Aims

- to expose the children to spoken English in the form of oral storytelling, and to bring the story and characters of *The Animal Olympics* to life
- to encourage the children to respond to a story told orally, act out and personalize a scene, and retell part of it in their own words
- to consider the value of the story (it is important to play fairly)

Story Summary

The Animal Olympics feature penguins, dolphins, giraffes, kangaroos, crocodiles, pandas, monkeys, an ostrich, a lion, a leopard, and a tiger—but the star is Chesney Cheetah! Chesney runs a race but the lion cheats to stop him from winning. Chesney wins a gold medal for gymnastics instead.

**Video length:** 6:50 min

The video activities can be divided into three parts as indicated in the lesson plans.

- Part 1: Lots of Sports in the Stadium (approx. 30 min)
- Part 2: Interview with Chesney (approx. 40 min)
- Part 3: The Big Race (approx. 50 min with Follow-up Work)

These can be taught separately or as one lesson.

**Part 1: Lots of Sports in the Stadium**

(00:00–02:43 min “Can he win nine?”)

**Lesson objective:** to carry out a comprehension task while watching to check understanding

**Key vocabulary:** sports, competition, Olympics, playing, winning, events, medal, swimming pool, penguins, dolphins, giraffes, kangaroos, crocodiles, pandas, monkeys, cheetah, basketball, ping-pong, gymnastics, running, race

**Secondary vocabulary:** athletes, sportsmen, commentator, spectators, camera, running track

**Key grammar:** They are playing (basketball); They’re very good at (swimming)

**Materials:** Oral Storytelling Video Worksheet 1 [TRC printout] one copy per child; sheet of paper for each child (optional)

**Before watching**

- Talk about the Olympic Games with the children. Ask them what sports they think are in the games. Make a list of their suggestions on the board. Supply any necessary vocabulary.
- Pre-teach words connected with the Olympics—athlete, event, competition, good sportsman. Write the words on the board and explain. (You may need L1.)
- Ask them to remember the first part of the story in their Reader and see if they can remember which animals were playing which sports. Write penguins, dolphins, giraffes, kangaroos, crocodiles, pandas, monkeys on the board.
**While watching**

- Play Part 1 of the video. Pause after the introduction at 0:56 minutes after *Let's see if they are good sportsmen and women* and ask some simple questions about the Olympics to check comprehension, e.g. *Where do the athletes come from? Which is important—playing or winning?*

- Use your list of animals on the board and divide the class into groups—allocate an animal to each. Continue the video and as they listen to the commentary have each group raise their hands when their animal is mentioned. You could pause the video and have the children repeat the commentator’s voice.

- Distribute Worksheet 1 to each child. Play the video again and have the children complete Activity 1, matching the animals and what sport they are doing.

- Elicit answers from the class.

1 **Watch and match.**

   **Answers**
   
   monkeys—gymnastics, penguins/dolphins—swimming, pandas/crocodiles—ping-pong, kangaroos/giraffes—basketball

**After watching**

- Have the children complete the sentences in Activity 2 on their worksheet. Call on different children to give their answers to the class.

- Now ask the children to personalize. Ask them to choose one or two more animals and a different sport. Give out a sheet of paper or ask the children to draw in their notebook and write a sentence about their new scene, e.g. *The elephants are doing judo*. Encourage the children to be imaginative.

2 **Complete the sentences.**

   **Answers**
   
   1 The monkeys are doing gymnastics.
   2 The penguins and the dolphins are swimming.
   3 The giraffes and the kangaroos are playing basketball.
   4 The crocodiles and pandas are playing ping-pong.
**Part 2: Interview with Chesney**

(02:44 min “Let’s talk to Lulu.” – 03:45 min “That’s not very sportsmanlike.”)

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**Lesson objective:** to act out and extend part of the story in their own words

**Key vocabulary:** cheetah, flamingo, medal, gold, lion, happy, angry

**Secondary vocabulary:** interview, proud, message, fans, good luck, kisses, sportsmanlike

**Key grammar:** I’m/He’s wearing (medals); How are you today?

**Materials:** Prop for acting out—microphone or similar object, (optional)

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**Before watching**

- Write *Chesney the Cheetah* on the board. Ask the children how many medals he has so far (eight). Ask them which sports competitions they think he won to get his medals. Now ask them to remember which is his next competition (100 meters running race).
- Pre-teach the word *proud* by miming. Walk around with your head held high and appropriate facial gesture. Write this word on the board.

