Read the short story and answer each question.



What Is Sepak Takraw?

Sepak Takraw is a fast-paced sport played mostly in Southeast Asia. The game looks like a mix between soccer and volleyball. Players use their feet, head, knees, and chest to hit a small ball over a net—but never their hands! Each team has three players on a court. The goal is to keep the ball from hitting the ground and to score by making the other team miss. The ball is made of plastic or woven fiber, and it moves fast. What makes Sepak Takraw so exciting is the jumping. Players leap and flip in the air to kick the ball over the net. Some moves look like karate kicks or flying spins. Sepak Takraw is played in schools and in major tournaments across Asia. It's even part of the Asian Games!

How Sepak Takraw Compares to Volleyball

Volleyball and Sepak Takraw have some things in common. Both are team sports played with a ball and a net. Both need quick thinking, good aim, and fast feet. But they are also very different. In volleyball, players hit the ball with their hands and arms. In Sepak Takraw, they can't use their hands at all—they must kick or head the ball like in soccer. Another difference is the number of players. Volleyball usually has six players per team. Sepak Takraw only has three. The court is also smaller, and the ball is lighter and moves differently. While volleyball is played all around the world, Sepak Takraw is less well-known. But both games take skill, teamwork, and practice to play well.



Name:

How Sepak Takraw Compares to Volleyball & What Is Sepak Takraw?

- 1. What is one thing that Sepak Takraw and volleyball have in common?
- A. Both are played over a net with teams and a ball.
- B. Both use only feet to move the ball.
- C. Both use large heavy balls and helmets.
- D. Both are played underwater.

- 2. How is Sepak Takraw different from volleyball?
- A. Players use their feet, not their hands.
- B. It uses a net that is 20 feet tall.
- C. It is played only indoors in winter.
- D. It uses a round paddle.

3. Fill in the blank:
In Sepak Takraw, players must hit the ball using parts of the body other than their
4. What is one key difference in how Sepak Takraw is played compared to volleyball?
5. How do the two passages work together to give you a clearer understanding of Sepak Takraw?

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: O Lexile Level: 590L-740L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Informational / Sports

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read two passages about Sepak Takraw, a sport you may never have heard of. One passage explains what it is and how it's played, while the other compares it to volleyball. We'll look for important ideas and compare them to better understand how this sport is both unique and similar to others."

Vocabulary: Sepak Takraw, tournament, net, comparison, teamwork

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you ever heard of Sepak Takraw?
- 2. What do you expect from a sport played without hands?
- 3. Why do authors sometimes write two texts about the same topic?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- What makes Sepak Takraw different from volleyball?
- 2. How do the rules and team sizes compare?
- 3. What's the same about how both games are played?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What are the most important points from each passage?
- 2. How does reading both texts help you understand the sport better?
- 3. Would you want to try Sepak Takraw? Why or why not?

Activity Idea

Have students create a "Double Bubble" map or Venn diagram comparing Sepak Takraw and volleyball. Then write a paragraph summarizing two similarities and two differences, using evidence from both passages.

