



# What are the world's greatest races?

**Book band: Gold**

This book looks at a whole range of different races involving humans and animals. It gives factual information about the speeds that can be reached.

## Skills focus

- 1a Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
- 1b Identify / explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information
- 1d Make inferences from texts
- Monitor understanding

## Guided reading session

### You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *What are the world's greatest races?*

### Tune in

Ask children to look at the front cover of the book and read the title.

**Ask** the following questions:

- What sort of race do you think is happening on the cover?
- What races have you been in?

Ask children to read the back cover blurb.

**Ask** the following questions:

- Why do you think a race would be messy?
- How do you think a cheese could be involved in a race?

**Ask:** Where can we find an overview of what is in the book? (*contents page*)

Ask children to find the contents page and to turn to the section called 'What are the world's greatest races?'.

Ask them to point to the heading on this page.

Read page 3.

**Ask:** Why do you think the word 'athletes' is in bold? (*It's in the glossary.*)

Challenge children to use the contents to find the glossary and to read the definition of 'athletes'.

Focus on the index and discuss how it is organised. (*alphabetically*)

Ask children to find the entry for '100-metre sprint racing' and to look it up in the book.

Give them the chance to read pages 4 and 5.

**Ask:** How long does it take some athletes to run 100 metres? (*under ten seconds*)

### Heads together

Ask children to read pages 6 to 9.

As they read, move around the group asking individual children to 'turn up the volume' so that you can hear them read.

Use their tone and expression to judge their understanding of what they are reading.

Ask them to identify the most interesting or unusual fact that they have read.

### Wrap up

Ask children to share the facts that they have identified.

Encourage them to justify their choices by giving reasons.

**Ask:** Which of the races you have read about would you like to take part in?

## Vocabulary boost session

### You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *What are the world's greatest races?*
- Flipchart or whiteboard
- A4 whiteboards and pens

### Vocabulary table

Focus word	Child-friendly explanation	Example sentence	Tell me...
zany	If we say something is zany, we mean it is crazy.	We all laughed at the clowns and their zany behaviour.	Tell me about something that you think is zany.
dash	A dash is doing something really quickly.	Mum did a quick dash to the shops.	Tell me about something you could do in a dash.
wade	If you wade, you walk through something with difficulty.	We had to wade through the stream to get to the other side.	Tell me about a time you have waded through something.

### Tune in

Ask children to remind you what the book is about.

**Ask:** What is the most interesting thing you have learnt from the book?

Read pages 10 to 13, briefly explaining the meaning of the focus words as you read them. You may wish to use the information in the Vocabulary table above to help you.

**Ask** the following questions:

- How long does it take to change the tyres on a race car? (*under two seconds*)
- How fast can go-karts go? (*40+ kilometres per hour*)

Write up the focus words and the example sentences on the flipchart or whiteboard.

Ask children to read them and then explain what they mean once more.

### Heads together

Use the 'Tell me' prompts to develop children's understanding of the focus words.

Once children have responded, ask further questions to build their understanding.

Challenge children to create their own sentences on their whiteboards that include the focus words.

### Wrap up

Ask children to choose one of the focus words as their word of the week. Challenge them to use it as often as they can – both at home and at school.

## Follow-up independent sessions

### You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *What are the world's greatest races?*
- Reading Journals
- Multiple copies of Resource sheet: Speed check

Ask children to read pages 14 to 17.

They can then discuss what they have read with their Reading Partner.

Ask them to record in their Reading Journals the most interesting fact they have read on these pages.

Children can read pages 18 to 20.

They can then use Resource sheet: Speed check to collect information from all of the Speed check boxes in the book and order them from slowest to fastest.

Children can read pages 22 and 23.

They can then look up the answers to the questions and record the answers in their Reading Journals.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Speed check

Read through the Speed check boxes in the book and record who or what they are about and the speed they can travel. Organise them from slowest to fastest in this table.

Who/what	Speed