

Great Gran's Great Games

Family Pack

We hope that you enjoy 'Great Gran's Great Games'. Here are some activities to print, a reminder of the story and a few facts about the Olympics for you to have fun with.



GREAT GRAN'S GREAT GAMES

The Story of the play by Mike Kenny

It started when Ollie's *Great Gran* came to stay. They had only met once before, when Ollie was a baby - so he couldn't remember that. *Great Gran* was Ollie's dad's mum's mum. So Ollie thought she must be very old - very, very, old.

Great Gran said she didn't like being very, very, old because when you're old nobody thinks you can do anything. Ollie didn't like being really young because when you're young nobody let's you do what you want to do and he wasn't very pleased that *Great Gran* had come to stay either.

Great Gran had come to stay because she had fallen and hurt her hip - and she was going to stay in Ollie's room and Ollie had to share with his little sister, Katie.

And there was another thing Ollie wasn't too pleased about. He had moved house, away from his old school, and his old friends.

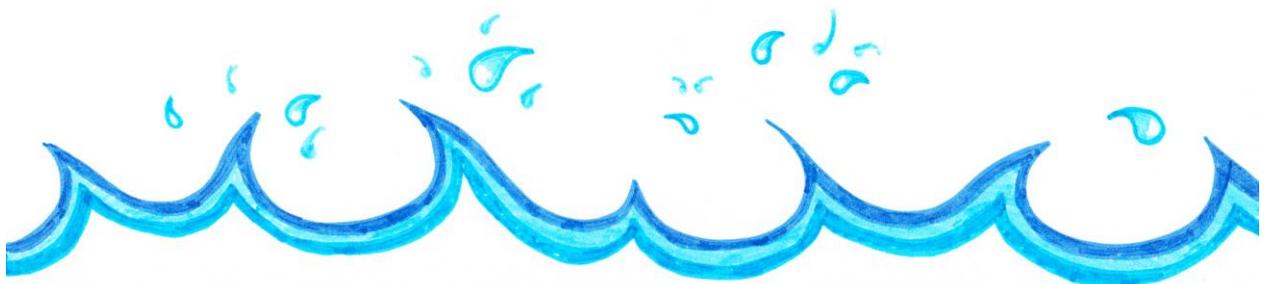
Besides, Ollie didn't see what was so great about his *Great Gran*, *Granny Olive* as she liked to be called. She couldn't play football, skateboard, ride a bike, or even go up the stairs. But there was one thing *Granny Olive* could do - swim - and she wanted Ollie to come with her.

But Ollie couldn't swim, he didn't want to tell *Granny Olive*, but he was scared. When they got to the pool, Ollie sat on the side and watched *Granny Olive* swimming. He could hardly believe that someone who was so slow on land could move so quickly and smoothly through the water.

Granny Olive explained that she used to be a swimmer when she was younger - she even swam in the 1948 Olympic Games.

At the swimming baths were some of the children from Ollie's new school, but Ollie didn't say hello. Making new friends was hard.

Granny Olive wanted to teach Ollie to swim - but he wouldn't even get in the water.



The next day Granny Olive told Ollie more about when she swam in the Olympics. When she was a little girl, during the war, she had been evacuated to the countryside. Her brother, Edwin had taught her how to swim in the river. She practiced and practiced and when she was a teenager she was chosen to swim in the Olympics in London. It was a wonderful story, but Ollie still didn't want Granny Olive to teach him to swim as he was scared he would sink. Granny Olive tried to explain that he wouldn't, but he didn't believe her.

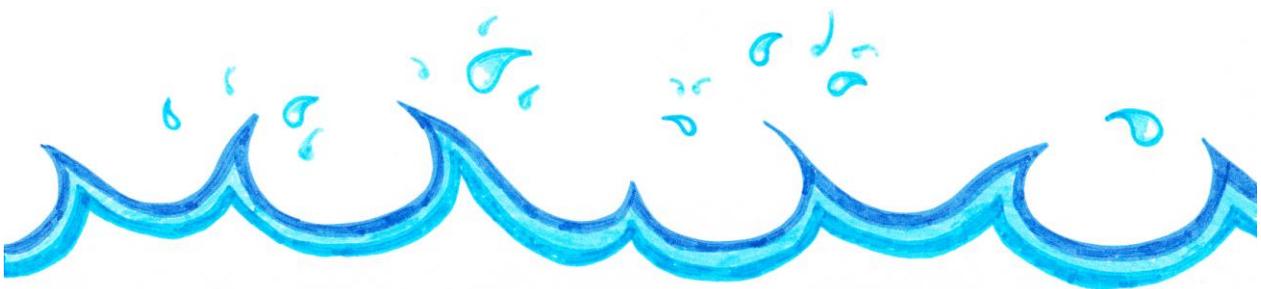
Still, the next day she persuaded him just to come in the shallow end - with arms bands. Ollie watched as Granny Olive swam up and down, up and down. The children from Ollie's new school were there again. When Granny Olive had a break, she told Ollie more about the Olympics. She told him about the French swimmer Michelle, who she wouldn't talk to. Granny Olive had been sure they wouldn't be friends and that Michelle wouldn't like her - Michelle seemed so perfect, and making friends is hard. But later she realised she had been wrong when Michelle came and talked to her!

After that Ollie went everyday to the swimming pool with Granny Olive. But he wouldn't let her teach him how to swim and he wouldn't go and talk to the other children. He was sure they didn't like him, and nothing Granny Olive could say would change his mind.

Then one day Granny Olive dropped her goggles in the water. They floated down to the bottom of the pool. 'Oh dear', she said, 'what am I going to do? I can't bend down and get them, not with my hip. Ollie?' So Ollie took a deep breath and tried to pick up the goggles. But hard as he tried he kept bobbing back up to the surface.

