



Opening of the Milan-Cortina Olympic Games (February 6, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

i What? It's the start of the 25th Winter Olympic Games! For several days, athletes will compete in various sporting events (skiing, skating, hockey, etc.).

Who? Some 2,900 athletes from 93 countries, among the best in the world in their respective sports.

Where? These Games are being held in two Italian cities: Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo.

When? The opening ceremony was held on Friday, February 6.

Why is it important? Because the Olympic Games allow us to measure athletic performance, break records, and show that sport brings people together from all over the world around values such as effort, respect, and pushing beyond one's limits.

For this activity, your goal will be to learn a little more about the Olympic Games, and about Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo



OBJECTIVES

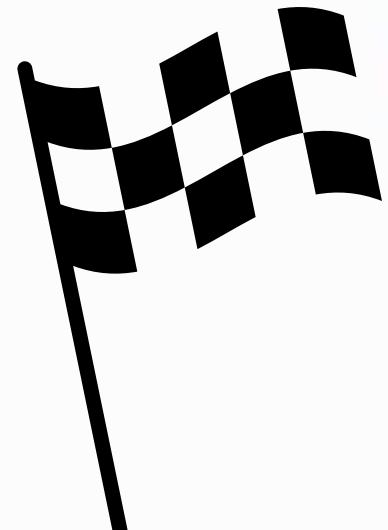
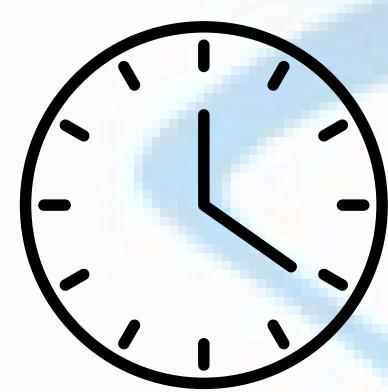
- Discover the history of the Winter Olympic Games.
- Locate Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo on a world map.
- Understand the role of host cities during the Olympic Games.
- Use a digital tool (Google Earth) to measure distances.
- Discover the role and meaning of the Olympic mascots.

COMPETENCIES

- Search for and select relevant information.
- Read and interpret geographical data.
- Justify an answer using observed evidence.
- Establish connections between geography, sports, and current events.

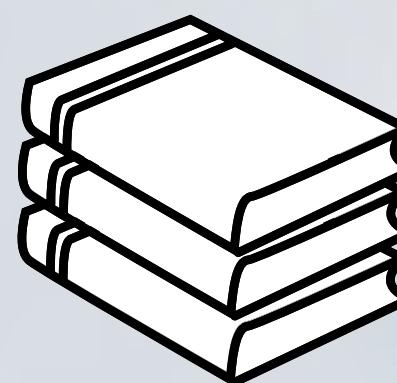
DURATION

- About 60 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Show an image of the Olympic rings or the Milan-Cortina 2026 logo.
- Ask the students:
 - "Have you ever heard of the Winter Olympics?"
 - "What sports are played on snow or ice?"
- Locate Italy on a world map before starting the activity.



SUBJECTS

- **Social Studies / Geography**
 - Locating territories on the globe.
 - Reading maps and landscapes.
 - Exploring a region of the world (northern Italy).
- **Mathematics**
 - Comparing distances.
 - Reading and interpreting simple data.
- **English**
 - Reading instructions.
 - Understanding informational texts.
 - Using vocabulary related to current events and sports.
- **General Knowledge**
 - Olympic Games.
 - Sporting and cultural values.



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — A Bit of Olympic History. Discovery of the Winter Olympic Games through a video and answers to three comprehension questions.

Q1 — Curling, bobsleigh, ice hockey, figure skating, speed skating and Nordic skiing

Q2 — In Beijing, China

Q3 — Norway

STEP 2 — Visit to Northern Italy. Exploration of the host cities using Google Earth and discovery of the distances between the main Games venues.

Q4 — Approximately 260 km between Milan and Cortina

Q5 — Approximately 140 km between Milan and Verona

Q6 — Approximately 140 km between Milan and Bormio

STEP 3 — The Games' Mascots. Discovery of the mascots of the Winter Olympic Games using a website, and answers to three comprehension questions.

Q7 — Their names come from MILan and CorTINA

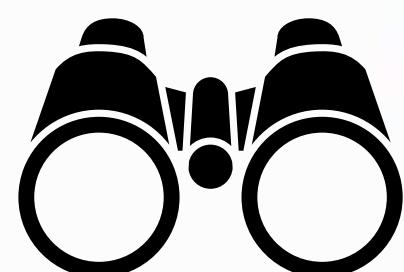
Q8 — A stoat

Q9 — Tina loves music and the arts. Milo uses his tail instead of his paw.



WRAPPING UP

- Review the main discoveries:
 - the importance of the Olympic Games;
 - the role of host cities;
 - the use of geography to understand a global event.
- Ask the student to name something they learned or found surprising.
- Remind them that sport brings people from all over the world together.



FURTHER EXPLORATION

-  Gail Herman. *What Are the Winter Olympics?* Penguin Workshop
-  Official website of the Milan-Cortina Games
<https://www.olympics.com/en/milano-cortina-2026>

