

Start of the NFL Season (September 9, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

What? The opening game of the 2026 season of the NFL, the major American football league. 🏈

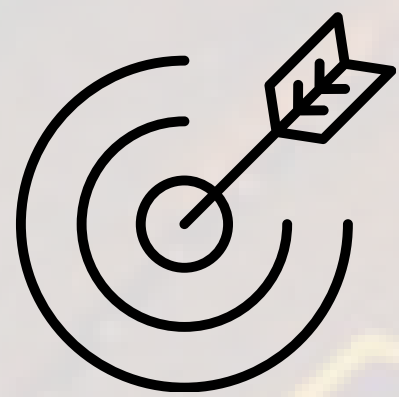
Who? The Seattle Seahawks—the defending champions—who beat the New England Patriots 13–10.

Where? At Lumen Field, the Seahawks' stadium in Seattle, on the West Coast of the United States.

When? On the evening of Wednesday, September 9, 2026—a first, since the season usually begins on a Thursday.

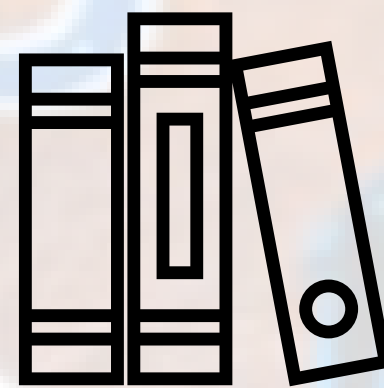
Why is it important? Because the NFL is the highest-grossing professional sports league on Earth! That's a big deal!

For this activity, your goal is to learn a bit more about the NFL and American football. 🏈



OBJECTIVES

- Reconstruct the course of the opening game between the Seattle Seahawks and the New England Patriots.
- Discover the 32 NFL teams and the emblems they have chosen.
- Calculate the proportion of teams whose name or logo evokes a feline, a bird, or another animal.
- Discover the origin of the Vince Lombardi Trophy.



SUBJECTS

- **English**
 - Reading comprehension
 - Writing a journalistic report
 - Multiple-choice questions
- **Mathematics**
 - Reading a data table
 - Equivalent fractions and simplification
 - Converting fractions to percentages
- **Social World / Culture**
 - Geography of the United States
 - Sports emblems and symbols
 - Major media events



COMPETENCIES

- Read and interpret a data table
- Locate information in an informational text
- Observe and count based on a specific criterion
- Convert a fraction into a percentage
- Write a structured informational text
- Justify an answer using a document



DURATION

- Approximately 45 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Ask the students if they are familiar with American football and how it differs from soccer.
- Ask them if they have ever heard of the Super Bowl and what they know about it.
- Show them a picture of the Vince Lombardi Trophy and ask what it is for and what metal it might be made of.
- Gather their hypotheses: why do sports teams so often choose an animal as their emblem?



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TEACHING GUIDE

STEP 1 — Back to Super Bowl LX. Reading OF the opening game scoreboard using an infographic, followed by writing a journalistic report of 5 to 8 sentences.

Q1 — Variable answer. E.g.: On September 9, 2026, at Lumen Field in Seattle, the Seahawks hosted the Patriots in front of 68,744 spectators. New England opened the scoring in the second quarter with a touchdown. In the third quarter, each team kicked a field goal, making it 10–3 in favor of the Patriots. However, in the final quarter, Seattle scored a touchdown and a field goal—totaling 10 points—without conceding any points. The Seahawks won 13–10, by a margin of just 3 points!

STEP 2 — 32 Teams, Only One champion! Examination of the picture showing the 32 NFL logos, counting based on a specific criterion, then converting each count into a percentage.

Q2 — 4 teams: the Bengals (Bengal tiger), the Jaguars, the Lions, and the Panthers. $4 \div 32 = 1/8 = 12.5\%$

Q3 — 5 teams: the Ravens, the Falcons, the Cardinals, the Eagles, and the Seahawks. $5 \div 32 \approx 15.6\%$

Q4 — 16 teams: the previous 9, plus the Bills (bison), the Bears, the Broncos (horse), the Texans (bull), the Colts (colts), the Rams (ram), and the Dolphins. $16 \div 32 = 1/2 = 50\%$, or exactly half the league.

Q5 — 9 teams: the Bengals (B), the Titans (T), the Bears (C), the Packers (G), the Commanders (W), the Giants (ny), the Chiefs (KC), the Rams (LA), and the 49ers (SF). $9 \div 32 \approx 28.1\%$

STEP 3 — The Vince Lombardi Trophy. Reading of an informative text on the trophy's origin and manufacture, followed by five multiple-choice questions.

Q6 — On a napkin.

Q7 — He was a coach who won the first two Super Bowls. (Vince Lombardi coached the Green Bay Packers; the trophy has borne his name since his death in 1970.)

Q8 — Four months. (Each trophy is handcrafted at Tiffany & Co.)

Q9 — Sterling silver.

Q10 — The team keeps it forever. (A new trophy is made every year — unlike the Stanley Cup, which passes from one champion to the next.)



WRAPPING UP

- Review what the students have learned as a group.
- Discuss what surprised them the most (Seattle's fourth-quarter comeback, the trophy sketched on a napkin, the fact that half the teams have animal mascots).
- Draw connections to sports emblems they are familiar with.



FURTHER EXPLORATION

 Eric Zweig. *It's a Numbers Game! Football.*
National Geographic

