



SCAN ME



# BOROBI'S CLASS ROOM

## TEACHERS RESOURCE

Everything you need to know about  
the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games

#BorobisClassroom #CommGamesAus

COMMONWEALTH GAMES AUSTRALIA

Embrace Learning 2022



Borobi's Classroom was inspired by the Queensland Government's Embracing 2018 Learning program developed for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.





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Everything you need to know about the Commonwealth Games, its history, and the upcoming Games in one handy place!

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# WHAT IS THE COMMONWEALTH?

The Commonwealth is a group of 72 nations and territories spread across every continent and ocean.

The people of the Commonwealth are a diverse group, some live on very small islands like Nauru in Oceania, and some live in big countries like India in Asia.

The people of the Commonwealth work together by sharing ideas and experiences, skills, and knowledge.

Approximately 30% of the world's population live in the Commonwealth, equalling to around 2.5 billion adults and children.

The Head of the Commonwealth is Queen Elizabeth II. She is also Head of State for 16 Commonwealth member countries. Other countries are republics or have their own monarch.

The Commonwealth promotes democracy and believes everyone should be free to choose their leaders.

# HISTORY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

The Commonwealth was born out of the British Empire, which at one time included countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and Oceania.

Below is a brief overview of the history of the Commonwealth:

## 1931

The Commonwealth was called the British Commonwealth of Nations.

## 1949

The Commonwealth as we know it today was created. Its leaders decided to form it as an organisation comprised of 'free and equal members'.

## 1950s

The first of many African countries joined the Commonwealth as independent nations.

## 1961

South Africa left the Commonwealth because of its policy of segregating white and black people.

## 1965

The Commonwealth Secretariat was created in Marlborough, London. It was created to pay homage to the shared values across the member countries that made up the Commonwealth.

## 1990s

Namibia, Cameroon, and Mozambique, who were never part of the British Empire, joined the Commonwealth.

## 1994

Under the leadership of Nelson Mandela, South Africa returned to the Commonwealth as a multi-racial and democratic country.

## 2020

The most recent country to re-join the Commonwealth was the Maldives bringing the total number of nations and territories to 72.

Countries of all cultures, languages, and faiths, from all parts of the globe are now a part of the Commonwealth. They come together to represent their nation or territory at the Commonwealth Games, a celebration of sport that is held every four years.

# WHO IS THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND?

The current Queen is Queen Elizabeth II.

The Queen was born in Mayfair, London, on 21st April 1926.

Queen Elizabeth II has been the UK's head of state since 1952 when her father King George VI died.

She lives in Windsor Castle in England, reigning for 70 years

She has ruled for longer than any other British Monarch.

She is the head of state for 15 other Commonwealth countries.

The Queen doesn't just rule the UK and Australia. She also rules over Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, The Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Solomon Islands, St Kitts and Nevis, and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

The Queen LOVES corgis. She has had over 30 pet dogs!

She is the only person in the UK who doesn't need a driving license.

She trained to be a mechanic and a military truck driver!

The British government is called Her Majesty's Government, but the Queen has almost no political power.

Royal family members represent the Queen in visits to other countries and are patrons for charities around the world.

# WHAT ARE THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES?

The Commonwealth Games are a sporting and social celebration of the Commonwealth which consists of countries, independent sovereign states and dependent territories, which are referred to as “nations.”

The Commonwealth Games were created to increase goodwill, tolerance, and unity of member nations and territories of the Commonwealth, previously known as the British Empire.

The Commonwealth Games are a world class, multi-sports event held once every four years.

The Commonwealth Games are often referred to as the ‘Friendly Games.’

Teams participate in a range of individual and team events.

Over 4,500 athletes from 72 nations and territories compete over 11 days of world class sporting action.

## WHO?

Athletes from countries, independent sovereign states and dependant territories of the Commonwealth.

