

HERO

1

TODAY'S FOCUS

In sports, kids discover that they can have a HEART of a Champion, which begins by following heroes they can look up to.

In faith, kids will see how Jesus is their hero because He created them and gave them talents.

Overview

Today you will introduce kids to the most important hero of all—Jesus.

Kids love to have heroes. They may look up to their parents or a sports superstar. Some may admire a pretend hero like a comic book character. During Opening Rally, kids will think about what it takes to be a HERO at sports.

After sharing the sports story during Halftime Rally, you will transition from sports to faith. Coach Jon will introduce his real hero, Jesus, as he shares the day's MEGA Point and talks about his faith.

The day's Bible story introduces Jesus as Creator. You may have kids at Sports Camp who have never heard how our world was created. They may not know that their hero, Jesus, created them to be amazing. Each day of MEGA Sports Camp will build on this foundation and kids will discover that Jesus wants to have a relationship with them.

MEGA POINT



Jesus is my hero because He created me.

SPORTS STORY



Usain Bolt's Heart of a Champion

BIBLE STORY



**God Creates the World
Genesis 1–2**

MEGA VERSE



MEGA Verse

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8, NKJV

➤ OPENING RALLY



DAY 1

RALLY SEGMENT	PERSONNEL NEEDED
• WELCOME	• Rally Coach; Music Coach
• COACH JON SPOTLIGHT	• Rally Coach
• MEGA VISITS	• MEGA; Rally Coach
• AWARDS, MEET THE COACHES, WARM-UP	• Rally Coach; Head Coaches
• PRAYER	• Rally Coach
YOU WILL NEED	GETTING READY
☐ Flash Drive ☐ Cape for MEGA ☐ Day 1 Sports Flash ☐ "I Did It" slip	☐ Practice the songs you plan to sing. ☐ Read through the Opening Rally so you are comfortable sharing with the kids. ☐ Print the Rally Guide pages from the Flash Drive for MEGA to review. ☐ Give MEGA the cape.

WELCOME

- Have fun music playing as the kids arrive.
- Display the Opening Rally MEGA Sports Camp HEART of a Champion logo slide.

Welcome to our first MEGA Sports Camp rally! Who's excited to be here? (*Group response*) I'm really glad you are here. At this camp, we are going to play sports. Who's ready to play sports? (*Group response*) And at this camp we are going to have lots of fun! Who's ready to have fun? (*Group response*)

In between Sports Sessions, we'll come together for rallies like this. These rallies will be fun times to discover more about our theme: HEART of a Champion. Who wants to be a champion? Wave your hand high. (*Group response*) We'll discover that being a champion takes H-E-A-R-T. Heart!

Let's see how much heart you have right now! On the count of three, I want you to yell the sport that you came to learn more about at our Sports Camp. Ready? One, two, three! (*Group response*)

- Invite the Music Coach to the stage to lead the song.
- Play the "MEGA Sports Camp Song" video.
- Play the Coach Jon Intro video.



COACH'S CORNER

Directions for displaying and playing the MEGA Sports Camp Slides and videos are included in the text.



COACH JON SPOTLIGHT

- Display the Day 1 Coach Jon Spotlight slide.

At MEGA Sports Camp today, we're going to focus on the H in HEART. So let's find out more about how to have the HEART of a Champion from Coach Jon.

- Play the Day 1 Coach Jon Spotlight Video.
- Display the Day 1 Theme Word slide.

What does the H in HEART stands for? Shout it out! (*hero*) A hero is someone we look up to. Coach Jon said we need a hero in our lives. On the count of three, shout out the name of one of your heroes. Ready, one, two, three! (*Group response*)

There are many athletes who are heroes because they are superstars at their sports. Later today, we'll hear about a sports hero who is one of the fastest runners in the whole world.

MEGA VISITS

- MEGA enters from the back wearing a cape and track shoes. He runs quickly around the room, causing quite a commotion. When he finally gets to the stage, he should raise his hands triumphantly.

Kids, speaking of running fast, this is MEGA. He's our Sports Camp mascot. Let's give him a hand. (*Lead kids in applauding for MEGA.*) MEGA, did you hear us talking about today's Theme Word already?

- MEGA nods yes enthusiastically.

I thought so because you look like you're ready to be a someone's hero. That's the first part of having the HEART of a Champion.

