

Description of Reading Promotion Activity/ Action		
OLYMPIC READING PENTATHLON		
Reaches disadvantaged pupils / families	yes no x yes but not only	
Multilingual activity	yes no x possibly	
Action especially for	girls boys x both	
Involves parents	x yes no	
Utilizes ICT	yes x no	
Objective (s)	 To encourage children to read more widely (across a spectrum of genres). Children to discover the variety of books available to them. To raise the profile of reading within the community To engage children in reading for pleasure and enhance their reading habits. 	
Age level (s)	6 - 12	
Preferable number of participants	As many as possible	
Duration	6 - 8 weeks	
Setting, materials, and preparation	Materials: Display board with genres displayed, books from the library, local libraries, parent information leaflet, bronze, silver and gold medals Setting: school and home	



Step -by-step description	 Each of the events in the pentathlon event represent a different genre/theme/focus; e.g. humour, adventure, mystery, poetry, animal stories etc. Advertisements of the events are displayed within school. For every type of book a child reads that relates to one of the genres/themes/foci, they receive a stamp in their Olympic passport. When they have read one book from each of the 5 foci, they receive a bronze medal which is presented to them in a special 'ceremony' in front of the whole school. To gain their silver medal, they must read a further book from each section. To gain a gold medal, they need to read a third book from each section. Parents are informed of the Olympic Reading Pentathlon, so as to help their children choose appropriate books.
Notes to reading promotion facilitator	 Books could be displayed under the 5 chosen headings in the school library so as to encourage children to broaden their reading. Local libraries could be approached to group some of their books accordingly so as to motivate children to choose books in sections that they have not previously chosen.
Suggested follow-up actions/ activities	 Themes other than the Olympics can be chosen; for example, different genres could be represented by the planets or countries that need to be visited.
Acknowledgements	Adapted from Highland Literacy Project.
Sources	Highland Literacy Project www.hvlc.org.uk/hlp//Reading for enjoyment/reading for enjoyment.doc

