

Resource
one



Look at the resource below, which shares some examples of different sports we might take part in.

Football



Swimming



Tennis



Goalball



Cricket



Gymnastics



Skateboarding



Boccia



Canoeing



Dodgeball



Which have you tried before? Are there any you would like to try but haven't yet? Can you order them from your favourite to least favourite? Does everyone agree?



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about the growth of women's football.

The Doubling Female Participation ambition set out in the FA's (Football Association) strategy (Game Plan for Growth) was to be achieved by 2020. A national network of Wildcats Girls' Football Centres for girls aged 5-11, aimed to make a significant contribution to this.

Between 2016 and 2020, Women's participation in football at grass roots level rose by 54%.



According to the FA in 2020, there were 3.4 million women and girls playing football in England, with 9,251 competitive female teams and 88 Community Club Organisations providing opportunities for 55,800 women and girls.



Women's professional football leagues

The first professional women's football league was in the USA in 2001. After two seasons, the Women's United Soccer Association collapsed. In 2009, professional women's football returned to America.

In Australia, the W-League has been one of the trailblazers for professional women's football, since it began in 2008.

In Europe, the top women's leagues in France, Spain, and Sweden are all professional.

In Asia, Japan launched their first professional women's football league in September 2021.



When I was at school, there was no football for girls in our PE lessons and we didn't have a girls' football team.

I didn't join an 11-a-side team until 2009, when I was 26 years old. Since then, I have seen more women's teams forming and grassroots leagues growing, which is great as there is so much more opportunity for women and girls to play football.

Melanie Dove



I think if you look at players now in the WSL, it's a full-time professional league. If you look at the Championship, some of those clubs are professional as well. There are more and more girls playing the game at all levels so the numbers are staggering actually. It's so different to what it was ten years ago.



Hope Powell, Manager of England women's national football team, 1993 - 2013

Broadcasting

Ahead of the 2021/22 season, the FA announced a record-breaking three-year deal with Sky Sports and the BBC for the broadcast rights to the Women's Super League (WSL). It became the biggest broadcast deal of any professional women's league in the world and was worth around £8million-a-year

Since 2012, viewing figures for women's matches have doubled but this was the first time the broadcast rights to the WSL had been sold separately from the men's game.

The money made from broadcast deals are shared across the WSL and the Women's Championship, so clubs can invest in players, staff and facilities.

How do you think the WSL receiving this broadcast deal has impacted the sport's popularity?

What factors do you think have contributed to the increase in popularity of women's football?

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Should men and women's sports teams be paid the same?

The Welsh Football Association has announced that the national men and women's football teams will be paid equally moving forward. Wales joins a list of other countries including Australia, USA, Norway, and Brazil, who pay their men and women football players the same amount to play for their country's national team. In order to reach the deal, the Wales men's senior team agreed to a 25% pay cut, thus enabling a 25% rise for the women's team, which now brings them both equal on pay.



- Look at this week's poster image and talk about what you can see. Explain that the Football Association of Wales has announced it will pay their women and men's national football teams the same.
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the decision for Wales to pay their men's football national team the same as their women's team. Share your thoughts on this news.
- Watch this week's useful video, which shows an interview with Wales manager, Gemma Grainger, speaking about the news. How do you think that it will impact on both younger players and wider society?
- For the women to be paid the same as the men, the men's team agreed a 25% pay cut. Why do you feel they made that decision?
- Talk about the sports you enjoy watching and playing. Did you watch the Women's Euros tournament last year? Do you believe interest in women's sport is increasing?

Reflection

Representing your country in sport is a huge achievement – and one that is likely to have taken huge effort and sacrifice. Receiving fair pay for both men and women is a key part in creating a fair society.

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KS1 focus

What sports do you enjoy playing?



- Make a list of sports you have taken part in at school or perhaps outside of school with family, friends or as part of a club. Share your list with someone else. Have you all taken part in the same sports?
- Think about one of the sports you enjoy playing. Why do you enjoy it? Who do you play it with? Where do you play? Can you explain the rules?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some examples of different sports we might take part in. Which have you tried before? Are there any you would like to try but haven't yet? Can you order them from your favourite to least favourite? Does everyone agree?
- There are so many different sports we can play. Some sports we play as part of a team; others we play individually. Have you ever taken part in a sport as part of a team? Who was in your team?
- Have you ever wanted to play a sport but were not allowed to? Do you know why you were not allowed to play?
- Sometimes we may not be allowed to play as it may not be safe or fair e.g., you wouldn't be allowed to play in a competitive sport with grown-ups. However, we should never be excluded from playing a sport because of who we are.
- Discuss how it might feel to be excluded from playing a sport with your classmates and ways we can make sure everyone feels included.