Kids, when MEGA shows up, he loves to help us practice the Theme Word and the MEGA Point. MEGA, are you ready to help the kids practice today's Theme Word?

- MEGA nods yes and puts his hands over his heart (*the Theme Word action*).

Oh, I think MEGA wants us to shout out today's word. Right, MEGA? (*MEGA nods.*) Let's practice. Okay kids, I'll say, "H is for" and you'll shout, "Hero!" Ready?

H is for . . . Hero!

- MEGA claps and jumps enthusiastically.

That was incredible! Wasn't that incredible, MEGA?

- MEGA gives kids a thumbs-up.



COACH'S CORNER



If there are kids present from another camp, ask one to come up, give MEGA a high five or a hug, and explain to everyone who MEGA is and what he does.



Theme Word Action

MEGA loves to hear both the Theme Word and the MEGA Point. So whenever he shows up and does this (*MEGA puts his hands over his heart*), he wants to hear you say the day's Theme Word. Let's try it again right now.

- MEGA does the Theme Word action.

H is for . . . Hero!

- MEGA should respond with excitement when the kids are done.

MEGA, do you have a hero?

- MEGA nods yes.

Will you tell us who your hero is?

- MEGA shakes his head no.

You won't? Will you tell us who your hero is later?

- MEGA shakes his head yes enthusiastically.

Okay, MEGA. That means you're going to hang out with us today, right?

- MEGA nods yes.

Great, MEGA! Later, you and the kids will hear a sports story about a hero. Then you'll learn today's MEGA Point and find out how Jesus is our hero.

Kids, be ready to say the Theme Word any time you see MEGA. Pay attention. You never know when he'll show up and want you to say today's Theme Word.

- MEGA should respond with excitement.

AWARDS

- Display the Awards slide.

Now let's talk about something fun. Awards! Wave your hand if you love awards and prizes. (*Group response*) Every day, you'll get a **Sports Flash** filled with fun activities.

- Hold up the **Day 1 Sports Flash**.

Everyone who tries to do the activities and brings back the "I Did It!" portion next time will get their name entered in a special drawing.

- Tear off slip and show what to return.

Every day we'll give away special prizes, so don't forget to bring back your "I Did It!" slips.

- Hold up the items you've chosen as prizes. (The **Water Bottle** or **T-shirt** from your kit make great prizes. Other options are marked in the **MEGA Sports Camp Catalog**.)



THEME KEEPERS

Who likes to collect things? Wave your hand. *(Group response)*
That's great! Every day you attend, you'll get a new Theme Keeper. When you collect them all, you'll have the whole MEGA Verse on the back.

- Show the **HEART of a Champion Theme Keeper**.



MEET THE COACHES & WARM-UP

Before we head out to our first Sports Session, you need to meet the Head Coaches. You're going to have fun during the Sports Sessions every day.

- Call the Head Coaches to the front, grouped by sport. Introduce each coach.

There's one more thing we need to do before we head out to sports time. Let's warm up. Everyone, stand up and get ready to move.

- Play the "MEGA Sports Camp Warm-Up Song" video.
- Display the Day 1 Theme Word slide.
- MEGA exits now if he has not done so already.

Great job getting warmed up!



PRAYER

I think we're almost ready to go. Let's pray and ask God to be with us today.

Dear God, thank You for bringing this great group of people to MEGA Sports Camp today. Help everyone to have fun and stay safe while we play. Help us listen carefully to our coaches as they show us how to become better athletes. Amen.

- Dismiss the kids to go to Sports Session 1.

COACH'S CORNER



MEGA should be off stage during all prayers to avoid distracting the kids.

COACH'S CORNER



Feel free to adapt the prayer as needed to fit your camp.

> SPORTS SESSION 1



The Head Coaches conduct this session in the various Sports Areas. Instructions are found in the sports playbooks. The Huddle Coaches will assist the Head Coaches and encourage the athletes.

> COACH HUDDLE



Coach Huddle is held in the Sports Areas. The Huddle Coaches lead this discussion time with their kids. The Coach Huddle Guide provides the Huddle Coaches with direction.

> SPORTS SESSION 2



The Head Coaches conduct this session in the various Sports Areas. Instructions are found in the sports playbooks.

