

What Were the Olympic Games?



The people that lived in Greece long ago believed in gods. They thought these gods lived on top of a mountain called Olympus.

To please these gods, the Greeks held games every four years in the town of Olympia. They thought the gods would enjoy watching the best athletes. Athletes came from all over Greece to run, box, wrestle or throw the discus and javelin.

Today we have the Olympic Games every four years. They are held in a different city of the world each year. The name "Olympic" comes from the old Greek town of Olympia. Sydney has held the Games in the year 2000. In 2008 the Games were in Beijing. Everyone who won got a gold medal.

Use a word from the story in each space.

- 1 Greeks long ago believed gods lived on top of a
- 2 To please them, they held games every four
- 3 Greek athletes threw the discus and the
- 4 Anyone who wins in the Olympics gets a gold
- 5 Which word means 'make happy'?
- 6 Athletes use their fists when they?
- 7 Which word means 'not the same'?

Write a sentence about an event you would like to win in the Olympic Games.

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