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BASKETBALL

How many basketballs can you find on this page in two minutes? Now have a friend try. Who found more?

Replace the missing words.

BOUNCE PEOPLE INVENTED OPEN HANDS THROUGH JUMPED GAME BALL GYM TEACHER

An Ancient Game

Long, long ago, around 1400 B.C., the _____ of Mexico played a game in which they moved a ball down a long narrow court and with the goal of getting it _____ a stone hoop. Only players didn't pass the ball with their _____, they sometimes used their hips!

Snowy Day Game

Why is basketball called basketball? Because the modern game was started in 1891 by James Naismith, a P.E. _____ in Springfield, Massachusetts with a _____ and a couple of peach baskets. He was looking for a _____ his students could play indoors on cold winter days. When he couldn't find a game that was active enough, he _____ one.

Peach Basket Game

Naismith hung a peach basket from each end of the gymnasium and had students _____ a soccer ball up and down the _____ and try to shoot it into the peach baskets.

Metal Hoops

In 1893, metal hoops with net bags replaced the peach baskets. Officials pulled a cord attached to the net to _____ the bottom of the net to release the ball. In 1894, the first backboard appeared. Baskets with nets open at the bottom were introduced around 1913.

Cool New Shot

Joe Fulks played for the Philadelphia Warriors from 1946 to 1954. To shoot, he _____ up and released the ball at the peak of his jump. This became known as the **jump shot**, still used by most players to this day.

Read the history of basketball. Then number these pictures in the correct order.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words.

How many silly things can you find in this basketball scene?

How many differences can you spot between these two players?

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Classify common objects by similar attributes.

Who wears short shorts?

Basketball shorts were very short until 1984, when a future superstar began wearing longer length shorts. Circle every other letter to reveal his name.

OMJILCNHPAREVLWJKOARCDTABN

M _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Extra! Extra! Sports Page Action!

Sports writers use lots of action verbs to recreate the excitement of a game. Look through today's newspaper and circle 10 or more action verbs.

Standards Link: Writing: Identify verbs.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Unscramble the basketball words.

Then write each numbered letter in the correct box to reveal the answer to the basketball question.

COKBAARDB (2 4 6)

BIRLDEB (9)

RESCO (10)

ETMOTUI (1)

EREF WROTH (5 3)

KDNU (7 8)

Every year, the top 68 college basketball teams compete in a nationwide tournament to find out which team is the very best. What is this tournament called?

1 2 3 4 5 1 6 7 8 9 10 10

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

BASKETBALL
TEACHER
ANCIENT
HISTORY
BASKET
WINTER
COUPLE
SPORTS
PEACH
COURT
HOOPS
METAL
GAME
NETS
GYM

G	L	A	R	E	T	N	I	W	H
S	A	N	C	I	E	N	T	M	I
P	T	E	S	T	T	R	E	A	S
O	E	R	S	T	U	E	K	D	T
R	M	H	O	O	P	S	S	G	O
T	E	A	C	H	E	R	A	I	R
S	N	E	G	A	Y	M	B	H	Y
L	L	A	B	T	E	K	S	A	B
T	G	Y	M	E	L	P	U	O	C

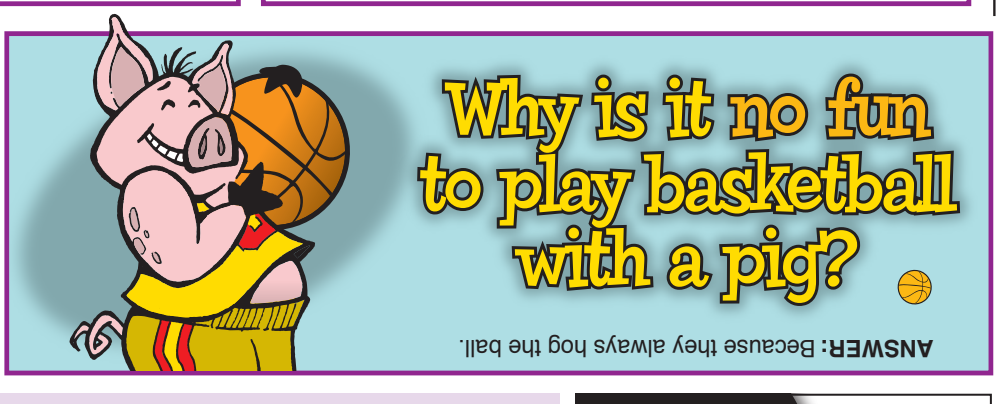
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recongized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Teamwork Works!

Have students work in pairs to select articles or pictures in the newspaper that demonstrate cooperation and teamwork. Explain how these skills help in a school and/or family situation.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



Why is it no fun to play basketball with a pig?

ANSWER: Because they always hog the ball.

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