



Little Lion Goes for Gold: Teacher's Guide
 (Recommended for Grade levels: 1st through 4th grade)

Themes and Curriculum Integration	Discussion Questions	Excercises
Character and Identity -- Determination (firmness of purpose; a fixed intention)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the children to describe in their own words what determination means? • What other words (or synonyms) can be used to describe the word determination? • Have them discuss why didn't Little Lion give up running and how Papa encouraged him? • What lesson did Little Lion learn while training for his race? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children write/talk /draw about how there were determined to do something and what happened. • Ask the children to list persons that influence their lives and say how and why. Then ask them to choose one person and write a story about him/her and his/her importance to their lives. • Ask the children to each list on the blackboard ways in which they can encourage each other.
-- Competition (a contest for a prize or honour; rivalry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the children to define competition in their own words? • Have them discuss whether competitions are good or bad. • Discuss different rewards that persons get for winning competitions eg, scholarships, medals, trophies etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children list local competitions that children and adults participate in (eg. Junior School's Challenge Quiz, Spelling Bee, Cricket, School's Sports Day etc.) • Create a quiz competition in your classroom. Arrange the children in teams and have them answer questions about the book. • Use words within the book to create a Spelling Bee competition. • Have the children draw a different cover for the book and have the children judge which one they think is the best cover.
Emotions and Feelings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how Little Lion felt when he lost the race the first, when he came in fourth place and when he won Prep School Champs. • Discuss how the children would feel if/when they won or lost a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children draw the some of the various emotions expressed within the book. • Have the children draw the emotion that they are feeling now and explain the

	<p>competition. (<i>Be sure to point out that not coming first is an opportunity to do better the next time and that trying your best is what counts.</i>) .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how children can overcome feelings of sadness or disappointment. • Discuss how children can encourage one another when they feel sad or bad. 	<p>emotion/or how they are feeling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children draw themselves how they would look if they won a competition.
Comprehension and Language Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Before reading) Hold up the book and ask the children to state the title of the story. • Ask the children what they think the story is about. • (During the reading) Find out from the children what they think will happen next and how they think the story will end. • (After reading) Ask the children to describe what the story about? • Ask the children what other title they would give to the book. • Ask basic recall questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What was the name of Little Lion’s coach? ○ What was Little Lion training for? ○ Why couldn’t Little Lion run in the beginning of the story? ○ In what place did he finish when he first ran? ○ Where did Little Lion train during the week? ○ In what place did Little Lion finish the second time he ran? ○ What race did Little Lion run in at the Stadium? ○ In what place did he finish at Prep School Champs? • Discuss unfamiliar words or phrases eg. Champion, squats, gaining steam, reign, matched him stride for stride, flew like an arrow from a bow etc. • In some cases, introduce words before you read and write new vocabulary on the board so that they understand the meaning while reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children re-write the text in prose (or retell the story) in pairs or groups. • Using one of the themes in the story (e.g. competition, determination) have the children write another story. • Have the children (in pairs of groups) write a story about one of Jamaica’s great athletes. • Have the children (in pairs of groups) write about how our Jamaican athletes did in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. • Have the children (in pairs of groups) re-write the story with Little Lion playing a different sport.
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the children who is an athlete. • Have the children name the athletes that were mentioned in the story. • Ask the children what sport those 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children research great Jamaican athletes and their contribution to Track and Field.

	<p>athletes are known for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the children what they know about the National Stadium, if they have been there, and what takes place there. • Ask the children what is known as the World Record in Track and Field and the Olympic Record in Track and Field. How are they different? • Ask the children where the 2008 Olympics took place? • Locate it on a map and calculate how far away from Jamaica it is. Create a series of math word problems about traveling to and from Beijing, Time differences between Jamaica and Beijing and converting between the two currencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children research the Olympics and the different events that take place in the Olympics. • Have the children put together a collage of the various countries and their flags that have entered the Olympics. • Have the children research some of the best times that Jamaican athletes have received from races. • Have the children research where previous Olympics have been held. • Have the children research other international track and field related events.
Arts and Crafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children pick a scene from the book and re-create their own illustration. • Have the children draw another scene with a child or children in a different competition other than track and field. • Have the children pick a character from the story or names of persons mentioned in the story and re-create a scene with that character. • Have the children create a story about a competition and have each child draw a scene in that story. • Have the children design medals for the winners. 	
Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a child each pick a character in the story and act out the story. More than one child can be used as the narrator. • Have the children write a story about a competition and then act it out with the use of costumes etc. The children can also perform this play at a PTA meeting, school assembly etc. • Have the children write a story about a particular theme in the book and act it out. • Have the children write a story about one of Jamaica's great athletes and act it out. • Have the children play charades with some of the scenes from the book. 	
Extension Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate a field trip with the class to the National Stadium and have a guest speaker from the Jamaica Institute of Sports speak to the children. • Have the children dress up for show and tell in sporting attire of their choice and have them talk about that sport and Jamaican player/s who play that sport. • Coordinate a field trip to other locations where competitions take place eg. Sabina Park, National Indoor Stadium, Junior School's Challenge Quiz. • Contact the National Library for information on their 2008 exhibition on Jamaican Olympians. 	