## WHAT?

A sporting and social celebration of the Commonwealth. The Games include athletics, swimming, rugby 7s, netball and lawn bowls. They have Para-sports events for elite athletes with a disability. There can be lots of other sports too, like boxing, cycling, gymnastics, badminton, triathlon and wrestling. The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games will feature 21 sports.

## WHEN?

They are held every four years. The very first Games were held in Hamilton, Canada in 1930. The 2022 Commonwealth Games will run from 28 July -8 August in Birmingham, England.

## WHY?

The Commonwealth Games were developed as a means of increasing the goodwill, tolerance, and unity of member nations of what was once known as the British Empire. The Commonwealth’s Sport for Development and Peace programme shows countries how sports can be used to promote healthier lives and teach young people tolerance.



# HISTORY OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

- In 1911 at the coronation of King George V, the first 'Inter-Empire Championships' were held in England.
- This event included teams from Australasia, Canada, South Africa and the United Kingdom, and showcased sports such as athletics, boxing, wrestling and swimming.
- The first official Commonwealth Games (called the British Empire Games) were held in 1930 in Hamilton, Canada.
- 400 athletes from 11 countries competed in 59 events.
- The competing nations were Australia, Bermuda, British Guyana, Canada, England, Northern Ireland, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa and Wales.
- Six sports were featured including athletics, boxing, lawn bowls, rowing, aquatics (swimming and diving) and wrestling.
- All these events were only allowed to be competed in by men, except for the swimming events in which women part-took.
- Since 1930, the Games have taken place every four years, except in 1942 and 1946 due to World War II.
- The Games have had a few name changes, including the British Empire Games (from 1930 to 1950), British Empire and Commonwealth Games (from 1954 to 1966), British Commonwealth Games (from 1970 to 1974), and now the Commonwealth Games (since 1978).
- Nine nations have hosted the Commonwealth Games:  
**AUSTRALIA** (1938, 1962, 1982, 2006, 2018)  
**CANADA** (1930, 1954, 1978, 1994)  
**NEW ZEALAND** (1950, 1974, 1990)  
**SCOTLAND** (1970, 1986, 2014)  
**ENGLAND** (1934, 2002, 2022)  
**WALES** (1958)  
**JAMAICA** (1966)  
**MALAYSIA** (1998)  
**INDIA** (2010)



# THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA AT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Athletes from Australia have been to all the Commonwealth Games since they first (officially) began in 1930. In 1930, the team travelled by boat, and it took them almost a month to travel from Sydney to Hamilton, Canada.

The Commonwealth Games were first hosted by Australia in 1938 in Sydney - the greatest sporting spectacle Australia had ever seen.

In total, Australia has hosted the Commonwealth Games five times: 1938 (Sydney), 1962 (Perth), 1982 (Brisbane), 2006 (Melbourne) and 2018 (Gold Coast).

Australia is the overall champion of the Commonwealth. Since the Commonwealth Games' inception, Australia has won 2426 medals in total with 936 of those being gold! England comes in second with 2144 and Canada is third with 1555 medals.

In 2018 when the Gold Coast hosted the Commonwealth Games, Borobi was announced as the Mascot.

Borobi will return as the team mascot in 2022.

The 2026 Commonwealth Games are to be hosted in Victoria, Australia.

# FACTS ABOUT THE BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

## **DATES:**

28 July- 08 August 2022

## **HOST LOCATION:**

Birmingham, England

## **VENUES:**

The sports venues are spread throughout Birmingham in places like Royal Leamington Spa, Royal Sutton Coldfield, Solihull, and Coventry as well as the redeveloped Alexander Stadium in Perry Barr, and the newly built Sandwell Aquatics Centre. In 2022, Women's T20 cricket will make its games debut and will be held at Edgbaston Stadium.

Birmingham has a wealth of existing sports venues, arenas and conference halls that are ideal for hosting sport during the Games. With 95% of the competition venues already in place, Birmingham 2022 will be both cost effective and innovative.