**While watching**

- Play Part 2 of the video and have the children raise their hands when they hear the word *proud*. Have them do the action to mime blowing kisses when she says *He blows kisses to his fans*.
- Play Part 2 again with pauses for the children to repeat the voices. When you pause the video repeat the phrase yourself with exaggeration, then ask the children to repeat the funny voices. This part of the video provides excellent practice in stress and intonation patterns.

**After watching**

- Tell the class they are now going to interview Chesney themselves. Ask them what questions they are going to ask. Start by asking them to recall the questions in the video—*How are you today? What’s your message for your fans?* Write these up on the board. Then ask the class to think of other simple questions to ask Chesney, e.g. *What’s your name? How old are you? How many medals do you have? What’s your next race?* Add these to the list of questions on the board.
- Divide your class into pairs and allocate roles for Chesney and interviewer (you could ask the children to choose an animal as interviewer so that they can do a funny voice). Give them time to practice the questions on the board and make up answers.
- Call on different pairs of children to come to the board to act out their interview. Use props if you can, e.g. a microphone (or any object to act as microphone, e.g. large pen, board eraser).
- Round off with a final question about Chesney. Ask the children *Does everybody love Chesney?* Have them recall the character of the lion standing behind him in the interview. This provides a link to the next section.
**Part 3: The Big Race**

(03:46 min “On the running track, the athletes line up …” – end)

**Lesson objective:** to retell part of the story using the picture prompts

**Key vocabulary:** 100 meters race, first, second, third, lion, ostrich, leopard, (not) fair, sportsman, fly, do gymnastics, jump, finish line, gold, silver, bronze, champion

**Secondary vocabulary:** running track, athletes, line up, signal, naughty, tail, hold back, look up, air, bounce, spin, gymnast, feet, arms, dizzy, win, cheat, clap, cheer

**Key grammar:** They are running; He is winning

**Materials:** Oral Storytelling Video Worksheet 2 [TRC printout] one copy per pair or group of children. (Cut out cards before the lesson – one set for each pair or group of children.); props – medals from Lesson 8 Student Book (optional)

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**Before watching**

- Ask the children to remember the story in their Reader and which animals are in the 100 meters race. Ask them if they can remember who wins which medal and review gold, silver, bronze and first, second, third.
- Ask them to recall what the lion does. (They may need L1.) Pre-teach vocabulary naughty, hold back, tail by miming.

**While watching**

- Play Part 3 of the video and have the children check their predictions about who wins each medal. Ask them to join in as spectators—they can shout Hooray! and join in the clapping and cheering at the end.
- Pause the video for the children to answer the narrator’s question What’s he doing? Is he doing gymnastics?
- Play Part 3 of the video again. Encourage the children to mime Chesney’s actions.

**After watching**

- Oral retelling of the story. Divide the class into pairs or threes. Distribute the picture cards from Oral Storytelling Video Worksheet 2 to the pairs/groups.
- Have them spread them out on the desk and put them in the correct order.
- Elicit the order of the pictures.

1. **Cut out the pictures and put them in order. Then tell the story.**

**Answers**

1 c 2 e 3 f 4 b 5 a 6 d

- Start with picture a and ask simple questions which encourage the children to identify the characters and recall their words in the story, e.g. Which animals are in the race? What are they doing?
- Work through all the pictures orally in this way, asking different children and keeping their utterances at a very simple level. Write any key words, e.g. hold, tail, fly, champion on the board to help and support the children. At this stage the children should be able to produce utterances in the present progressive.
- Then ask them to shuffle their cards and reorder them again in their pair or group. They take turns talking about the pictures to retell the story. Any children who finish faster can retell the story with their own changes, e.g. change the animals who win the medals, change the competition for Chesney.
- Call on different pairs/groups of children to retell their version to the class. You could call them out to the front to act out their versions. Use any medals they have made in Lesson 8 of the Student Book as props.
Extension and Portfolio Activities

**Follow-up Work**

- Play the whole video again and ask the children to focus on the value of the story—It is important to play fairly. Discuss the lion and his behavior, *Why isn’t he fair? What happens to him because he is unfair?*
- Ask the children to think about sports and activities they participate in. *Can you give an example of behavior which is unfair?*
- Also stress to the children the importance of playing/taking part rather than winning and remind them of the purpose of the Olympics.

