A Super Stadium

Learning objectives

• Analyze and express different points of view.
• Determine main ideas and supporting details of a text or information presented in diverse media and formats.
• Describe a character, setting, or event in depth, drawing on specific details in the text.
• Investigate how character and actions convey emotions.
• Distinguish between formal and informal language when speaking and writing.

Setting the scene

Most big cities lack the space necessary to accommodate large playing fields. In some cities there are no parks at all.

But children love to play sports, and to keep them safe, their parents prefer them to play somewhere nearby – that usually means in the backyard or in the street outside their home.

Help create a mini sports ground where children can invite friends and family to watch some exciting events.

Building the story

Ask the students to build their very own mini sports ground.

• Will it have goal posts?
• Where will the spectators sit?
• How will you define the different teams?
• Will there be a referee and a commentator?

Reflecting

Have the students reflect and talk about each of their characters as they build. What are they doing? What are they saying? How do they feel?

• What are the characteristic features of a super stadium?
• What is required to accommodate the players and the audience?
• All sporting events have rules; for example, what are the “laws of the game” in football?
• How do the players interact with each other and with the referee?
• Is there a special area designated for the media and a commentator?
Sharing and documenting
Ask the students to use the StoryVisualizer software to portray the mini sports ground, the action taking place, and what is being said. Have them tell their stories to an audience.

Suggestions for scripts:
Commentator: “... And the red forward is weaving down the center of the field... this is beautiful football... he slips past a stunned blue defender... and...”
Red Goalkeeper: “Shoot, shoot, shoot!”
Blue Goalkeeper: “Offside, he was offside! Referee, why don’t you blow your whistle?!”
Red Supporters: “We are the champions, we are the champions...!”

Sample solution

Extending
• Make up a backyard-sports chant for the team. Write it and perform it with fellow class members.
• Create an event calendar for the stadium.
• Design a pamphlet to hand out to local residents. The pamphlet should announce the opening of the new stadium. Emphasize the benefits for parents, children, and the community as a whole.
• It’s the opening ceremony at the stadium. Everyone is very excited! Pretend you are a local reporter. Interview spectators from different generations. Draft an article explaining what the stadium means to the people you have interviewed and how it will benefit the local community.