> SNACKS & BREAK



Let the kids take a break and finish their snacks before they gather for the Halftime Rally.

➤ HALFTIME RALLY



DAY 1

RALLY SEGMENT	PERSONNEL NEEDED
• WELCOME	• Rally Coach; Music Coach
• MEGA VISITS	• MEGA; Rally Coach
• SPORTS STORY, MEGA POINT SPOTLIGHT	• Rally Coach; MEGA
• CONCLUSION	• Rally Coach; MEGA
YOU WILL NEED	GETTING READY
☐ Flash Drive	☐ Practice the songs you plan to sing. ☐ Read through the Halftime Rally so you are comfortable sharing with the kids. ☐ Print the Rally Guide pages from the Flash Drive for MEGA to review. ☐ Recruit two or three Head or Huddle Coaches to race during the sports story. They must be willing to “run” with their shoes on the wrong feet.

WELCOME

- Transition from snack time by playing the “MEGA Sports Camp Song” to announce the beginning of the Halftime Rally. Encourage the kids to begin singing as soon as they arrive.
- Display the Halftime Rally MEGA Sports Camp HEART of a Champion logo slide.
- Invite the Music Coach to the stage to lead the song.
- Play the “MEGA Sports Camp Song” video.

If you’ve been having fun today, cheer as loud as you can!
 (Group response) Who’s already learned something new? (Group response) That’s awesome!

- Display the Day 1 Theme Word slide.

MEGA VISITS

- MEGA enters with his shoes on the wrong feet, hobbling along. When he gets to the stage, he lies down as if he’s exhausted.

Hi, MEGA! Are you worn out already?

- MEGA pops up and shakes head no. Then he lies down and raises his feet into the air and points at them.

MEGA, is there something wrong? Kids, do you see anything that could be a problem for MEGA? (Allow responses until kids notice MEGA’s shoes are on the wrong feet.)



MEGA, you've got your shoes on the wrong feet! From the way you were walking, it looks like your feet might hurt too.

- MEGA sits up and pulls his shoes up close to his eyes to look at them. Then he looks shocked and points at his shoes.

MEGA, this reminds me of today's sports story! Can you stick around and help me tell it?

- MEGA nods yes enthusiastically. Then he sits up straighter and does the Theme Word action.

You're right, MEGA. Today's sports story is about our theme word. Kids, can you say it with me?

H is for . . . HERO.

SPORTS STORY

YOU WILL NEED	GETTING READY
☐ Flash Drive	☐ Recruit two or three Head or Huddle Coaches to race during the sports story. They must be willing to "run" with their shoes on the wrong feet.

Today's sports story is about a very fast runner. Who loves to run? Stomp your feet three times. Ready? One, two, three! (*Group response*)

The runner's name is Usain Bolt. He's so fast that his nickname is Lightning Bolt. Usain is a sports hero, but it wasn't always that way.

- Display the **Day 1 Sports Flash** slide.

Usain was born in the island country of Jamaica. When he was in school, he loved sports just like you do. But there was something that he didn't like to do. Shout out what you think he didn't like. (*Group response*)

Practice! Usain didn't like practice. It isn't always fun to practice, is it? (*Group response*)

Well, Usain was a very fast runner. When he was just fifteen years old, he competed in the World Junior Championship. He was so nervous that he put his shoes on the wrong feet.

Hey, MEGA! That's just like you! How about if we see what it would be like to race with your shoes on the wrong feet? What do you think, MEGA?

- MEGA shrugs his shoulders, pretends to think about it by rubbing his chin, and then nods yes.

Well, MEGA, if you're going to race you need some people to compete against you. Kids, I think we should choose some



coaches to race MEGA. Point at your coach if you think they should race MEGA. *(Pause while kids respond.)*

- Choose the coaches you selected before the rally started. Invite them to the front to put their shoes on the wrong feet.

Okay, racers. You need to put your shoes on the wrong feet just like Usain and MEGA did. Then line up and get ready to race.

- Coaches and MEGA line up.

Let's see who our hero will be. On your mark. Get set. Go!

- The coaches and MEGA should have fun with the race while making sure that someone is the clear winner.

Great racing, everyone! Let's give them a hand before they go back to their seats.

- Lead kids in clapping for the coaches and MEGA as they sit down. MEGA should stay close to the stage.