**Portfolio Activities**

- Have the children add their personalized drawings of the extra scene for Part 1 of the video to their Portfolio. This can be used to recall the story in future retellings.
- Draw a symbol for the story with the value. Have the children draw the Olympic rings symbol. Inside each word they can add a word or phrase to reflect the value, e.g. *be fair, don’t cheat, work hard, respect, good sportsman.*
Part 1
This is the story of a sports competition—The Animal Olympics. The Olympics is a competition to encourage people to be nice to each other. It also encourages athletes to enjoy playing sports, not just winning! In this story, the athletes are the jungle animals: let's see if they are good sportsmen and women.

It's a busy day at the Animal Olympics. There are lots of events taking place. The athletes are all working hard. They want to win a medal for their team. In his special box, the commentator is telling the spectators about the competition. He can see the different sports on his TV.

"It's a great day here at the Animal Olympics. You can watch all your favorite sports."

"Here, at the swimming pool, there are penguins and dolphins. They're very good at swimming."

"Let's look at the stadium," says the commentator. "The giraffes are playing basketball against the kangaroos. The giraffes are tall, but the kangaroos are good at jumping!"

"… And the monkeys are doing gymnastics," he says as the camera moves to a different competition. "Just look at those jumps! The monkeys are very flexible."

The camera moves to a different competition.

"In the big hall," says the commentator, "the crocodiles are playing ping-pong against the pandas. The pandas are winning. Come on, Crocs! Don't give up!"

"… And the monkeys are doing gymnastics," he says as the camera moves to a different competition. "Just look at those jumps! The monkeys are very flexible."

The camera moves again. It's the running track. The commentator keeps talking.

"And the fantastic Chesney Cheetah is running in the 100 meters race," he says. "Chesney has eight gold medals. Can he win nine?"

Part 2
"Let's talk to Lulu. She's at the running track with Chesney."

On the TV, Lulu, a beautiful pink flamingo, is interviewing Chesney Cheetah.

"Hello, Chesney Cheetah," says Lulu. "How are you today?"

"I'm great, thank you," says Chesney. He's wearing his eight gold medals around his neck. He's very proud.

"What's your message for your fans, Chesney?" asks Lulu.

"I love you all!" he says, and blows kisses to his fans.

"Thank you Chesney, and good luck," says Lulu.

But who's that behind Chesney? It's the lion and he doesn't look happy. In fact, he looks angry. Hmm, that's not very sportsmanlike.

Part 3
On the running track, the athletes line up for the 100 meters race. They are ready to start. They wait for the signal …

"… And they're off! They're running really fast."

Chesney is winning! The lion is second, and who's third? It's the ostrich.

But wait. What's Chesney doing?

He can't run. Chesney is trying to get away but something is holding him back. Hmm. That naughty lion! He's holding Chesney's tail. The lion is stopping Chesney from running fast. That's not fair. The lion is not a good sportsman!

Suddenly, the lion lets go of Chesney's tail and …

"He's flying."

On the ground the tiger, the ostrich, and the leopard keep running but they can see Chesney high up in the air. The lion stops and looks up: oh, no!

"Chesney comes flying through the air. Oh, no, he's heading towards the monkeys and the gymnastics competition."

Watch out, monkeys!

Chesney bounces on the gym mats; he catches the bar and spins around in the air.

"What's he doing? Is he doing gymnastics?"
Yes, he is!

Chesney jumps and spins in the air; he's a gymnast!

“Hooray!” shout the spectators.

Chesney lands safely, feet together and arms stretched up. He’s a little dizzy, but he stands tall.

Back at the running track, the tiger, leopard and ostrich are running to the finish line … And it’s a gold medal for the ostrich, a silver for the leopard, and a bronze for the tiger.

But there’s no medal for the lion; he doesn’t win anything. He’s sad, but he realizes it doesn’t pay to cheat. He knows that if you want to win, you have to work hard.

“But look! What’s this? Chesney has a gold medal for gymnastics. That’s nine gold medals. Great job, Chesney!”

All the athletes crowd around to cheer for Chesney as he collects his medal. The lion looks guilty, but surprised. Chesney stands up tall and shows off his medal.

“Thank you,” he says. “I AM the champion!”

And everyone claps and cheers.
1 Watch and match.

- Swimming
- Basketball
- Gymnastics
- Ping-pong

2 Complete the sentences.

1 The monkeys ______ are ______ doing gymnastics.

2 The penguins and the __________ are ________________________.

3 The ____________ and the kangaroos are ________________________.

4 The crocodiles and pandas ________________ playing

______________________.
1 Cut out the pictures and put them in order. Then tell the story.