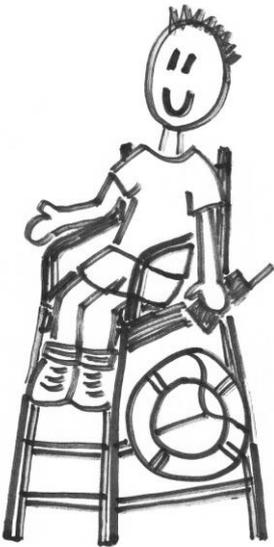
Now Ollie realised that Granny Olive was showing him that he wouldn't sink, that he needn't be scared - and that she was teaching him how to swim! She had dropped her goggles on purpose!

So Granny Olive taught Ollie to swim, and Ollie decided that if he was brave enough to learn to swim, he might just be brave enough to talk to the other children too. So he gave it a go, and it wasn't as scary as he thought.



Swimming Words

draw a line to match the word and its picture

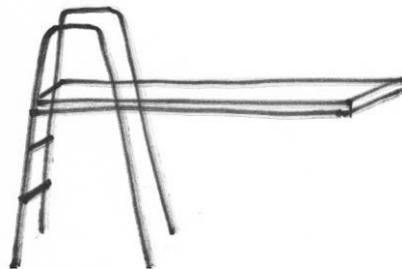


arm bands

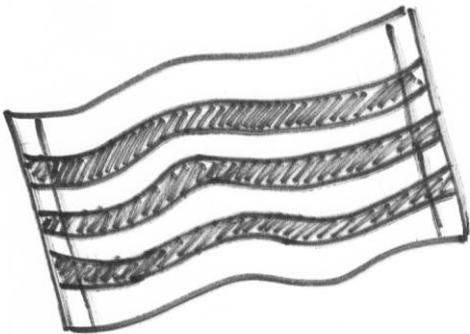


swimming costume

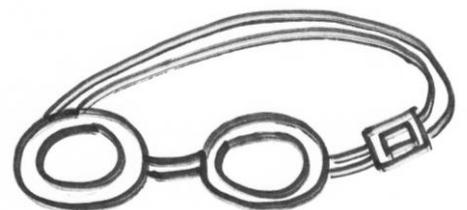
goggles



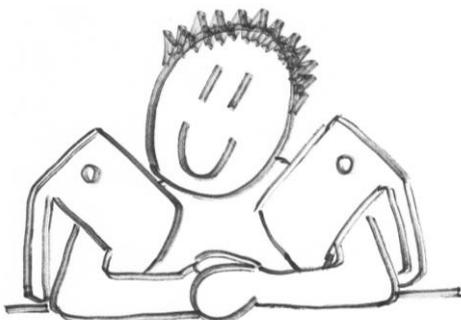
towel



diving board



lifeguard



Floating and Sinking

Calling all budding scientists...here's a page of experiments to test your brain!



Experiment one

You will need:

- A bowl of water
- A selection of small objects - e.g. a golf ball, a blown-up balloon, a marble, an apple, a cork, polystyrene, wooden objects. Something made of sponge - e.g. a ball or bath sponge.

Pick up each object and compare how the different objects feel.

Sort the objects into two piles – those you think will float and those you think will sink.

Test each object...were your predictions right?

Tricky question – what will happen if the sponge is left in the water for a long time - why is this?

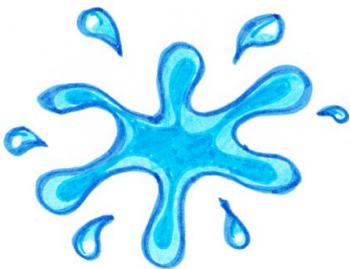
Experiment two

You will need:

A large container of water e.g. the bath, a water play pit, or baby bath

5 identical plastic containers with tight lids - (empty pop bottles are ideal) filled with:

- air
- water
- rice crispies
- rice
- half air / half water



Can you predict which bottles will float / sink?

Can you explain the results?

Tricky question - what happens to the water in the tank each time?

The Olympics



The Summer Olympic Games and Paralympic Games take place every four years, and the Winter Olympic Games two years after each Summer Games.

At the Paralympic Games athletes with physical disabilities compete.

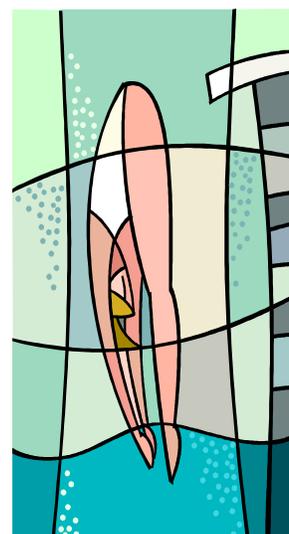
In 2012 the Olympics will be held in London, with some events taking place in other cities across the country. Athletes will travel from all over the world to compete.

The first Olympics were held in ancient Greece over two thousand years ago.

There will be 26 sports at the 2012 Games including: Archery, Athletics, Basketball, Cycling, Diving, Fencing, Football, Gymnastics, Rowing, Sailing, Swimming, Synchronised Swimming and Tennis.



The Olympic torch – the Olympic Flame or Torch is a symbol which represents peace, unity and friendship.



The flame will be lit in Olympia, Greece before traveling around the UK bringing the spirit of the Games to everyone. The flame will finally be brought in a relay to the Olympic Stadium in London and will burn throughout the Games.

How can you get involved with The Olympics?

The official London 2012 education programme, 'Get Set', can be found at:

<http://getset.london2012.com/en/home>

Here you will find games and activities, facts and educational materials, and much more.





Colour me!

