EdRugby Online Educational Resource

LESSON: Mottos and mascots

LEVEL
Upper primary
Lower secondary

THEME: Rugby fans

DESCRIPTION:

Students look at examples of mottos and mascots. They explore their own values and qualities and develop a motto and mascot to reflect these.

An ideal preparation for this lesson is *Emblems and logos.*

OUTCOMES

This lesson contributes to the achievement of the following unit outcomes:

English

- With teacher guidance, identifies and discusses how linguistic structures and features work to shape readers' and viewers' understanding of texts.
- Identifies and discusses some of the relationships between ideas, information and events in visual texts designed for general viewing.

SUGGESTED TIME:

40 minutes

WHAT YOU NEED:

- examples of mascots from advertising
- class copies of the student handouts (at the end of this lesson plan)

RUGBY FANS

australian RUGBY

RUGBY FANS

PART 1 THE WALLABY LEGEND

a. Distribute copies of the Student handout – The Wallaby Legend. Read through the text with the class and discuss.

b. Brainstorm other organisations and sporting groups that have a mascot. Some suggestions include the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

c. Distribute copies of the Student handout – Wally's character profile. Read through the text with the class and discuss his motto, its meaning and how he is well suited to it.

d. Explain that the class will be developing a mascot later in the lesson and an important part of this is having a motto.

PART 2 SCHOOL MOTTOS

a. Distribute copies of the Student handout – School mottos. Read through a selection of the mottos in the list, discuss the values, tradition, character traits and other personal aspects behind each. Typical traits include perseverance, integrity, caring, courage, respect, and responsibility. If your school has a motto, introduce it into the discussion. Work through some examples using the table below as a guide:

Motto	Meaning
Working together	Teamwork and camaraderie are important values to our school.

b. Organise students into small groups. Ask each group to read through the mottos in the list and record some suggestions that could be used for their own motto. Alternatively, ask students to develop some motto suggestions for a local community or sporting club, class motto or their own personal motto.

c. Ask each group to share their motto with the class, describing the meaning and other background information.

PART 3 DEVELOPING A MASCOT

a. Discuss the mottos presented by the groups, reflecting your school's values and traditions as well as other aspects such as character traits. Brainstorm some animals, plants or other living things that may encapsulate the values reflected by each motto.

b. Once again, organise students into small groups. Ask each group to think about their motto and its meaning and record some suggestions that could be used as their mascot. If there is time, ask students to make a quick sketch of their mascot, which can be further developed in another lesson.

c. Ask each group to share their mascot with the class, describing the meaning, how it related to their motto and other background information.

PART 4 REFLECTION

Discuss the role of mascots in reminding us of the values, attitudes and heritage of sporting and other organisations. Reflect on Wally – the mascot used for the Wallabies – mirroring the values of Rugby and its players, including Australian pride, teamwork and camarderie, and tradition.

PART 5 EXTENSION

- Organise students to make a presentation of their new mascot to the class and the rest of the school.
- Use the Internet to search for other international Rugby teams' mascots. Explain the meaning behind each mascot and its history. How are they depicting their country?
- Use the Internet to search for Fatso the wombat, an unofficial mascot from the Sydney 2000 Olympics. Explain the meaning behind the mascot and its history.
- What role does promotion play in organising a sporting tournament such as Rugby World Cup 2003 or the Olympic Games? Find examples of how mascots have been used across a range of marketing and merchandise. Are mascots just for kids?
- Find an example of the 'boxing kangaroo' flag. Are his values the same as Wally's? How are they different?
- Find out more about how colour is important for a mascot. What colours are most used? Why?
- Ask students to look through magazines and other references to find mascots and mottos for sporting events and tournaments around the world.

- Students can organise a debate on whether mascots are worth developing.
- Develop and conduct a survey to find out which mascots are easily recognised by people, and if their values are communicated to their audience.
- Organise a play or other presentation which incorporates the mascots interacting with each other. Do they all share the same values?
- Discuss the features, purpose and audience of a range of mascots.

