

Lesson Plan

Building Skills

Book: *Kylian Mbappé: Soccer Star*

Series: Biggest Names in Sports

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students practice identifying and evaluating the evidence an author uses to support claims.

Supplies

- *Kylian Mbappé: Soccer Star* book

Before the Activity

Read *Kylian Mbappé: Soccer Star* out loud to students, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Kylian Mbappé highlights the young star's rapid rise to fame. Throughout the book, the author makes several statements describing Mbappé's path to success. Discuss the following questions as a class:

- Page 11 says Kylian was “born into the world of soccer.” How does the author support this statement? (Answer: He explains that Kylian's father was a soccer coach for AS Bondy.)
- What was AS Bondy known for? (Answer: Bondy's pro team was not great, but its youth program produced great players.)
- How did a connection with this team help Kylian? (Answer: Kylian started practicing and attending soccer meetings from a very young age.)
- Page 13 says, “By the time Kylian was a teenager, all that practice had paid off.” How does the author support this statement? (Answer: He writes that some of the biggest clubs in the world wanted to sign Kylian.)
- Why did Kylian choose to play for AS Monaco? (Answer: That team was known for developing young players.)
- Why would this be helpful to Kylian's career? (Answer: Although the team was not as famous, it would give Kylian more opportunities to build his skills.)
- Page 20 describes Kylian's decision to join PSG in 2017. What two effects of this decision does the author list? (Answer: Kylian would return to his hometown of Paris and be teammates with soccer superstar Neymar.)

- How would playing with Neymar help Kylian’s career? (Answer: Kylian could learn from the older, more experienced player.)
- Page 26 describes an opportunity Kylian had to play with another superstar, Cristiano Ronaldo. What reason does the author give for why Kylian turned this opportunity down? (Answer: Real Madrid already had many star players, so Kylian thought he wouldn’t get much playing time if he joined the team.)

Several times in his career, Kylian made choices to focus on building experience, even if it meant giving up opportunities to be part of more famous teams. Have students turn to a partner and discuss the following questions:

- Do you think Kylian’s choice to prioritize skills over fame is unique among athletes? Why or why not?
- Would you rather be part of an extremely talented team where you only played a little, or would you join a less-skilled team where you got more playing time? Why?

Evaluation

Could students answer the questions, combining information from the text with their own ideas and those of their peers?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ speaking and listening standards, grade 5 (SL 5.1), and reading standards for informational texts, grade 5 (RI 5.2, 5.8).