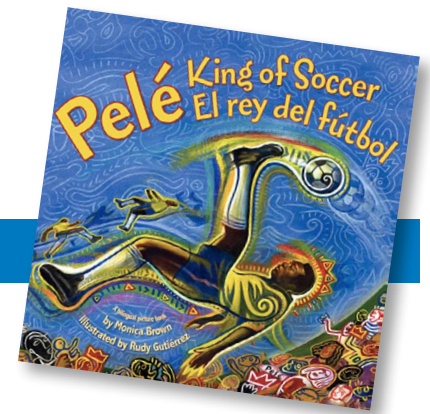


Pelé, King of Soccer

EL REY DEL FÚTBOL



A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Latin America, Sports, Biography, Dual Language

Book Brief: Pelé goes from playing soccer for fun with his father and friends to being the King of Soccer, bringing glory to his homeland, Brazil, by

helping the national team win multiple World Cup titles.

Author: Monica Brown

Illustrator: Rudy Gutiérrez

TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build background knowledge:

What do you know about soccer? What are the rules? Have you ever played before? Notice that the game is “soccer” in English but “fútbol” in Spanish and

“futebol” in Portuguese. Why do you suppose there are two names for the game?

While reading, make connections: Do you have a favorite sport? What do you enjoy playing with your friends? What does it mean to be part of a team?

Have you ever been upset when a team you liked lost?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Why is soccer so popular in Brazil?
- ◆ Why does the author compare Pelé to a cheetah and a dancer?
- ◆ Do you think learning to play with no shoes affected Pelé’s game?
- ◆ How did soccer change Pelé’s life?
- ◆ Of all the famous athletes, what makes Pelé special?



RELATED ACTIVITIES

“KICK” IT IN THE KITCHEN

“Eat, eat, eat,” the coach told Pelé! Do you think Pelé ate Biscoitos de Maizena?

Ingredients: 2 cups cornstarch, 1 cup sugar, 1 egg, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1 1/2 sticks unsalted butter

Sift cornstarch, sugar, and salt together. Mix in egg and softened butter. Knead well. Let stand for 15 minutes. Shape dough into 3 inch balls and place on baking sheet. Press each ball with a fork to make grooves. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 minutes.

“SCORE” A GOAL!

Grab some friends and a soccer ball and go outside to play soccer. No goal? Create your own from chairs or sticks. No ball? Try playing the way Pelé and his friends did—with a sock stuffed with newspaper. Which way is easier, using a ball or a stuffed sock?

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Pelé scored over 1,000 goals during his soccer career. Watch 20 of his best goals at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7HFq1gKeUU.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Tito Puente, Mambo King/Rey del Mambo (2013), *Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People* (2011), *My Name Is Gabito/Me llamo Gabito: The Life of Gabriel García Márquez* (2007).



Reading Is Fundamental