RUGBY FANS

RUGBY FANS

STUDENT HANDOUT SCHOOL MOTTOS

- Working Together
- We Believe in You
- Be True
- Work with a Will
- Strive to Succeed
- Seek Things Eternal
- Truth, Honesty and Excellence
- Truth Conquers
- Loyalty, Tolerance, Strength and Success
- Together We Grow
- The Way, the Truth and the Life
- Work, Will and Succeed
- Pride and Effort
- Deeds not Words
- Learning for Life
- Endeavour to Achieve
- A Proudly Inclusive School
- Showing the Way
- Work, Pray in the Service of the Lord
- Learning for Living
- Faith
- Conduct, Wisdom, Knowledge
- We Care
- Honour and Loyalty
- Virtue and Knowledge
- Do Well What You Do
- In all things we love
- In all things Kindness
- Strive for Success
- Learning for Life
- Faith, Honesty and Responsibility
- Living and Learning
- All should experience a sense of belonging
- Harmony Faith Integrity
- A Tradition of Excellence
- Be Your Best
- Act Justly
- Seek Honour Above Rewards
- Communication, Cooperation and Care
- Strive to Excel
- Integrity
- Success with Dignity
- Through Hard Work to the Top
- Trust
- Work Wait Win, Strive to Achieve
- Through Difficulties to Greatness
- I Keep the Faith
- By Faith and Work
- A crown for he who strives
- By Our Acts We Shall Be Judged
- Seek a Worthy Goal
- Truth
- To seek, to see, to respond
- Courtesy
- Life is for living
- Courage Brings Honour
- Have Faith
- Onwards and Upwards
- Dignity in Work and Pride
- To Work and to Play
- Real learning through real experiences
- Our Best
- Truth, Honour, Courage
- Honour and Trust
- Nothing is too hard for mortals
- A Culture of Achievement
- Setting Sail for the Future
- Caring for your future
- Always See The Truth
- Pathways to Success
- Love and Dignity

STUDENT HANDOUT THE WALLABY LEGEND

Branded the 'rabbits' by the British before even arriving in the UK, it was the tour of 1908 that prompted a need for a distinctive identity for the first Australian touring team to Britain.

Dr. Herbert 'Paddy' Moran, the first Wallaby captain, wrote in a letter home to Australia 'that there was considerable discussion in English papers as to an appropriate name and suggestions flocked in from all sides from the Wallabies, Kangaroos, Kookaburras and Wallaroos'.

Becoming all too daunting, it was decided a conference should take place to decide the future name for the Australian side. For a brief day the Australians became the Waratahs, however, it was agreed that this name was only emblematic of NSW.

After much debate and a couple of winning votes the 'Wallabies' were born.

The Wallaby name and image has stood the test of time and is still used today by the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) as its representative emblem. From the Australian Rugby's corporate identity through to its loyal fans, the Wallaby name and image is used and worn proudly by all associated with this great game.

What better image then to represent the Australian Rugby Union as its mascot than one of Australia's own natives – the wallaby.

STUDENT HANDOUT WALLY'S CHARACTER PROFILE

Never hop backwards – always leap ahead! That's Wally's motto. Encapsulating the spirit and energy of the game, Wally is a born communicator who loves playing, educating and informing people about Rugby.

Being one of only three animals that cannot take a step backwards, Wally is always leaping ahead ready to take on his next Rugby challenge!

On the field, his strong, stout, muscular limbs give him the speed, flexibility and agility required to excel, whether he is bounding ahead for a try or bouncing high on his tail in a line-out. Although he is small, there is an amazing strength about Wally that commands dignity and respect both on and off the field.

A true Australian, Wally is a great team-mate with a friendly nature. At first glance he may seem quite laid back, however, his sharp mind and quick wit keeps all his friends on their toes.

Like all Wallabies, Wally is very intelligent and has an amazing sense of awareness. Always alert, he knows where every player is on the field at any given time and never loses track of the ball. Rugby is a mind game and being a thinker, Wally loves its unpredictable nature. His favourite task is working out the game-day strategy, but should the situation change on the field he is always ready to adapt – after all, Wally knows that Rugby is a game where anything can happen!

Wally finds comfort in sticking together as a group and this strong sense of unity makes him a true team player. Wise and approachable, he is often asked for advice from his team mates. He understands the importance of working as a team and is not out to shine above the rest. In fact, although he is proud with a strong sense of knowing, he is very unassuming. He is a quiet, determined achiever with a humble nature who always praises the work of those around him and remains loyal to the end.

Like all Wallabies, Wally is honourable with a high level of integrity. Mirroring the values of Rugby and its players, he is proud to be the mascot for Australian Rugby.