- A total of 72 nations and territories are planning to attend •
- 21 sports will be on the games programme •
  - Eight of which will be Para-sports.
  - 4,500 athletes will participate •
- For the first time, more events for women than men will take place •

The host city for the 2022 Commonwealth Games  
is Birmingham, England.

Birmingham is the second largest city in the United Kingdom, after London.

Birmingham is located in the West Midlands of England,  
about 163 km north-west of London (if you go in a straight line).

Birmingham is often called the 'second city of England'.

Birmingham has a population of over 1 million people,  
with its surrounding areas totalling about 3.7 million people.

## 2022 HOST CITY **BIRMINGHAM**

More than 30% of Birmingham's population have roots in other parts  
of the world. This gives Birmingham a diverse mix of cultures and religions.

Birmingham is one of the youngest cities in Europe  
and has a diverse and vibrant culture.

Birmingham is home to one of Britain's busiest shopping centres, the Bullring.

Birmingham is home to 'Cadbury World' - the site of the original  
Cadbury chocolate factory. Visitors can learn how the Cadbury factory  
was set up to produce chocolate in the 1800s.

Birmingham was originally a market town,  
but in the 18th century it became  
the first manufacturing town in the world.  
Today, it is known as a service centre,  
offering public services, health and education.



# COMMONWEALTH DAY



Commonwealth Day has been commemorated by Commonwealth countries since 1977 on the second Monday in March.

It is a time to celebrate cooperation between countries and to talk about global ideas.

In 2013, Commonwealth countries signed a charter (like an agreement about values) which meant the members would promote tolerance, human rights, respect and fair elections.

Each year there is a new theme for Commonwealth Day that matches the values of the Commonwealth.

Themes in the past include:

2016: An inclusive Commonwealth

2017: Peacebuilding

2018: Towards a Common Future

2019: A Connected Commonwealth

2020, 2021, 2022: Delivering a Common Future

# COMMONWEALTH NATIONS AND TERRITORIES

## AFRICA

Botswana .....	BOT
Cameroon .....	CMR
Eswatini, Kingdom of .....	SWZ
Gambia, the .....	GMB
Ghana .....	GHA
Kenya .....	KEN
Lesotho .....	LES
Malawi .....	MAW
Mauritius .....	MRI
Mozambique .....	MOZ
Namibia .....	NAM
Nigeria .....	NGR
Rwanda .....	RWA
St. Helena .....	SHN
Seychelles .....	SEV
Sierra Leone .....	SLE
South Africa .....	RSA
Uganda .....	UGA
Tanzania, United Republic of .....	TAN
Zambia .....	ZAM

## ASIA

Bangladesh .....	BAN
Brunei Darussalam .....	BRU
India .....	IND
Malaysia .....	MAS
Maldives .....	MDV
Pakistan .....	PAK
Singapore .....	SGP
Sri Lanka .....	SRI

## THE AMERICAS & THE CARIBBEAN

Anguilla .....	AIA
Antigua & Barbuda .....	ANT
The Bahama's .....	BAH
Barbados .....	BAR
Belize .....	BIZ
Bermuda .....	BER
Canada .....	CAN
Cayman Islands .....	CAY

Dominica .....	DMA
Falkland Island .....	FLK
Grenada .....	GRN
Guyana .....	GUY
Jamaica .....	JAM
Montserrat .....	MSR
St. Kitts & Nevis .....	SKN
St. Lucia .....	LCA
St. Vincent & the Grenadines .....	SVG
The British Virgin Islands .....	IVB
Trinidad & Tobago .....	TTO
Turks & Caicos Islands .....	TCA

## EUROPE

Cyprus .....	CYP
England .....	ENG
Gibraltar .....	GIB
Guernsey .....	GGY
Isle of Man .....	IOM
Jersey .....	JEY
Malta .....	MLT
Northern Ireland .....	NIR
Scotland .....	SCO
Wales .....	WAL

## OCEANIA

Australia .....	AUS
Cook Islands .....	COK
Fiji .....	FIJ
Kiribati .....	KIR
Nauru .....	NRU
New Zealand .....	NZL
Niue Island .....	NIU
Norfolk Island .....	NFK
Papua New Guinea .....	PNG
Samoa .....	SAM
Solomon Islands .....	SOL
Tonga .....	TGA
Tuvalu .....	TUV
Vanuatu .....	VAN



# COMMONWEALTH GAMES SPORTS

- The first Commonwealth Games (called the British Empire Games) only included six sports.
- For Birmingham 2022 the following sports have been included in the programme.

