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*Warren Buffett, Chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway,* hugs his favorite reference set at the annual shareholders meeting.

*Michael Jordan, retired NBA player,* knows that reading is fundamental! He is pictured here reading a vintage edition of *The World Book Encyclopedia.*
It is important to provide your child with appropriate materials to support and enrich their learning process as they go through school. *The World Book Encyclopedia* presents information in an accessible, usable format that promotes learning.

It is designed to meet the reference needs of students from elementary school through high school and beyond. This informational text can be used by college students for review and reinforcement and also serves as a great family reference source.

**KEY FEATURES:**

- Over 17,000 articles with more than 22,000 photographs, diagrams, and illustrations.

- Over 10,000 critical reviewers of articles including BBC, Harvard University, Getty Trust, NASA, New York Times, Smithsonian Institution, Royal Geographic Society, United Nations, Walt Disney, and the World Health Organization.

- Updated and new biographies of actors, directors, musicians, authors, and politicians.

- Updates to reflect the outcomes of elections and new census and economic data for countries worldwide.

- Revised tables of winners of prizes and awards, including Nobels, Pulitzers, and various literary awards.

- Sports updates for outcomes of major tournaments and races.
Olympic Games

Kelly Holmes, and Chilean tennis player Nicolás Massú. No single athlete dominated the 2000 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy. The top medal winners were Canadian speed skater Cindy Klassen, who won five medals; South Korean short track speed skater Ahn Hyun-soo, who won four medals; and German brothers Michael Gross, who won three gold medals.

In 2007, the IOC announced the establishment of the Youth Olympics for athletes from 14 to 18 years old. The first Summer Youth Olympics were held in Singapore in 2010 and attracted about 3,500 competitors. The first Winter Youth Olympics were staged in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012 with about 1,000 athletes competing. The 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, were dominated by the American swimmer Michael Phelps and the Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt. Phelps became the first athlete to win eight gold medals at a single Olympics, winning four individual races and competing on three winning relay teams. Phelps’s eight victories included seven world records and an Olympic record. Bolt won the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints and ran on Jamaica’s winning 4x100-meter relay team, setting world records in all three events. The United States won the most medals in the games with 116. China won the most gold medals with 51.

At the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada, the United States set a Winter Games record by winning 37 total medals. Canada won 14 gold medals, another Winter Games record. Two Norwegian cross-country skiers were the leading medal winners: Petter Northug won four medals in men’s competitions, and Marit Bjoergen won five medals in women’s competition.

The 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England, the United States and China led all nations in medals as they did in 2008, with the United States winning 103 and China 88. Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt repeated as the biggest stars of the Summer Games. Phelps won 18 medals, bringing his Olympic total to 22. His 18 gold medals also set an Olympic career record. Bolt won gold medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter races, then becoming the first athlete to win both sprints at consecutive Olympic Games.

At the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, the host Russian team led all nations with 33 total medals and 11 gold medals. The Canadian men’s hockey and curling teams swept all four gold medals. Norwegian freestyle ski star Ole Einar Bjorndalen won two gold medals, bringing his career total to 13, an individual record for the Winter Games. The Netherlands won 23 of the 36 speed skating medals, including 11 gold medals, both games records.

The 2005 Summer Games were held in Riev de Janeiro, Brazil. Before they began, the Olympic movement was rocked by the revelation of a massive doping operation involving Russian government agencies during the 2004 Winter Games. The IOC banned 118 Russian athletes from the 2016 Summer Games after retroactive drug screenings showed that their previous performances were also tainted by performance-enhancing drugs. This scandal followed revelations earlier in the 2000s that massive doping had also affected the results of the 2008 and 2012 Summer Games. Based on confirmed reports of doping confessions, the Olympic Committee stripped dozens of athletes of their medals and awarded them to other athletes who had finished behind them.

In the 2016 Summer Games, Michael Phelps added to his Olympic record medal count by winning 11 medals—5 of them gold—to increase his career total to 28 medals, 23 of them gold. Other swimming stars were Katie Ledecky of the United States with 4 gold medals and Katinka Hosszu of Hungary with 3 gold medals. American gymnast Simone Biles led the women’s competition with 4 gold medals. Japanese gymnast Kohei Uchimura strengthened his reputation as perhaps the greatest male gymnast in the History of the sport by winning with his gold medal performances in the team event and the all-around event. For the third consecutive Olympics, Usain Bolt won gold medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints and in a member of Jamaica’s 4x100-meter relay team. The American men’s and women’s basketball teams repeated as Olympic champions. The United States led all nations with 121 medals. China ranked second with 70.

