



SCHEME OF WORK

In February 2026 the Winter Olympics will be held in Cortina d'Ampezzo in Italy as well as some events taking place in Milan. To celebrate, we thought we would put together a special scheme of work looking back over this historic event.

Week 1 - Chamonix Clock Tower

In January 1924, Chamonix welcomed athletes from across the world for something brand new: a week of winter sports. No one knew it then... but this quiet mountain town was about to make history. They called it the 'International Winter Sports Week'... but years later, the world gave it a new name: the **First Winter Olympics**



The games featured just six sports — but they were wild, fast, and cold! Men soared through the air on ski jumps... carved tight turns in cross-country races... and flew across ice on skates in speed skating and ice hockey. The gear was basic. Skis were made of wood. Skaters wore wool. And yet — every one of them was chasing something new. A dream to be the first. The fastest. The bravest. Most of the 258 athletes were men... but **11 women** competed too — all in **figure skating**. They danced and spun on frozen lakes, opening the door for generations to come.

Through it all, one quiet witness stood at the edge of town: the **Chamonix clock tower**. It belonged to the train station — the only way most people arrived. Athletes, families, journalists... they all passed under this little tower. It doesn't look grand. But in 1924, it marked the beginning of something big. As long as the games lasted, the clock never stopped — always ticking toward a future no one could yet imagine.



THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS THE CHAMONIX CLOCK TOWER!

Did You Know?! One event in 1924 was called 'military patrol'. Teams skied for miles carrying heavy equipment on their backs! It was so extreme, they dropped it from the games, but it later came back as something new: the biathlon!" "This week, build a piece of Olympic history. Try the Chamonix clock tower, with its little red roof and snowy face, or a signpost that says '1924'. You're building the moment the Winter Games began!"

Week 2 - Skier

Some Winter Olympic events take place on ice. Others... are all about the mountain. High above the valleys, where the snow is sharp and the air is thin, athletes line up at the start gate. One push... and they're off. Downhill skiing is pure speed. No tricks. No stops. Just one run, one racer, one mountain... and gravity. Skiers in the Olympic downhill reach up to **90 miles per hour**. That's faster than most cars on the motorway!



Back in the 1936 Winter Games, the first to include alpine skiing, they raced without helmets. Just woolly hats, leather boots, and nerves of steel. Today's racers train for years. They learn every bump, every turn, because one tiny mistake...

But not all skiing is about the fastest time. Some is about the **longest flight**. Ski jumpers don't just go downhill, they launch themselves **into the sky**. Leaning forward, arms back, skis wide... like birds. The best can fly over **250 feet** through the air. Judges score their jump based on distance, style and the perfect landing. Both downhill and ski jumping have something in common: there's **no second try**. No best of three. Just one chance... to get it right



Did you know?! The longest Olympic ski jump ever? Over **253 feet** - almost the length of a football field! That's flying without wings!

This week, build a **downhill skier** zooming down the mountain - or a **ski jumper** mid-air with their skis wide.

THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS A SKIER!

Week 3 - Olympic Torch

Every Winter Olympics begins with a spark, not just of competition, but of fire! This torch in my hand is part of a journey that started in ancient Greece... and still burns bright today.

The flame travels thousands of miles from Olympia, passed hand to hand, runner to runner, until it lights the Olympic cauldron, the heart of the Games.



Since 1952, the Olympic torch has journeyed through some of the coldest and most dramatic landscapes on Earth. It's crossed glaciers, soared by ski lift, and even gone underwater! In 1994, Norway took torch travel to the next level, dog sled teams raced through frozen forests, torch blazing against the night sky!

The final runner lights the Olympic cauldron... and with it, a new chapter begins. In 2000, the Olympic flame took its most daring trip ever, into space! It orbited Earth aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis before returning safely to light the Games!



THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS THE OLYMPIC TORCH!

Did you know?! ... In 2000, the Olympic flame took its most daring trip ever, *into space!* It orbited Earth aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis before returning safely to light the Games! Now it's your turn! Build your own Olympic torch — tall, fiery, and worthy of lighting the Games!

Will yours travel by sled, skis... or spaceship?

Week 4 - Bobsleigh

Ready to feel the rush? Today, we're diving headfirst into the world of bobsleigh, one of the fastest, most thrilling sports in the Winter Olympics!

The moment the clock starts, a team of up to four racers sprints with all their might, then leap into the sled and hurtle down the icy track at breakneck speeds!



Hold on tight, we're racing down curves at over 80 miles an hour! Every twist and turn needs perfect teamwork. The person in front is the pilot, they steer. At the back is the brakeman. In four-person teams, the middle riders help push and balance. Even the smallest mistake in steering can cost the team precious seconds... or send the sled crashing!