Athletics	Lawn Bowls
Badminton	Netball
Basketball 3x3	Powerlifting
Beach Volleyball	Rugby Sevens
Boxing	Squash
Cricket (women's T20)	Swimming
Cycling	Table Tennis
Diving	Triathlon
Gymnastics	Weightlifting
Hockey	Wrestling
Judo	

- At the Commonwealth Games, unlike other major sporting events, the Para-sport programme is fully integrated.
- Para-sport events were officially included on the program for the first time at the Manchester 2002 Games.

At the 2022 Birmingham Games the Para-sports programme includes the following sports:

Athletics, basketball 3x3, cycling, lawn bowls, powerlifting, swimming, table tennis and triathlon.







**ATHLETICS &  
PARA ATHLETICS**



**BADMINTON**



**3x3 BASKETBALL &  
3x3 WHEELCHAIR  
BASKETBALL**



**BEACH VOLLEYBALL**



**BOXING**



**CRICKET**



**CYCLING**



**DIVING**

# **BIRMINGHAM 2022**

# **SPORTS**



**GYMNASTICS**



**HOCKEY**



**JUDO**



**LAWN BOWLS &  
PARA LAWN BOWLS**



**NETBALL**



**PARA-POWERLIFTING**



**RUGBY SEVENS**



**SQUASH**



**SWIMMING &  
PARA SWIMMING**



**TABLE TENNIS &  
PARA TABLE TENNIS**



**TRIATHLON &  
PARA TRIATHLON**



**WEIGHTLIFTING**



**WRESTLING**

# QUEEN'S BATON RELAY



The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games will showcase the 16th official Queens Baton Relay. This Relay is an epic cross continental adventure that covers all 72 nations and territories of the Commonwealth visiting Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and Oceania.

The Relay began on 8 October, 2021, from Buckingham Palace in London where the Queen put a message inside the Baton before it started its journey across the Commonwealth.

The baton will travel for 294 days, connecting communities in every corner of the Commonwealth showcasing unique cultures and sharing stories.

At the Opening Ceremony of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, the final relay runner hands the baton back to the Queen or her representative. Her message is then read to officially open the Commonwealth Games.

The Queen's baton visited Australia in March 2022.

The Queen's baton is carried by nominated baton bearers who are from all walks of life.

## HANDY QUEENS BATON RELAY RESOURCES

**DISCOVER THE BATON:** <https://www.birmingham2022.com/queens-baton-relay/baton/>

**FOLLOW THE JOURNEY:** <https://www.birmingham2022.com/queens-baton-relay/route/>

# **GOLDEN MOMENTS**

## **AT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES**

### **DECIMA NORMAN - AUSTRALIA'S FIRST GOLDEN GIRL**

Decima Norman wowed the world at the 1938 Empire Games in Sydney, when she dominated the medal tally winning five gold medals. She became the first Australian female to win a gold medal at any Games, securing the gold in the 100-yard sprint, 220-yard sprint, long jump and in two relays. During this incredible feat, she also broke multiple world records. Being described as Australia's first 'golden girl' her record medal haul remained intact for 52 years. Unfortunately, she was unable to test herself on the world sporting stage again as the outbreak of World War II cancelled the 1940 Olympics.