In 2016, the IOC voted to add six sports to the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo: baseball, climbing, karate, skateboarding, sport climbing. The World Athletics.

Related articles. WorldAtlas has separate articles on many Olympic sports, including gymnastics, ice-skating, swimming, and track and field. See also the following WorldAtlas articles:

- Blue Ribbon Sports
- Blood doping
- Caregiver, Nails
- Carousel, Las Vegas, Nevada
- Central Park, New York City
- Olympic Games
- Paralympics
- Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Summer Games
- Winter Games
- History

Outline

I. Olympic ceremonies and symbols
- A. The International Olympic Committee
- B. Olympic competitions
- C. The athletes
- D. The events
- E. The modern games

II. Olympic Games
- A. The Summer Games
- B. The Winter Games
- C. The ancient games

III. Additional resources
- Kortezaer, Tom. Inside the Olympic Chill. Freeman. 2015

Olympic Mountains, off I-90, north of the Olympic Peninsula, is part of the Pacific Coast Ranges. The Olympics rise in northern Washington, south of Juan de Fuca Strait. They occupy an area of about 3,500 square miles (9,000 square kilometers), most of which lies in Olympic National Park. Mount Olympus (7,724 feet, or 2,356 meters) is the highest peak. There are many small glaciers in the mountains. Forests of spruce, fir, cedar, and hemlock cover the lower slopes. The southwestern slopes get over 180 inches (450 centimeters) of rain a year, one of the highest averages in the United States.

- Olympic National Park, off I-90, north of the Olympic Peninsula, Washington, is not far from Seattle and Tacoma. The Olympic Range is jagged, much of the national park. For the park area, see National Park System table, National Park. The park has campgrounds and water sports activities for tourists.

- Olympic National Park headquarters is at Port Angeles, Washington, a recent city on the Strait of Juan de Fuca.
More than 25,000 photographs, maps, and illustrations create stunning visuals.
Beyond the Page

World Book has created a complementary web-based resource that enhances The World Book Encyclopedia and offers an essential link between traditional and new learning formats.

Selected articles include a QR code that links to a companion website featuring a chronology of events, quizzes, videos, and other special material prepared by World Book editors. The site is updated weekly to engage students with information, media, and activities related to current and historical events.
STUDENTS ACHIEVE MORE WITH WORLD BOOK

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to Your Child, Your School, and Your Library

Research and reliable facts
We maintain an editorial advisory board composed of academics and practitioners who are experts in their fields to ensure continued accuracy of our articles.

Age appropriate information
Our editors craft content using age-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure.

Easy to understand and to read articles
Our content is written so that any one at any age should be able to master the basic concepts of any subject they choose to explore.

Engaging presentation of the material
No child or adult will come away from a World Book article puzzled, exasperated, or frustrated by what he or she has read.
The Importance of Developing Research Skills

Research involves locating and retrieving information—answers to questions—and then working with or communicating that information. Research skills are useful in school, in your career, and in many everyday situations. Developing good research skills can help you find information of all kinds more quickly and efficiently.

In the 21st century, information is more plentiful than ever. However, not all the information we encounter in our daily lives is factual. To be information literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed, and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and effectively use the needed information. The World Book Encyclopedia will help you to:

- Find ideas for a research assignment
- Get an overview of a topic before starting your real research
- Receive a general understanding related to your research topic
- Find key terms or words associated with your topic
- Locate key references for your topic
In making READING & KNOWLEDGE acquisition easy, World Book endeavors to excite NATURAL & INNATE CURIOSITY

“My parents had a set of The World Book Encyclopedia, which I read through in alphabetical order.”  
- Bill Gates, Entrepreneur & Philanthropist

“World Book has been a gateway for my personal knowledge, learning and growth.”  
- T. Brodhead, Customer

“World Book continues to be a first choice for libraries, schools and homes…”  
- School Library Journal

“Renowned for its exhaustive coverage and authoritative but accessible entries, the World Book Encyclopedia remains an outstanding resource, so engaging that readers of all levels find it hard to put down.”  
- Reference & Research Book News

“World Book is a great encyclopedia consistently!”  
- Barton Library

“I love World Book and so do all of my students.”  
- Walnut Grove Elementary