

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

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### **Go for the Gold** **US Olympic and Paralympic Museum**

**Background:** The US Olympic and Paralympic Museum is divided into twelve galleries that take visitors on a journey through the personal struggles and career-defining moments of Team USA's athletes. The gallery exhibits showcase the evolution of the Games, from their birth in Ancient Olympia to the current Team USA hopefuls who are training just around the corner at the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Center. Visitors can walk along walls lined with more than 150 Olympic and Paralympic medals that were awarded to athletes for competition over the course of history or view the impressive collection of Olympic and Paralympic torches.

Be sure to check out the US Olympic and Paralympic Museum [Teachers Guide](#) for additional activities to complete at the museum and at home.

#### **Questions to Ask:**

1. What are the colors of the medals and what does each represent? *Gold is for first place, silver is for second place, and bronze is for third place*
2. What are the Paralympics? *Sporting event for athletes with impairments*
3. What does it take to become an Olympian? *While a variety of answers are acceptable, some might be: self-motivation, talent, determination, practice and dedication to the sport.*

**Activity:** Since the 1904 Olympics held in the United States, the same three medals have been awarded to the top performing athletes in each sport: gold for first place, silver for second place and bronze for third place.

As you explore, pay attention to the bronze, silver and gold medals found in the museum.

## Go for the Gold - Winter Olympics

The Olympic medals for the Winter Games must be different from the medals for the Summer Games. Choose a gold, silver and bronze Winter Olympic medal from different years and complete the chart below. Identify the year and host city as well as draw the design for each medal.

<b>Gold</b> Year _____ Location _____	<b>Silver</b> Year _____ Location _____	<b>Bronze</b> Year _____ Location _____

## Go for the Gold - Athletes

As you learn the stories of medal winning athletes, complete the chart below by identifying athletes who won gold, silver and bronze medals. Include the athletes name, year the medal was won and the event on the chart below. Aim to find at least three athletes for each medal.

Gold		Silver		Bronze	
Year	Recipient/Event	Year	Recipient/Event	Year	Recipient/Event

**Wrap up:** Which athlete did you find most inspiring? Why?