

CURRICULUM LINKS

YEARS 7–8

CSF Level 5

Key Learning Area

- SOSE

Outcome Code

- SOGE0501

Generic Skills

- Prediction
- Hypotheses
- Testing
- Analysis

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this activity students will be able to

- describe the similarities and differences between countries competing in the Games
- demonstrate understanding of quality of life and its influence on winning medals
- evaluate the impact of living standards on medals medal count.

DURATION

90 minutes

RESOURCES

- Information sheet

REFERENCES

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. 2004. *CSF II CD-ROM*, State Government of Victoria,
www.csf.vcaa.vic.edu.au/home.htm

INTRODUCTION

In this activity students will compare and contrast countries in the Commonwealth Games by testing hypothesis related to why countries win medals. The activity will highlight questions concerning the capacity of countries to score medals and differences between countries according to a United Nations development indicator. Students will predict the countries which will win medals in Melbourne.

ACTIVITY

- Discuss these questions with students. Which countries will win medals in the Commonwealth Games? Is this a fair competition? Do some countries with a large population size win more medals? Are countries with a higher standard of living more likely to win medals than those with a lower standard?
- Introduce the factors that contribute to a country winning medals. Discuss this with students and develop a class list.
- Each student is to randomly select five countries from Table 1 to test the hypothesis that 'countries with larger populations win more medals'. Use the whole data table to check the hypothesis using a wider data set. To what extent is this statement true?
- Introduce the notion of the Human Development Indicator (HDI) ie an indicator of a country's standard of living. Explain how HDI relates to standard of living.
- Develop and test another hypothesis based on the Human Development Indicator related to winning medals.
- Study Table 1, which is a stronger indicator of a country's capability to win medals - population size or Human Development Indicator.
- What other data/statistics would you need to support your understandings of a country's capacity to win medals?

ASSESSMENT

Predict which countries will be in the top five countries to win medals at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne and state the reasons using the HDI as a guide.

Students work should demonstrate

1. Understanding of the complexities of standard of living
2. Analysis of HDI as a predictor of medal count

Evidence for the selection of countries which will win medals

INFORMATION SHEET

The countries competing in the Commonwealth games share a common aspect of their history ie at some time their country was colonised by the British Empire. This shared history binds these countries together as the Commonwealth. However, not all countries have the same access to sporting facilities trainers, coaches and technology to enhance their performance and win medals.

Many governments in Commonwealth Games countries are struggling to provide their people with basic conditions of food fresh water, sanitation and a basic education, let alone state of the art sports facilities. An indicator of standard of living developed by the United Nations includes Human Development Indicator.

Resources

Table 1 Commonwealth Games Countries by Medal Tally, Population and Human Development Indicator

Country	Medal Tally	Population	HDI
Australia	207	19.5	3
Canada	116	31.3	4
England (United Kingdom)	111	59.1	12
India	69	1049.5	127
New Zealand	45	3.8	18
South Africa	43	44.8	119
Malaysia	34	24	59
Wales	31	See UK	
Scotland	30	See UK	
Nigeria	20	120.9	151
Jamaica	17	2.6	79
Kenya	16	31.5	148
Singapore	16	4.2	25
Nauru	15	n/a	n/a
Cameroon	12	15.7	141
Bahamas	8	.3	51
Pakistan	7	149.9	142
Namibia	5	2.0	126
Northern Ireland	5		
Cyprus	4	.8	30
Fiji	3	.8	81
Samoa	3	.2	75
Zambia	3	10.7	164
Botswana	2	1.8	128
Tanzania	2	36.3	162
Uganda	2	25	146
Zimbabwe	2	12.8	147
Bangladesh	1	143.8	138
Barbados	1	.3	29
Cayman Islands	1		
Ghana	1	20.5	131
Guyana	1	.8	104
Lesotho	1	1.8	145
Malta	1	.4	31
Mauritius	1	1.2	64
Mozambique	1	18.5	171
St Kitts and Nevis	1	n/a	n/a
St Lucia	1	.1	71
Trinidad and Tobago	1	1.3	54

NOTES

Medal Tally – Total number of medals won at Manchester 2002

Population – Source United Nations 2002

HDI United Nations Development Program Human Development Report 2002

Total Number of medals

WHAT IS THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDICATOR?

The United Nations has developed a range of indicators to develop a comprehensive profile of a country's human development. This is an index that measures average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development—a long and healthy life, to be knowledgeable and a decent standard of living. The lower the indicator the higher the quality of life in that country.

If these basic capabilities are not achieved, many choices are simply not available and many opportunities remain inaccessible. The concept of human development is a holistic one putting people at the centre of all aspects of the development process.

Source United Nations Human Development , 2002 www.hdr.undp.org/

United Nations Development Report, 2002