Reflection

There are many sports we can enjoy taking part in. We should never feel excluded from any sport because of who we are.

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KS2 focus

How has women's football gained in popularity in recent years?



- Think about football. Do you enjoy playing it? Are you part of a football team? Do you ever watch any football matches? Can you name any famous football teams? Can you name any famous footballers? Do you have a favourite famous footballer?
- In 1921, just over 100 years ago, the FA (Football Association) banned women from playing on Football League grounds saying '...the game of football is quite unsuitable for females and ought not to be encouraged.' How does this make you feel?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about the growth of women's football. What factors do you think have contributed to the increase in popularity of women's football? Discuss the role you believe the FA played in this.
- Focus on Melanie's comment. How do you think her experience of football at school compares with yours? Is football something everyone at school can take part in? If not, do you think it should be?
- Have you ever watched a women's football match? When did you watch it? Who was playing? Did you watch it on a screen or in a stadium? Who were you with? If you haven't watched a women's match, would you like to?
- Although women's football has gained in popularity, do you think there is still more that can be done?

Reflection

There should be opportunities for us all to participate in and watch football, if we choose to.

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KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Imagine you are part of the crowd in a huge football stadium waiting to watch a World Cup Final! Write a setting description. Think about the following to help you plan your ideas:

- What are the crowd doing? How would you describe them? Can you use a metaphor e.g., a vast sea of people?
- How would you describe the pitch?
- What is the lighting like? Can you use alliteration e.g., bright beams bouncing across the stadium?
- What can you hear/smell?
- How do you feel? What is your body doing? What are you thinking?

Option 2

The Wales men's senior team agreed to a 25% pay cut, thus enabling a 25% rise for the women's team. Calculate what a 25% pay cut of the following amounts would be:

- £10
- £100

Calculate what a 25% pay rise of the following amounts would be:

- £500
- £42

With the 25% pay cut and pay rise, the men's and women's team now earn the same.

- Can you work out what the men and women might have earned before the rise and cut?

Explore finding 25% of different amounts!

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KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Use this opportunity to explore some of the sports you can play in school. Set up four different sports zones such as tennis, football, basketball, cricket, hockey, dance. Split into groups to play the game/take part. Move around each sport until you have tried all four. Discuss the following:

- Which sport did you enjoy the most/least? Why?
- Which sport did you find easiest/hardest?
- Did you recognise anyone who played fairly? What did they do well?
- How could you/your team improve if you played the sport again?

If you have time, repeat the carousel of activities putting some of the improvement suggestions into practise!

Option 2

Design a football strip for a national football team of your choice to wear. Think about:

- Which country will you choose to design your strip for?
- Can you locate them on a world map?
- What does their national flag look like? Will you use it or the colours in your design?
- What colours will the strip be?
- Will you include any logos?
- Will you include a pattern such as stripes?

Draw and colour your design and share with someone in your class. You could explain your choices and show them where your country is located on a world map.

Picture News



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

<http://bit.ly/3iLyDML>

This week's useful video

Wales to pay men's and women's national teams the same
www.bbc.com/sport/football/64299007

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

Committed

Pledged or promised to be involved in a plan of action. England, the Republic of Ireland, USA, Australia, Brazil, and Norway are all among those who have **committed** to paying their men and women football players the same amount to play for their country's team.

Enabling

Making something possible.

In order to reach the deal, the Wales men's senior team agreed to a 25% pay cut, thus **enabling** a 25% rise for the women's team, which now brings them both equal on pay.

Generation

All the people born and living at about the same time. We hope that this will allow future **generations** of boys and girls to see that there is equality across Welsh international football, which is important for society as a whole.

Sacrifice

Giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more important or worthy. Representing your country in sport is a huge achievement – and one that is likely to have taken huge effort and **sacrifice**.

Society

The community of people living in a particular country or region and having shared customs, laws, and organisations. Receiving fair pay for both men and women is a key part in creating a fair **society**.

Tribute

Something that you say, write, or give that shows your respect and admiration for someone.

A **tribute** to the Welsh women's football team, by the Welsh Women's Football Fan Site.