



**Title:** I want to be a Sports Star

**Author:** Mary Anastasiou

**Illustrator:** Anil Tortop

**Publisher:** Larrikin House

**Target Age Group:** 3-8 years

**Key Curriculum Areas:** English, The Arts, Health & PE.

## SYNOPSIS

So you want to be a Sports Star?

What kind will you be? A Surfer? A Fencer? A Football Star? Maybe a Tennis Star or a Pro Skater riding rails? Anything is possible with a little fun and a whole lot of creativity. Join Taylor, Frankie (and Lucky) as they imagine their way through the thrill of sports and Olympic medal dreams.

## THEMES

Sports, athletes, dreams, goal setting, imagination, rhyme, olympics, dressing up and costumes.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mary Anastasiou has been telling stories her whole life. From the outlandish and silly tales she told as a child growing up in Melbourne, Australia, to the response-driven marketing campaigns she delivers in her role as Creative Director at Imagine Creative. The arrival of her son Luke in 2008 inspired Mary to fulfil her lifelong dream of writing fun, inspiring, and motivating stories that made him “giggle ‘til his belly hurt.” She hopes her books inspire your little ones to do the same. Mary was recently appointed as Creative Director for publishing company Larrikin House. She is now responsible for the design and production of all their new titles. With an extensive knowledge in the publishing and marketing industry, Mary is now able to fulfil another lifelong dream: to help other aspiring authors realise their own publishing dream.





## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Anil Tortop was born and raised in Turkey. She moved to Australia in early 2011 and has been trying to get used to the local eight-legged house intruders and slithering visitors to her garden ever since. Anil also works as an animator and character/concept designer, but has been called away from this affair as her relationship with children's books becomes more serious. Nowadays, she lives with her husband in Brisbane. In their small home studio together, they call themselves "Children's Booksmiths."

## ACTIVITIES

### BEFORE READING

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this story might be about?
2. Can you point out the following features of the book? (Spine, title, illustrations, front page, back page, blurb, author)

- Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1590) (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELA1439) (ACELT1575)

### DURING READING

1. Recognising rhyming words - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice the rhyming words on a selected page.
2. Recognising alliteration - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice any alliteration used in the story.
3. Clap the rhythm - On a selected page, students clap their hands along to the beat of the words.

- Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1592) (ACELA1448)





## DURING READING

Questions to ask:

- What do you think will happen next?
  - What do you notice about the characters?
  - What do you enjoy about the illustrations?
  - Do you think Taylor and Frankie will ever become Sports Stars? Why or why not?
  - Can you make any connections to the story so far?
  - Have you ever played a sport?
  - Have you ever been to a sporting event? What did you see? What would you like to see?
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- Suggested curriculum links: (ACAMAM054) (ACELY1666) (ACELY1665) (ACELT1593) (ACELT1591) (ACELT1590) (ACELT1589) (ACELY1666) (ACELT1593) (ACELA1786) (ACELA1439)

## AFTER READING

Questions to ask:

1. What did you enjoy most about the story?
2. What is your favourite sport, why?

Link to community - Organise a visit to a sporting event or watch some replays of events or recent olympics.

- Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1589)





## ACTIVITY TEMPLATES:

### Colour in your Sports Star

Suggested curriculum links: (ACTDEK004) (ACAVAM108)

### Who am I?

Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1593) (ACELT1591) (ACAMAM054)

### Matching activity - Sports

Suggested curriculum links: (ACAMAM056) (ACAMAM054)

### Draw and Write - Sports

Suggested curriculum links: (ACELY1673) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1662)

### Word search

Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1593) (ACAMAM054)

### Connect the dots - Skateboard

Suggested curriculum links: (ACAVAM107) (ACAMAM054) (ACMNA001) (ACMNA002)

### Connect the dots - Trophy

Suggested curriculum links: (ACAVAM107) (ACAMAM054) (ACMNA001) (ACMNA002)

### Hide and Seek - Sports and equipment

Suggested curriculum links: (ACAVAM108) (ACAMAM054)

### Word puzzle

Suggested curriculum links: (ACELT1593) (ACAMAM054)



**FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**Books:**

I want to be a Movie Star written by Mary Anastasiou, illustrated by Anil Tortop

I want to be a Rock Star written by Mary Anastasiou, illustrated by Anil Tortop

Further exploration of genres of sports and athletes:

<https://www.olympics.com.au/olympians/ash-barty>

<https://www.olympics.com.au/olympians/keegan-palmer>

<https://www.olympics.com.au/olympians/stephanie-gilmore>

<https://www.cristianoronaldo.com/#cr7>

<https://www.timcahill.com>

<https://www.davidbeckham.com>

<https://australia.basketball/national-teams/opals>

**Websites:**

Mary Anastasiou Website: [www.lilrebel.com.au](http://www.lilrebel.com.au)

Anil Tortop Website: [www.tadaabook.com](http://www.tadaabook.com)



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