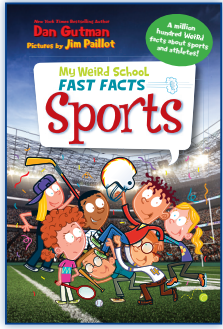


# PIN FEVER



In Dan Gutman's *My Weird School Fast Facts: Sports*, A.J. and Andrea discuss some weird-but-true Olympic sports. But did you know that the hobby of collecting and trading Olympic souvenir pins is *like* an Olympic sport for some fans of the Games? These fans are even called "pin heads" because they have pins on the brain. Let's catch Olympic pin fever and collect some pins of our own design, using the guidelines below.

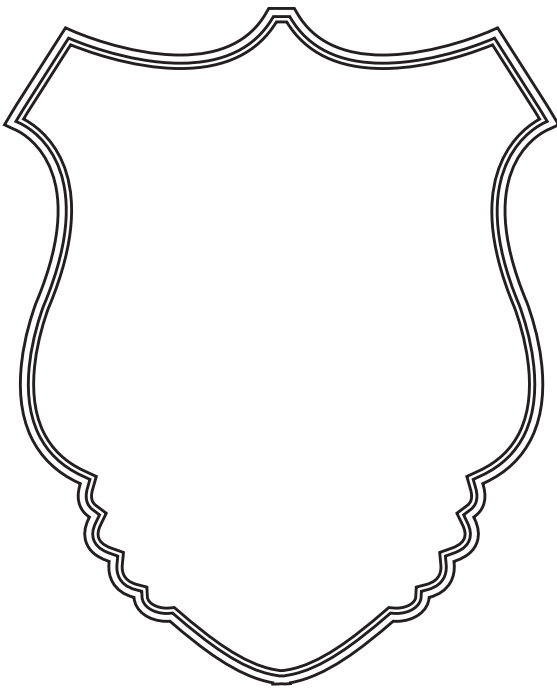


- 1 Select a weird-but-true Olympic sport to research on the internet. Examples include: trampoline, dressage, rhythmic gymnastics, luge, biathlon, skeleton, curling, handball, racewalking, canoe slalom, water polo, badminton, or steeplechase.
- 2 Design a pin to illustrate your weird Olympic sport. Use the badge template below.
- 3 Write a description of your sport explaining its unusual nature and history. Use the notecard below.

- 1 Share your pin and research with fellow pin heads in your class, and then trade pins.
- 2 Remember your pin etiquette:
  - Always be polite so you don't give pin collectors a bad name.
  - Always educate a potential trader about your pin.
  - Never be too aggressive about obtaining a pin, even if you have pin fever.
  - Most important, **HAVE FUN!**



## MY PIN DESIGN



## MY OLYMPIC SPORT


Addresses the following ELA Common Core Reading and Writing Standards: W. 3.2 – 4.2; W. 3.7 – 4.7

Prepared by Mary VandeWater, Professor of Reading and Basic Education, Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY.

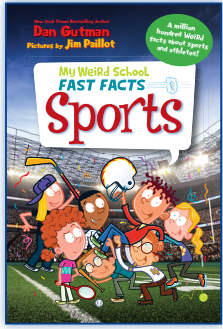
**HARPER**

An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

[www.myweirdclassroomclub.com](http://www.myweirdclassroomclub.com) • [www.booksandgames.com/dangutman](http://www.booksandgames.com/dangutman)

Art © 2016 by Jim Paillot. Permission to reproduce and distribute this page has been granted by the copyright holder, HarperCollins Publishers. All rights reserved.

# PUT ON YOUR GAME FACE



How do you feel about girls playing sports with boys on the same team? Today, girls are kicking field goals on the football team and hitting slap shots in the hockey rink. So why isn't everyone cheering for them? Let's see what A.J. and Andrea from *My Weird School Fast Facts: Sports* by Dan Gutman have to say about this subject. Play by the rules below to get started.



**RULE #1:** Team up with a partner to write dialogue between A.J. and Andrea. Imagine what they would each say in a conversation about girls playing on boys' sports teams. Make sure to get into character so it really sounds like A.J. and Andrea.

**RULE #2:** Serve up evidence to support both A.J.'s and Andrea's opinions. With your parents' permission, Google "girls playing boy sports" for some facts to use in their discussion.

**RULE #3:** Catch up on the negatives argued ("girls aren't as fast," "girls aren't as strong," and "girls react more slowly") through your research.

**RULE #4:** Get a heads-up on the positives argued ("co-ed teams are good for friendship building" and "smashing stereotypes") with your research.

**RULE #5:** Lawyer up and research a law called Title IX.

**RULE #6:** Speak up by reading your dialogue to your classmates with good expression and at an understandable pace. Practice with your partner a few times before you both *put on your game face* and read like A.J. and Andrea.

## A.J.'S OPINIONS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## ANDREA'S OPINIONS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Addresses the following ELA Common Core Reading and Writing Standards: W. 3.3B – 4.4B; RF. 3.4B – 4.4B

Prepared by Mary VandeWater, Professor of Reading and Basic Education, Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY.

**HARPER**

An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

[www.myweirdclassroomclub.com](http://www.myweirdclassroomclub.com) • [www.booksandgames.com/dangutman](http://www.booksandgames.com/dangutman)

Art © 2016 by Jim Paillot. Permission to reproduce and distribute this page has been granted by the copyright holder, HarperCollins Publishers. All rights reserved.