### **JOHN LANDY AND ROGER BANNISTER - THE MIRACLE MILE**

The rivalry between England and Australia has always been contentious, but never more so than at the 1954 British Empire Games in Vancouver. Australia's John Landy and England's Roger Bannister were both at the top of their game in the lead up to the 1954 Games. Their rivalry saw them both smash world records, including Bannister's accomplishment of becoming the first runner to break the four-minute mile, however Landy smashed that record mere months later. The tension became palpable, and at the 1954 Games, the men's mile quickly became referred to as the 'race of the century'. Landy was in the lead, however with over just 90-yards left of the race, Landy looked over his left shoulder to see the Englishman streak past him, pipping Landy of the victory. This race for the ages, became the first time two men had simultaneously broke the men's four-minute mile record in the same race.

### **NETBALL - AUSTRALIA'S DIAMOND LADIES**

Netball made its Commonwealth Games debut at the Malaysia 1998 Games. Australia made history by winning the first gold medal in netball at the Games. This result initiated the long-standing trans-Tasman rivalry between Australia and New Zealand. The Aussie Diamonds once again defended their title at the Manchester 2002, Delhi 2010 and Glasgow 2014 Games becoming the most successful team in Commonwealth Games history. At the Gold Coast 2018 Games, Australia successfully defeated their long-term rivals in the semi-final, making the grand-final against England. The 2018 netball final was a game that had spectators at the edge of their seats for its entirety, as England defeated the Diamonds who were the current world champions 52-51, this game made history as England won their first netball gold.

## KIEREN PERKINS - TWO TIMES THE SUCCESS, IN THE ONE RACE

Long distance swimming has seen lots of Australians break records, but no event has been more ground-breaking than when Kieren Perkins broke two world records in one race at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada. He had a treacherous road to the Games that year, almost seeing him miss out on qualifying. But history can attest, these were his Games as every race he entered he set a new Games or world record. In the case of the 1500m freestyle, he broke both the 800m and 1500m record in one race! The 1500m record withstood seven years of challenges, and was only beaten by fellow Aussie Grant Hackett in 2001.

## KASUMI TAKAHASHI - FIVE TIMES THE GLORY

Kasumi Takahashi was the Australian gymnastics sensation when she won five golds and one silver medal at the Victoria 1994 Commonwealth Games held in Canada. At just 14-years-old, Takahashi excelled in every element her sport had to offer, including ball, rope, clubs, ribbon and the all-round title. Her performance at the Games quickly led her to becoming Australia's sweetheart, appearing on milk cartons around the country, and she has been attributed to inspiring many future athletes in rhythmic gymnastics.

## MARK 'KNOWLESY' KNOWLES - SPORTSMANSHIP AT ITS FINEST FORM

At the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games opening ceremony, Australia continued the tradition of being the last team to enter the stadium, allowing the other 70 competing nations to take their lap of honour before them. When it was Australia's turn, Kookaburras Hockey Captain and chosen flagbearer Mark 'Knowlesy' Knowles, led his team into a packed home-crowd stadium that erupted in cheers. However, the defining moment was when Knowlesy demonstrated a true act of Aussie sportsmanship as instead to walking in front of his teammates, he encouraged them to walk around him, high fiving each one as they entered the stadium.

## A DISPLAY OF TRUE AUSSIE SPIRIT

At the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, the women's 10,000m race exhibited one of Australia's most memorable occasions. Although the track trio Eloise Wellings, Madeline Hills and Celia Sullohern finished the race outside the medals, their actions were worthy of history book status. The exhausted trio decided to stay on the track despite their competitors departing, to cheer on Lineo Chaka of Lesotho who was still pushing to finish the race. Five minutes after the winner crossed the finish line, Chaka was met with the applause and support of the Australian athletes who had waited to congratulate her on the completion of one of the most physically demanding events at the Games.





# AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH GAMES ALUMNI

## IAN THORPE

Ian Thorpe AM (swimming) better known as the 'Thorpedo' is one of Australia's best ever swimmers and greatest ever athletes. At the age of 14, he became the youngest male ever to represent Australia and at 15 won his first world title in Perth, to become the youngest swimmer to do so. Thorpe dominated the pool at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur as a 15-year-old, before scooping seven medals, including six gold, four years later at the Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games. His 10 Commonwealth Games gold medals is the equal most in Australian history. Winner of five Olympic gold medals, the most of any Australian, 14 world championship victories (at every distance from 100 to 800 metres) and 22 world records make him our most successful athlete ever. Ian Thorpe was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2008.

## ROBERT DE CASTELLA

Rob de Castella AO MBE (athletics) is a two-time Commonwealth Games gold medallist and former marathon world record holder, affectionately known as "Deek". Famously known for his battle with the Tanzanians late in the 1982 Commonwealth Games marathon in Brisbane where he won gold by surging to the lead late in the race. Four years later he defended that title at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games. A four-time Olympian with his best result a fifth at the Los Angeles Games in 1984, de Castella still holds the Australian national record at 2:07.51 from the 1986 Boston Marathon.

## SHARELLE McMAHON

Sharelle McMahon (netball) carried the Australian flag at the opening ceremony of the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. McMahon played in four editions of the Games winning two gold and two silver medals. The youngest member of the team which won the gold medal at the 1998 Games in Kuala Lumpur, McMahon returned four years later to help the Australian Diamonds defend its title in Manchester, defeating New Zealand in the final. McMahon went on to win two silver medals at the Games in Melbourne in 2006 and Delhi in 2010, falling to the Kiwis in both matches. A member of two World Cup winning teams in 1999 where she shot the winning goal, and again in 2007, McMahon captained the national team during her impressive career and retired as one of Australia's greatest netballers. In 2016, she was inducted as an Athlete Member of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

## ANNA MEARES

Anna Meares OAM (cycling) carried the Australian flag at the opening ceremony of the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Competing in four editions of the Games, Meares finished her career with eight medals, five of them gold, becoming Australia's most successful Commonwealth Games cyclist. A winner of 11 world titles and two Olympic titles, Anna and sister Kerrie grew up in a small coal mining town in Queensland and were inspired to take up cycling by the exploits of Kathy Watt at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria. Making her international debut at the 2002 Games in Manchester, Anna won bronze in the 500m time trial behind Kerrie who won gold. Four years later in Melbourne, Anna won the gold medal in the same event. In Delhi in 2010, Meares won three gold medals – in the 500m time trial, the sprint and team sprint events. At the 2015 UCI Track Cycling World Championships she took the gold in the keirin, claiming her 11th world title in the process, which made her the most decorated female track cyclist of all time. The flag-bearer and captain for the Australian team at the 2016 Summer Olympics, where Meares won a bronze medal in keirin making her the first Australian to win individual medals in four consecutive Olympics. The venue for cycling at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games was named the Anna Meares Velodrome in her honour.

## DEAN LUKIN

Dean Lukin is one of Australia's most successful weightlifters, dominating the superheavyweight category in the 80s. Hailing from a fishing family in Port Lincoln, Lukin competed at the Brisbane 1982 and Edinburgh 1985 games where successfully collected gold medals at both games. At the conclusion of his decorated career, which also included Olympic gold at the Los Angeles 1984 Games, Lukin humbly returned to the family business.

## SUSIE O'NEILL

Hailing from Mackay, Queensland Susie O'Neill is one of Australia's most decorated swimmers. At the end of the Malaysia 1998 Commonwealth Games, she hung six gold and two silver medals around her neck, taking the prestigious title of most gold medals won at a single Commonwealth Games from athletics champion Decima Norman after 52-years. Throughout the 90's she collected 10 gold medals at the 1990, 94 and 98 Games and was given the nickname 'Madame Butterfly'. O'Neill still shares the Australian record of most Commonwealth gold medals won (10), with fellow swimmers Ian Thorpe and Liesel Jones.



