

Helping your children choose books they will love



LoveReading4kids.co.uk is a book website created for parents and children to make choosing books easy and fun

Opening extract from  
**A Horrid Factbook: Horrid Henry  
Sports**

Written by  
**Francesca Simon**

Illustrated by  
**Tony Ross**

Published by  
**Orion Children's Books**

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

First published in Great Britain in 2012  
by Orion Children's Books  
This new edition published in Great Britain in 2014  
by Orion Children's Books  
a division of the Orion Publishing Group Ltd  
Orion House  
5 Upper St Martin's Lane  
London WC2H 9EA  
An Hachette UK company

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Text © Francesca Simon 2012, 2014  
Illustrations © Tony Ross 2012, 2014

The moral right of Francesca Simon and Tony Ross to be  
identified as author and illustrator of this work has been asserted.

Facts compiled by Sally Byford.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be  
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted,  
in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical,  
photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the  
prior permission of Orion Children's Books.

The Orion Publishing Group's policy is to use papers  
that are natural, renewable and recyclable products  
and made from wood grown in sustainable forests.  
The logging and manufacturing processes are expected  
to conform to the environmental regulations  
of the country of origin.

ISBN 978 1 4440 1288 0

A catalogue record for this book  
is available from the British Library

Printed in Great Britain by  
Clays Ltd, St Ives plc

[www.orionbooks.co.uk](http://www.orionbooks.co.uk)  
[www.hoeridhenry.co.uk](http://www.hoeridhenry.co.uk)

# FIRST FACTS



The word **'sport'** comes from an old French word – 'desport' – meaning 'leisure'.

Paintings of wrestlers have been discovered on the walls of an **Egyptian tomb** from around 1850 BC – which means wrestling was probably one of the **earliest sports** ever played.



There are now about **8,000** known sports and sporting games around the world.

Today, the top five **most popular sports** watched worldwide are football, cricket, field hockey, tennis and volleyball.

But more people take part in **fishing** worldwide than in any other sport.



Popular American sports like baseball, basketball and American football don't make it into the top five – they are big in the USA, but less popular in other parts of the world.



The Summer Olympics is the **most famous sporting competition** in the world – it happens once every four years.

**4.7 billion TV viewers** watched the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. That's nearly three out of every four people in the entire world!

Taking part in sport makes people healthier and happier.

# ACTION- PACKED PAST



**Football** was invented in China around 476 BC.



The 'ancient' Olympic Games were first held in 776 BC, as a religious festival to honour Zeus, king of the Greek gods.

For many years, there was **just one race** at the Olympics – a running race of 192 metres. It was from one end of the stadium to the other, about the same length as today's **200 metre** sprint race.

