The Paralympics

What is the Paralympics?

The Paralympics is an international sports event where athletes with varying abilities compete in many different sports and represent their home counties. The word 'Paralympic' comes from the words 'Parallel Olympics'. The Paralympics is a parallel event with the Olympic Games and takes place after the Olympic Games in the same city.

Just like the Olympics there is a summer and winter Paralympic Games. There are twenty-two sports in the summer games and five sports in the winter games. The summer sports include wheelchair tennis, swimming, cycling and sitting volleyball. Some winter Paralympic sports include para-snowboarding, wheelchair curling and ice-sled hockey.

How did it Start?

A competition between veterans with spinal cord injuries started in 1948 and in 1960 sports for people with disabilities were added to the Olympics. Then in 1976 the very first Paralympic Winter Games took place in the country of Sweden.

Role Models

Paralympic athletes are fantastic role models for everyone. The athletes challenge perceptions of people who have disabilities, sometimes people have a fear of someone who seems 'different'. The Paralympics help change attitudes by showing strong, powerful and talented athletes with all sorts of differences. Some of the values of the games are about acceptance and including all people.

Logos

The Paralympics and The GB Paralympic team have their own logos.

The GB Parlympic Team

The Paralympic Games

Find Us:

Questions

Which Country did the first Winter Paralympic Games take place?

    A. France
    B. England
    C. Sweden
    D. America

Which of the following is are Summer Paralympic sports?

    A. Swimming
    B. Wheelchair Curling
    C. Sitting Volleyball
    D. Wheelchair Tennis

What year did the first Paralympic Games take place?

    A. 1918
    B. 1976
    C. 1960
    D. 1948

Where does the word Paralympics come from?

    A. Different Abilities
    B. Parallel Olympics
    C. Acceptance
    D. Role Models

Who is your role model and why?

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