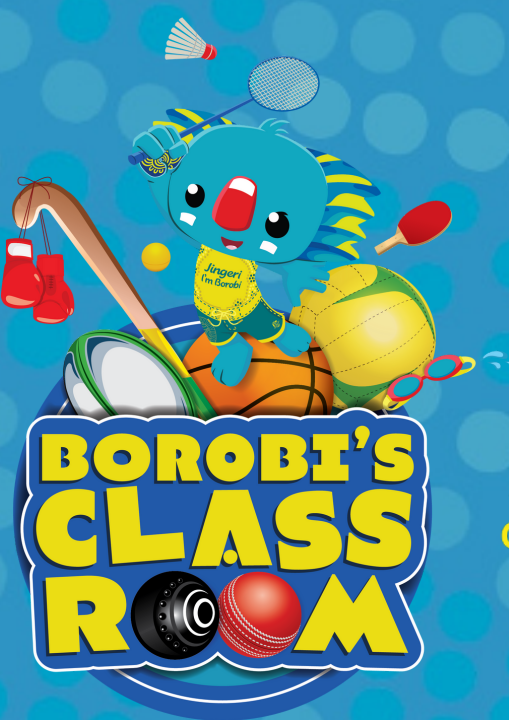
# 22 **FAST FACTS** ABOUT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

1. The Commonwealth Games run for 11 days.
2. Nine nations have hosted the Commonwealth Games.
3. Australia holds the record for most times hosting the Commonwealth Games. Hosting five times in 1938, 1962, 1982, 2006 and 2018.
4. The first Commonwealth Games were in Hamilton, Canada in 1930 and were called the British Empire Games.
5. The Commonwealth includes some of the richest and poorest, largest and smallest nations in the world.
6. The Commonwealth Games are held every four years. The only exceptions have been in 1942 and 1946 due to the outbreak of World War II.
7. Amazingly, while 72 nations and territories are eligible to compete in the Commonwealth Games, only six have attended every Games since 1930. These are Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales.
8. The highest number of nations to compete at a Games was 72 at the 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games. Although, the largest number of athletes (4,929) that have been present were at the 2014 Glasgow Games.
9. Para lawn-bowler Lynne Seymour won gold at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, making her Australia's oldest gold medal winner ever.
10. The 1998 Kuala Lumpur Games included team sports for the first time. Nations were able to compete in cricket, hockey, netball and rugby 7s.

11. Australia's youngest gold medal winner was swimmer Jenny Turrell, who was just 13 when she competed at the 1974 Games in Christchurch.
12. The Commonwealth Games are the third biggest multi-sport event in the world after the Olympic Games and Asian Games.
13. The idea of the Commonwealth Games was first talked about back in 1911.
14. The Commonwealth covers 20% of the earth's land mass and 32% of the world population.
15. The Queen's Baton Relay is a longstanding tradition of the Commonwealth Games that sees the baton carried nearly 200,000 km. This adds up to more than 4 circumnavigations of the globe in the year building up to the Games.
16. Australia is the most successful nation in games history with more than 2,000 medals, of which more than 900 are gold!
17. Between 1990 and 2002 Nauruan weightlifter Marcus Stephen won twelve medals – seven of which were gold. In 2007 he was elected president of Nauru.
18. Lawn Bowls is one of the sports in the Commonwealth Games program, which is not an Olympic event – a reflection of the influence of the former British Empire on the choice of sports for the Commonwealth Games.
19. Three member states also have 'Commonwealth' as part of their official title: the Commonwealth of Australia, the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and the Commonwealth of Dominica.
20. There will be more medal opportunities for females than males at the Birmingham Games.
21. With a population of 10,919 people in 2021, Nauru is one of the smallest member states in the Commonwealth.
22. The "wealth" in "Commonwealth" does not simply mean money. In the 15th century, wealth meant "general well-being". Phrases such as "common wealth" or "common weal" were used to refer to the common good. Commonwealth is now used to refer to states governed by the people, but the sense of this ultimately being for the common good remains.







**#BOROBISCLASSROOM**

COMMONWEALTH GAMES AUSTRALIA