

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**

Teacher's Notes

Record Breakers - Teacher's Notes

Depending on the age of the children, the following lessons can take place over more sessions than are outlined in the notes. The lessons are pitched at Key Stage 1 and lower Key Stage 2 but can be adapted across the primary curriculum to suit the needs and ages of the children in their school.

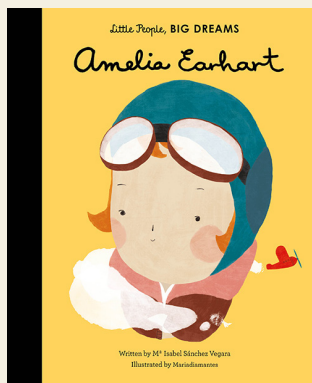
Learning in this area is not designed to be specially taught, but to create flexible cross curricular opportunities.

By using these books and following the suggested activities, children will begin to understand and be able to:

- Design and make a purposeful, functional paper aeroplane.
- Evaluate their ideas and paper plane against a set design criteria.
- Master basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching and begin to apply these in a range of activities.
- Participate in team games, developing simple tactics for attacking and defending.
- Learn about significant historical events.
- Write about real events, narratives and non-narrative material.
- Use a range of materials creatively to design and make products.
- Use drawing to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination.



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Session 1: Amelia Earhart

Introduce the theme of Record Breakers

Discussion and Comprehension

Read the Amelia Earhart story and prompt discussion by asking the following questions, encouraging readers to take turns and give full answers. Offer support by turning to the appropriate pages of the book.

- What happened when Amelia first had a ride in an aeroplane?
- What records did Amelia break?
- Why does the author describe the houses and cars like toys?
- Why did Amelia start a club?
- What happened to Amelia at the end of the story?
- Why do you think the author says “You never know how far you could get!” at the end of the book?

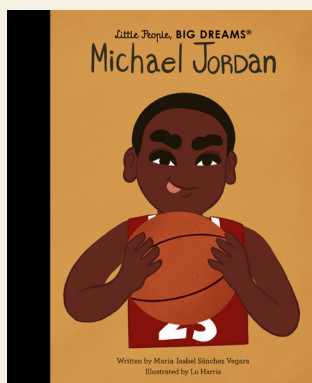
Activities

Explain that Amelia Earhart broke lots of world records. Say that it is possible to have school records and even class records. Set a competition for the children to set a class record and see who can make set the record for the furthest flying paper aeroplane. Ask the children what their design criteria should be, for example the paper plane must have an attractive design and fly further than 2 metres. Then teach the class how to fold a basic paper aeroplane. Let them add their own designs and extra features. Then in a large space take turns to launch the paper planes leaving them where they land. Work out who has set the class record. Award them with the Amelia Earhart award for best design and furthest flying plane. Keeping a marker for the class record, give the children multiple attempts to break the class record. Ask them to evaluate their designs against the original design criteria.

Reflection

Ask the children how it felt to break the class record and how it felt to watch it happen. Encourage them to imagine how it must feel to beat a world record. Ask them to reflect on how they can set their own personal records and try and improve on it. This is often called a personal best or PB for short.

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Session 2: Michael Jordan

Discussion and Comprehension

- Why was Michael so competitive?
- What did Michael learn was just as important as talent?
- How did Michael get onto the Basketball team at High School?
- Why do you think the author calls Michael “His Airness”?
- Why did Michael play baseball instead of basketball for a while?
- How are Michael Jordan and Amelia Earhart similar?

Activities

Start by saying that Michael Jordan’s story is inspirational. Ask the children which aspect of his story inspired them and why? Explain that he didn’t get on the High School team the first time he tried, so how important is it that we try again when we fail? Just imagine if he gave up after a failure! Ask the children to pick a basketball skill they would like to get better at. In a PE lesson, give the pupils the opportunity to practice a skill of their choice. Ask them to measure their achievement if possible. Then ask the class who improved on their score after practice. Explain that this rule will apply to anything and that they can grow in all areas if they practice like Michael Jordan.

Reflection

Tell the class that Michael Jordan used hard work to become the greatest basketball player ever. Then ask the children to reflect on what they might you grow into if they work very hard at something they enjoy.

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Session 3: Leo Messi

Discussion and Comprehension

- Why did Messi need injections when he was nine?
- Why did Messi point to the sky when he scored?
- What did Ronaldinho do for Messi?
- What did Messi do to help himself when he lost?
- What records did Messi leave behind at Barcelona?
- What do you think Messi's saying means, "You can overcome anything if only you love something enough"?