Let's go back to our story. Usain was very nervous that day. Racing in front of a lot of people can be scary. Do you think he won his race? Say, "Oh, yeah!" if you think he did. *(Pause while kids respond.)*

Usain did win the 200-meter race that day. In fact, he was the youngest world junior gold medalist ever. He was on his way to becoming a champion.

Now I want you to look closely at the picture of Usain. What is he doing? *(pointing up)* Not only is Usain a sports hero, but he has faith too. That's what today's MEGA Point is all about. Let's listen as Coach Jon tells us about it.

MEGA POINT SPOTLIGHT

- Play the Day 1 MEGA Point Spotlight Video.
- Display the Day 1 MEGA Point slide.

Even though Coach Jon has sports heroes that he looks up to, his real hero is Jesus. Every day we are going to learn a MEGA Point that tells us about Jesus. MEGA, can you come up and help us practice today's MEGA Point?

- MEGA jumps up on the stage and points straight up like Usain Bolt's photo.

MEGA, that's the perfect action for the MEGA Point. Let's say it together.

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

Kids, now you have two things to practice when you see MEGA. Let's say the MEGA Point one more time for him.



MEGA Point Action

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

- MEGA jumps up and down and claps excitedly.

You'll find out more about Jesus in the Closing Rally. MEGA, will you be back then?

- MEGA nods

CONCLUSION

Kids, watch for MEGA at your next Sports Session and be ready to say the Theme Word and the MEGA Point. Are you ready to play some more sports? (*Group response*)

- MEGA waves excitedly.

Awesome! Follow your coach to your sport. Have fun!

- Dismiss the kids and coaches to Sports Session 3.

COACH'S CORNER



If kids really enjoyed the "MEGA Sports Camp Warm-Up Song," repeat it before dismissing to Sports Session 3.

COACH'S CORNER



There are lots of extras on the **Flash Drive**—3x7' banners of H-E-A-R-T, MEGA Point Review videos with Coach Jon, and more.

SPORTS SESSION 3



The Head Coaches conduct this session in the various Sports Areas. Instructions are found in the sports playbooks.

HERO

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

ENDURANCE

Jesus's love endures even when I make mistakes.

ALERT

Jesus always sees exactly what I need.

READY

Just like Jesus, I am ready to respond.

TRIUMPHANT

I can be with Jesus forever.

> CLOSING RALLY



DAY 1

RALLY SEGMENT	PERSONNEL NEEDED
• WELCOME	• Rally Coach; Music Coach
• MEGA VISITS	• MEGA; Rally Coach
• BIBLE STORY	• Rally Coach
• RESPONSE TIME, PRAYER, CLOSING	• Rally Coach; Huddle Coaches
YOU WILL NEED	GETTING READY
☐ Flash Drive ☐ Bible ☐ <i>Day 1 Sports Flash</i> ☐ Theme Keeper	☐ Practice the songs you plan to sing. ☐ Read through the Closing Rally so you are comfortable sharing with the kids. ☐ Print the Rally Guide pages from the Flash Drive for MEGA to review.

WELCOME

- Have fun music playing as the kids arrive.
- Display the Closing Rally MEGA Sports Camp HEART of a Champion logo slide.

Welcome back! Wave your hand if you felt like a champion today. (*Group response*) You've done such a great job singing, that I think we're ready to learn a new song.

- Invite the Music Coach to the stage to lead the song.
- Play the "The Heavens Declare" (Psalm 19:1–2) video.
- Display the Day 1 MEGA Point slide.

MEGA VISITS

- MEGA enters with his arms in the air and runs onstage.

MEGA! I'm glad you're back. I was just getting ready to review the MEGA Point with the kids. Can you help us?

- MEGA nods enthusiastically and then does the MEGA Point action.

I think MEGA wants us to start with the MEGA Point right now. Let's see how loud we can say it.

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

MEGA, the kids have done a great job learning the MEGA Point, don't you think?

- MEGA nods enthusiastically and then does the Theme Word action.



MEGA Point Action

Good idea, MEGA. Let's say today's Theme Word too.

H is for . . . Hero!

- MEGA claps and then waves good-bye. He starts to exit through the audience.

Bye, MEGA! Hey, wait a second. There's something you forgot to tell us, MEGA.

