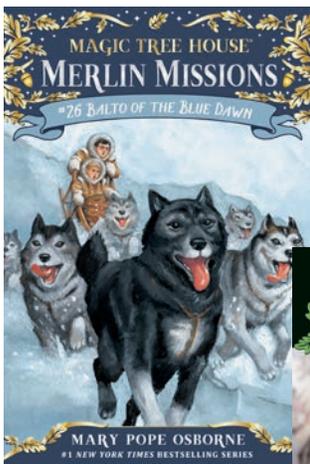
MagicTreeHouse.com



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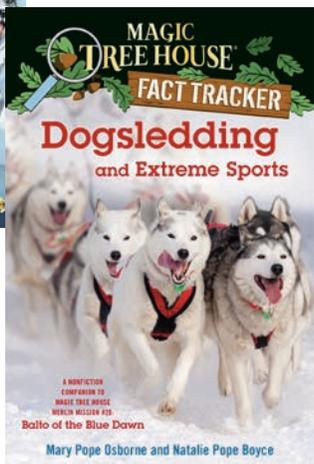
## ***Balto of the Blue Dawn*** and ***Dogsledding and Extreme Sports:*** *A Nonfiction Companion to Balto of the Blue Dawn*



PB: 978-0-553-51088-1  
EL: 978-0-553-51087-4  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: N • Lexile: 580L

### **ABOUT *Balto of the Blue Dawn***

The magic tree house is taking Jack and Annie back in time to 1925 Alaska. There they meet Balto, a jet black Siberian husky destined to save victims of the diphtheria epidemic. But the trail isn't easy, and Balto is going to need Jack and Annie's help!



PB: 978-0-385-38644-9  
EL: 978-0-385-38646-3  
Grades: 2-5  
F&P: S • Lexile: 820L

### **ABOUT *Dogsledding and Extreme Sports:*** *A Nonfiction Companion to Balto of the Blue Dawn*

When Jack and Annie came back from their adventure in Magic Tree House #54: *Balto of the Blue Dawn*, they had lots of questions. How do sled dogs race for so long? When was the first Iditarod? What are some other extreme sports? Find out the answers to these questions and more as Jack and Annie track the facts about the Iditarod the Tour de France, the Iron Man Triathlon, and their favorite X Games stars.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR *Balto of the Blue Dawn* and *Dogsledding and Extreme Sports:*** *A Nonfiction Companion to Balto of the Blue Dawn*

### **Alaska!**

*Balto of the Blue Dawn* takes place in the territory of Alaska—which is now a state! In their adventure, Jack and Annie learn about Balto and his life-saving mission in 1925, but what else do they learn about Alaska? Find an interesting fact in the story, and learn more about it.

**CURRICULUM:** *Research/History • Language Arts*

## Endurance

We learn about the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and how it is an endurance sport.

What does *endurance* mean? What other sports require endurance, and why? Pick one sport, and write about why it requires endurance.

**CURRICULUM:** *Language Arts*

## Official sport of . . .

Sled dog racing is the official sport of Alaska. What are the official sports, or most popular sports, of all the states? What about yours? Do you enjoy playing or watching the official sport of your state? Write a letter to your state representative explaining why you think it is a good state sport, or why you think it should be different. And, if your state does not have an official state sport, convince your representative why you should! Be creative!

**CURRICULUM:** *Research/History • Language Arts*