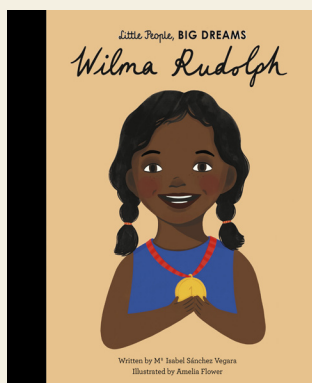
Activities

In a PE lesson, preferably football, ask the children what they can learn from Messi to help them play better. Try and draw out of them the following: he was eager to prove himself, he could dribble the ball around anyone, he worked hard to build strength when he was injured, he was a team player, when he lost he thought of all the blessings in his life so it didn't get him down. Messi tries to grow as a person on and off the pitch. Apply these learnings to different skills practices or lessons. Participate in mini games of football and teach them how to develop simple tactics for attacking and defending.

Reflection

Encourage the children to reflect on how Messi dedicated his goals to his grandma. Ask them to think about who means a lot to each of them.

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Session 4: Wilma Rudolph

Discussion and Comprehension

- What illness did Wilma get when she was young?
- What was the promise Wilma's mother made to her?
- Why do you think Wilma's leg got better?
- How did Wilma surprise everyone when she started playing sports?
- What record did Wilma break?
- Which other record breaker is Wilma most like and why?

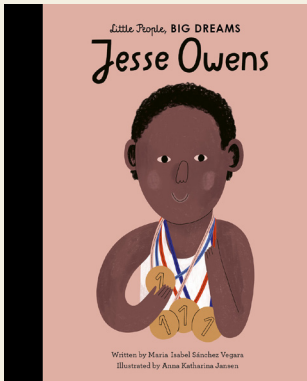
Activities

Talk about the Olympic games and find out what the children know about the games, where they originated, what events they have and how often it is. Write up notes about what the class already knows about the Olympics. Then ask the pupils what questions they have about the Olympics. Write their questions up and provide them with research materials to find the answers. You could ask them to find out about the next Olympics and where it will be. Alternatively, the class could plan and hold its own Olympic games and award medals for different events/sports.

Reflection

Ask the children to reflect on Wilma's start in life and how incredible it was that she went on to win gold at the Olympic games. Has anyone ever told the children that they are not good at something? Or is there anything they think they cannot do. Encourage them to reflect on Wilma's attitude when she had Polio. How might Wilma inspire them to try their best?

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Session 5: Jesse Owens

Discussion and Comprehension

- Why was Jesse's gym teacher so impressed with him?
- How did imagining the track was on fire help Jesse?
- Why did Jesse work as a lift operator while at university?
- Why do you think Jesse was separated from his teammates?
- Which world records did Jesse break?
- How do you think Jesse felt when he finally got a presidential medal of freedom?
- Which other record breaker do you think Jesse is like and why?

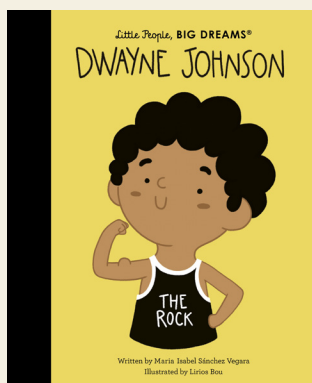
Activities

Explain that when Jesse broke 3 world records at the Olympics it would have been big news. Ask the children to write a newspaper article about Jesse and his world records. Encourage the children to think of a snappy headline for the newspaper article. Ask them to include a quote from somebody who was there at the Olympics. Include a picture of Jesse and a caption. Ask the pupils to read each other's news reports.

Reflection

Explain that the author describes Jesse as being humble. Ask the children what humble means. Encourage them to reflect on times they have been humble and other times when they have not.

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Session 6: Dwayne Johnson

Discussion and Comprehension

- Who were the wrestlers in Dwayne's family?
- Why did Dwayne have to often move away?
- What did Dwayne learn when he was depressed?
- Why did Dwayne change to become the Rock?
- How does Dwayne like his films to end?
- What record did Dwayne break?

Activities

Remind the pupils that Dwayne had two different wrestling personalities, the first was called Maivia and the second the Rock. Ask the children which one they preferred and why? Ask them to design their own wrestler with a name and a costume. Provide them with an outline figure of a wrestler and then design the costume. Share their ideas and work with their group and give each other positive feedback about their designs.

Reflection

Explain that Dwayne Johnson is a good actor and has been in lots of films. Ask them why they think Dwayne is such a popular actor?