- MEGA stops and looks back at the Rally Coach, but doesn't return to the stage.

MEGA, you promised to tell us who your hero is, but you didn't tell us yet. Who is it?

- MEGA does the MEGA Point action and points up to the ceiling.

MEGA, are you wanting us to say the MEGA Point one more time?

- MEGA shakes his head no and jumps as he points up at the ceiling to emphasize his action.

MEGA, are you giving us a clue about who your hero is?

- MEGA gets excited and nods yes. Then he repeats his action of pointing up at the ceiling.

Oh! I think I get what you're telling us. Kids, do you know who MEGA's favorite hero is? (*Group response*)

MEGA, is your hero Jesus?

- MEGA nods yes, claps excitedly, and gives high fives to a few kids nearby.

Hmm. (*Tap finger on chin*) Our MEGA Point is about Jesus! Is that why you point up when you do the MEGA Point action?

- MEGA nods enthusiastically and claps.

MEGA, that's a great idea! You are so creative! Hey, that's what our MEGA Point is about!

- MEGA nods and shrugs, then does the MEGA Point action.

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

MEGA, thanks for introducing what we're going to learn about next. You're awesome! See you next time.

- MEGA waves good-bye as he exits.



Theme Word Action



BIBLE STORY (GENESIS 1–2)

YOU WILL NEED

☐ Bible

GETTING READY

☐ Read through the Bible Story so you are comfortable sharing with the kids.

- Display the Day 1 MEGA Sports Camp Bible Story slide.

Every day at MEGA Sports Camp, we'll hear a true story from the Bible.

- Hold up the Bible.

The Bible is a very special book because everything in it was inspired by God. That means the words came from God. We're going to start at the very beginning of the Bible.

- Open the Bible to Genesis 1.

This Bible story starts before the world was even created. There were no stars, no oceans, and no people. There was nothing. But God decided to change all that.

In the Bible, the Book of Genesis tells us the whole story of how God made everything. As I tell the story, I'm going to need your help. I'll tell you what God created on each of the six days of creation.

At the end of each day, we'll rejoice over what God has created by doing the Wave. The Wave is something the crowd does at sporting events when they take turns standing up.

Who knows how to do the Wave? (*Allow responses.*)

You'll need to pay attention. I'll point to one side of the room and that side will start the Wave by standing up and sitting down. Then everyone will stand up and sit down until the "wave" has moved across the room. Let's practice.

- Point to one side of the room and let the kids do the Wave.
- The kids at the ends of the rows on that side will stand, raise their hands in the air, and then sit down quickly. The kids seated next to them will follow suit and so forth until the "wave" moves to the other side of the room.
- Do this a few times pointing to each side of the room randomly.

You won't know which side will start the Wave each time, so pay attention. Are you ready? (*Group response*) Then, here we go.

- Display the Creation Day 1 slide.

The Bible says that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. He just spoke and everything was made. On the



first day God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God separated the light from the darkness. What did God call the light? (*day*) What did He call the darkness? (*night*) He saw that these were good. Let’s hear it for God creating the light and the dark!

- Have the kids do the Wave.
- Display the Creation Day 2 slide.

On the second day, God made the sky. Now the earth had air around it. God looked at the sky and He said that it was good. Let’s hear it for the sky!

- Have the kids do the Wave.
- Display the Creation Day 3 slide.

On the third day, God created the dry land. He gathered the water into oceans and seas and rivers and streams. He made mountains and hills and valleys and islands.

Then God made plants and trees grow out of the ground. God looked at the land and sea and plants and saw that these were good too. Let’s celebrate that God made the land, seas, and plants.

- Have the kids do the Wave.
- Display the Creation Day 4 slide.

On the fourth day, God created the sun, moon, and stars to give light to the earth and to help us keep track of time. What did God make to light the day? (*The sun*) What did God make to light the night? (*The moon and stars*)

God looked at what He had made and said it was good. Are you glad God gave us the sun, moon, and stars? (*Group response*) Then let’s rejoice together!

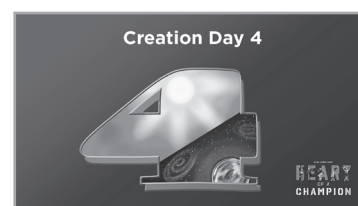
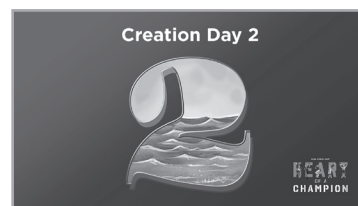
- Have the kids do the Wave.
- Display the Creation Day 5 slide.

