

# 2010 Winter Olympic Games

- The 2010 Winter Olympic Games are held in British Columbia, Canada, from February 12<sup>th</sup>, to February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Many athletes from all over the world come together to compete in the Games in the spirit of friendship. Athletes from over 80 countries are competing in these games.
- The games included are [Alpine Skiing](#); [Biathlon](#); [Bobsleigh](#); [Cross-Country Skiing](#); [Curling](#); [Figure Skating](#); [Freestyle Skiing](#); [Ice Hockey](#); [Luge](#); [Nordic Combined](#); [Short Track Speed Skating](#); [Skeleton](#); [Ski Jumping](#); [Snowboard](#); and [Speed Skating](#). A schedule of the days and times of the sports can be found [here](#).
- The athlete who wins each competition is given a gold medal. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner receives a silver medal, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner receives a bronze medal. At each Medal Ceremony, when the medals are awarded, the National Anthem from the winner's country is played, and the flag of the country of each of the 3 athletes is raised.
- Before the Games begin, the Olympic Torch is carried across the world from Greece, where the tradition of the Olympic Games began thousands of years ago. The Torch Relay takes 106 days, and this time it is carried by over 10,000 Canadian runners.
- The Torch arrives in Vancouver, British Columbia, just in time for the Opening Ceremony on February 12<sup>th</sup>. At the Opening Ceremony, all the competing athletes parade around the large stadium. Then there are performances of music, singing and dance from the host country, Canada.
- There are 3 mascots. There is [Miga, a young sea bear](#) who lives in the ocean with her family pod; [Quatchi, a young sasquatch](#) who comes from the mysterious forests of Canada; and [Sumi, an animal spirit](#) who lives in the mountains of British Columbia. You can make some activity pages using the Mascot images [here](#).