Every bobsleigh is carefully engineered — aerodynamic, smooth, and strong. The runners underneath are polished to perfection. And the track? It's made of ice over concrete and can be more than a kilometre long. Some tracks even feature terrifying turns with names like 'Shady' or 'Kreisel'. Trust me — you *feel* every curve!



Did you know... the very first bobsleighs were made of wood and used on regular snowy roads in Switzerland? Now they're high-tech machines made from carbon fibre and aluminium! This week, your challenge is to build your very own bobsleigh and team!

Design the sled, choose your team colours, and maybe even build a twisty, icy track for them to race down.

THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS A BOBSLEIGH!

Week 5 - Mountain Cabin

Buongiorno from the breathtaking Dolomites in northern Italy! We're not in France anymore, this is Cortina d'Ampezzo, a glamorous ski resort famous for its dramatic peaks and stylish charm.

But it's also a place with Olympic history. In 1956, Cortina hosted the Winter Olympics, the very first to be shown on television! It was Italy's debut as a Winter Olympics host, and it was a big deal. People around the world saw winter sports for the first time — and they were hooked!



Back then, things were simple. The athletes stayed in wooden mountain cabins just like this one, no fancy hotels, no heated floors. Just timber walls, stone fireplaces, and thick blankets to keep out the cold mountain nights.

But inside? That's where teams trained, planned, and celebrated. Some of the world's top skiers and skaters shared hot meals, told stories, and prepared to chase Olympic dreams, all under one snowy roof.



**THIS WEEK'S BUILD A
LOG CABIN!**

Did you know... during the 1956 Games, all the events were held outdoors — even the ice skating! That meant athletes had to compete in freezing wind and snow. Brrr!

This week, your challenge is to build your own mountain cabin!

Make it rustic or Olympic-themed, it could have skis outside the door, a fireplace inside, or even a chimney puffing out smoke.

Week 6 - Ice Hockey Player

Hey team! Things are about to get *intense* — we're diving into the fast-paced, high-energy world of ice hockey! It's the coolest Olympic team sport around — literally! Speed, power, and teamwork all collide right here on the ice. And trust me — it gets LOUD!

Before players even hit the ice, they gear up with *serious* protection — this game isn't for the faint-hearted! It takes strength, balance, and lightning-fast reflexes to battle it out with a puck travelling over 100 miles per hour! You need brains *and*



At the Winter Olympics, **ice hockey** is one of the most watched events. Teams from all over the world clash in incredible battles — packed stadiums, roaring crowds, and even a few flying teeth! In fact, Canada and the USA have had *huge* rivalries over the years. Think you could score under pressure? Olympic shooters train for *years* to perfect their accuracy and control. It's not just about power — it's about timing, precision, and total focus.



**THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS AN
ICE HOCKEY PLAYER!**

Did you know? Ice hockey made its Olympic debut over *100 years ago* — and the first matches were actually played outdoors!

This week, I want you to design your own **ice hockey player** — maybe even build your own rink! Will your player be a goalie, a striker, or the team captain?

Week 7 - Olympic Medals

Let's talk about something every athlete dreams of... the Olympic medal! These shiny symbols of excellence are more than just awards, they represent years of hard work, dedication, and passion. Whether it's gold, silver, or bronze, each one tells a story of victory, struggle, and heart. Winning a medal at the Winter Olympics is something athletes dream about their whole lives. And when they finally do — it's emotional. There are hugs, happy tears, and sometimes even snow angels on the podium!



Now let's talk medals! Olympic medals are more than just shiny prizes — they're symbols of courage, skill, and years of training. Gold, silver, and bronze... each one represents a different place on the podium. But here's a fun fact — Olympic 'gold' medals are mostly made of silver and only coated in gold! Yep, real gold medals haven't been solid gold since 1912! But don't worry... they're still super valuable and even more meaningful.

These medals may look small, but they carry the weight of years of dedication, training, and belief. Every scratch and sparkle tells a story — of early mornings, tough losses, amazing comebacks, and finally... victory!



THIS WEEK'S BUILD IS AN OLYMPIC MEDAL!

Did you know that Olympic gold medals aren't made entirely of gold?

They're mostly silver and only coated with about 6 grams of pure gold! That's right, it's the sparkle that counts, not the weight.

This week, we want you to build your own Olympic medal! Use gold, silver, or bronze bricks or any colour you like. Add a ribbon if you can, or even design your own Olympic symbol. Get creative and show us your champion medal design!