

WORLD CUP SOCCER



BY EMILY SCHLESINGER



Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1

One World, One Event4

CHAPTER 2

The First World Cup 8

CHAPTER 3

How the World Cup Works16

CHAPTER 4

World Cup Stars.....22

CHAPTER 5

Unpredictable..... 28

CHAPTER 6

Shock and Scandal32

CHAPTER 7

Game-Changing Technology 38

CHAPTER 8

U.S. Men in the World Cup 44

CHAPTER 9

The Women's World Cup 48

CHAPTER 10

The Future of the World Cup 54

Glossary58

One World, One Event

It is the most-watched sporting event in the world. Billions of people tune in. Games air in every country. Fans cheer on every continent. This is the World Cup. It is the ultimate soccer championship.



The numbers are impressive. Over 3 billion fans watched in 2010. This was nearly half of all people on Earth. The same thing happened in 2014. A record was set in 2018. That year there were more online viewers than ever before. Over 1 billion people streamed clips.



FAST FACT: People even watch the World Cup in space. In 2018, astronauts streamed games from the International Space Station.





Why do so many watch? The answer may be the appeal of soccer itself. It is the world's most popular sport. Both men and women play. The rules are easy to understand. Each team wants to score goals. Players mostly use their feet. They cannot use their hands. These are the main ideas.

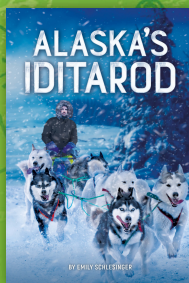
People may speak different languages. Still, they can share a love of soccer. Some call it a **universal** language. No other sport has spread so easily around the globe.

PLANET SOCCER

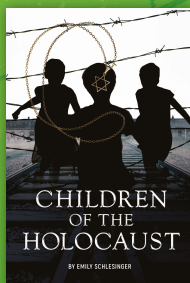
A group wanted to find out how many people played soccer. It counted players from around the world. There were about 265 million in 2006. That was 4 percent of the world population at the time. There are reasons the sport is so popular. Soccer does not require special equipment. All players need is a ball to kick. They can play anywhere, in any weather. Players can be any size too. It is their agility that matters.



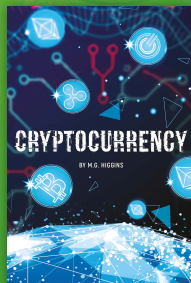
WHITE LIGHTNING BOOKS® NONFICTION



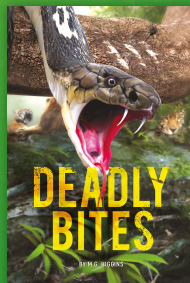
9781680218831



9781680217551



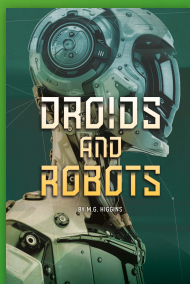
9781680216387



9781680216400



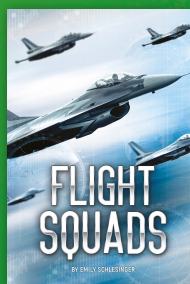
9781680217377



9781680216394



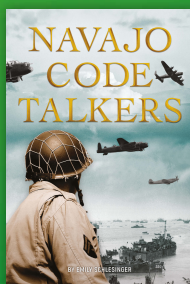
9781680217391



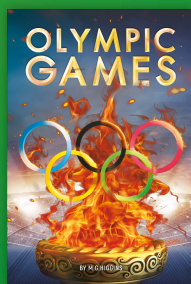
9781680216912



9781680219135



9781680218848



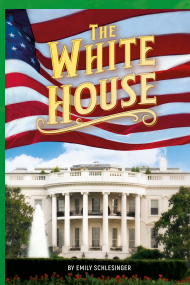
9781680217384



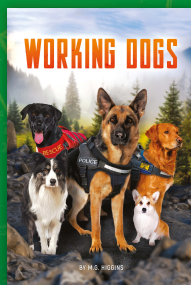
9781680218855



9781680219111



9781680219128



9781680217414



9781680217407

MORE TITLES COMING SOON

SDLBACK.COM/WHITE-LIGHTNING-BOOKS

WORLD CUP SOCCER

Since it began, the World Cup has been the scene of soccer history. This is where legendary players have made their mark. There have been stunning upsets. Drama has unfolded on and off the field. Through it all, billions of fans around the world have watched. While new technology and rules bring changes, the world's most popular sport continues to gain fans.

WH/TE
L⚡GHTNING
BOOKS®

 **SADDLEBACK**
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING
www.sdlback.com

LEXILE HL320L

ISBN: 978-1-68021-740-7



9 781680 217407

90000