On the fifth day God created all the birds and all the water animals.

God made thousands and thousands of different sky and water animals. He just said it, and it happened. At the end of the day, God once again looked at what He had made. He saw that what He had made was . . . (*Let kids supply the word “good.”*).

- Have the kids do the Wave.
- Display the Creation Day 6 slide.

On the sixth day, God was very busy. First, He made all the animals that live on the land. He made wild animals and tame animals too. What’s your favorite animal? Just shout it out! (*Group response*) God was happy with all the animals He made.



- Have the kids do the Wave.

But God wasn't finished. He still had something very special to create on the sixth day. Can you guess what God made next?
(Group response)

God made people. God made a man and a woman. He said, "Let us make people in our own image." Do you know what that means? God made people to be like Him. He gave us some of His traits. He didn't do that with any of the other things He created. We're His most important creation! I think we should do another Wave just for that!

- Have the kids do the Wave.

With everything else He had made, God said that it was good. But after He made people, God said that His creation was "very good." God was very happy with the people He had made. And after that, He rested.

- Display the Creation Day 7 slide.



RESPONSE TIME

Later in the Bible, it tells us that Jesus was there at creation too. Jesus is God's Son. We are going to find out all about Jesus at MEGA Sports Camp. One of the things we know about Jesus is our MEGA Point. Say it with me.

- Display the Day 1 MEGA Point slide.

Jesus is my hero because He created me.

Remember that a hero is someone who can do amazing things. Jesus is the best hero of all.

We're going to end the day by resting and thinking about how Jesus created each one of us. In just a moment, you're going to close your eyes. Then I will pray and ask Jesus to show each one of you one amazing thing that He created you to be great at.

Ready? Close your eyes.

Dear Jesus, thank You for creating each person here today. They are amazing! Help them to see what they are great at. Maybe it is something with sports. Or maybe they are a great friend. Or maybe they help their parents by playing with their little brother or sister. There are many things that You created them to be great at. Thank You for each one of them. Amen.

Now keep your eyes shut as you think about something Jesus created you to be great at.



COACH'S CORNER



While MEGA Sports Camp is designed for a specific salvation altar time on Day 4, the Holy Spirit may draw kids to salvation on other days of your camp.

You may wish to ask your Prayer Coach to be available to pray with kids for salvation at the end of any Response Time. This will allow the Huddle Coaches to continue guiding the other kids during the Closing Time.

- After a short time of silence, have the kids open their eyes.

We're going to end by having you tell your Huddle Coach what came to your mind. Gather around and quickly go around your group. If you have a hard time thinking of something, ask your Huddle Coach to help you.

- Allow kids to share with their Huddle Coach.

PRAYER & CLOSING

YOU WILL NEED	GETTING READY
☐ Day 1 Sports Flash ☐ Theme Keeper	None

PRAYER

We have a fun way of praying together as we end MEGA Sports Camp. Everyone gather in a circle with your Huddle Coach.

Huddle Coach, hold one hand out in the middle of your circle of kids.

Kids, stack your hands on top. Then let's pray.

Dear God, thank You for helping us have a great day at MEGA Sports Camp. Thanks for reminding us that You created us to be amazing. We love You. We can't wait to come back next time. Amen.

CLOSING

Okay, keep your hands stacked. Now we're going to wrap up our MEGA Sports Camp time for today. So join me as I count to three. Then, Huddle Coaches, lead your group in shouting, "MEGA Sports Camp" as you throw your hands up into the air. Ready? One, two, three. *MEGA Sports Camp!*

As you leave today, you'll get today's **Theme Keeper**. Plus you'll get the first **Sports Flash**. Do the activities inside and bring back the "I Did It!" slip next time, so you can enter the drawing for a prize.

- Show the **Day 1 Sports Flash** and point out the slip kids need to return.

Great job, everyone! Thanks for a great day at our MEGA Sports Camp event. Good-bye!

- Give a copy of **Day 1 Sports Flash** and a **Theme Keeper** to each kid.

