

Let's Play Soccer

培生
英语阅读

让我们踢足球吧

Let's Play Soccer

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Let's Play SOCCER



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For Harry, a great soccer dad



Chapter 1

Soccer Is for Everyone

Do you like to play outside? Do you like to run? Do you like to **play with** a ball? You can do all of these things if you play soccer.

Boys and girls play soccer. ➡



A player kicks the soccer ball. ➡



Soccer players cannot throw and catch the ball. They cannot **touch** the ball **with** their hands. Soccer players can only kick the ball.

Soccer is played with two teams. There is a goal for each team. Some goals are big nets **held up** by posts. Other goals are shown by lines that **mark** a space.

Players on one team want to kick the ball into one goal. Players on the other team want to kick the ball into the other goal. Players score when the ball goes into the other's team's goal. They make one point.

A goalie tries to stop a ball. ➡



Lots of people play soccer. You can be young or old, big or small. Soccer is easy to play. All you need is a ball and a place to play. Then find enough players to make two teams.

Pelé after scoring
a goal 🏆



Soccer POINT



One of the greatest soccer players of all time is Pelé. As a child in Brazil, he practiced soccer with a ball made of rags.

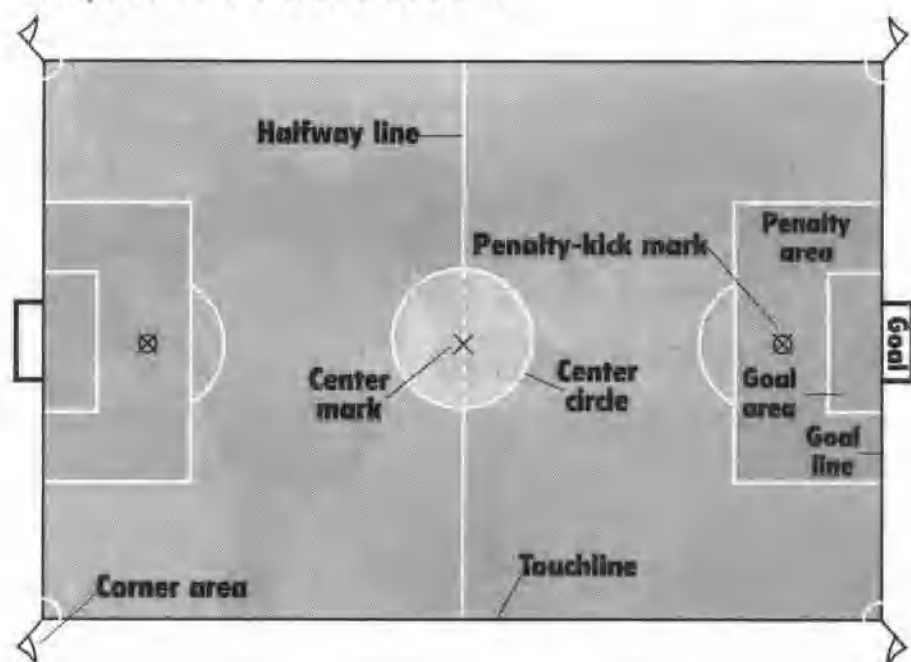


Chapter 2

Playing Soccer

People play soccer on a big **grassy** field. The field is 100 to 130 yards long and 50 to 100 yards wide. For young players the field is about half that size. The goals are 8 feet high and 24 feet wide.

Layout of a soccer field ➡



Players usually wear shorts and a shirt. Players also wear long socks over shin guards. Shin guards are pads that **cover** the legs below the knees. They guard the legs against moving balls and kicks.

Players wear special shoes, too. The shoes have **points** on the bottom. These points help players run on the grass without slipping.





Two teams playing a soccer game ●

There are 11 players on a soccer team. Teams of young players may have 6 players. During a game, players on a team try to move the ball down the field. Players on the other team try to **take** the ball **away**.

Players move the ball by kicking it. Short kicks are called dribbling. A long kick is called a **pass**.



A goalie blocks a soccer ball. ➡

One player on each team is the **goalie**. The goalie tries to stop a ball from going into a goal. Only goalies can use their hands to catch the ball.

Soccer POINT



Older, skilled players can hit the ball with their foreheads. This is called heading.



Chapter 3

A Very Old Game

People have played games like soccer for many years. Long ago in Asia, people played with a ball **stuffed** with hair and bark. They tried to kick the ball between two posts.



♦ A game like soccer has been played in Japan for a long time.



American Indians played a kicking game. ➡

American Indians also played a kicking game a long time ago. Their ball was made of deerskin. A team could have **up to** 1,000 players.

Many people believe that soccer started in England over 800 years ago. Crowds kicked a ball through the city streets. Games lasted for hours. Today an **adult** soccer game takes 90 minutes.

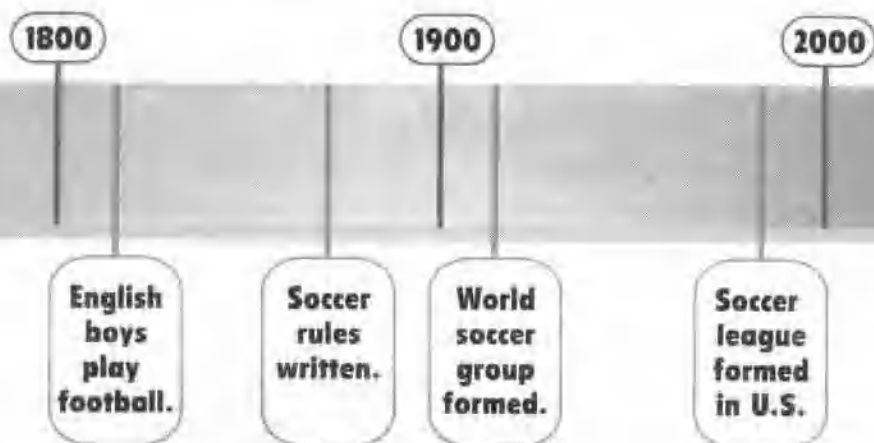
Schoolboys played a game like soccer in England in the 1800s. That was about 200 years ago. Each school **made up** its own rules. The players called the game football.

Football players could **touch** the ball **with** their hands. They could also use their feet. Some players wanted to use only their feet. So players met in 1863 to write **rules** for soccer.

English soccer game in the 1800s ➡



Soccer **spread** from England to other countries. A group formed in 1904. They **made sure** that teams around the world followed the same rules. Soccer teams still use these rules.



Soccer POINT



Soccer players must follow the rules and play safely. The referee makes sure they do.