As I was investigating numerous wordless picture books, I pondered the importance of exercise and sports and how this theme could connect across many cultures. By collecting books centered around sports and exercise, readers can investigate different types of exercise as well as learn about new sports they may be unfamiliar with. Being active is an important component to a person’s life. This theme has the ability to connect to a variety of learners from different backgrounds because they are able to compare and contrast their own sports experiences while creating a deeper understanding to those in which they already know.

Note to Reader:
This book list was created and ordered through the use of text from no text to most difficult text.

[ISBN 10-1570624828]
WIDA Level: Emerging-Bridging
Reading Level: Wordless
Interest Level: Grades 3+
Availability: Hardcover, Paperback, CD

Summary: This wordless book displays black and white drawings of all sport types from early history to present times. Some pictures depict sport equipment such as jousting tools, sailing, tennis rackets, and more. The included CD contains the same pictures and would be a valuable resource to learners. When using this book with younger learners, please refrain from using pages 58-63.

Use with ELLs: This book would be a great tool for ELLs because the book encompasses many unique sports along with the equipment that is used in conjunction with the sport. It also shows the progression of sports throughout history and contains no photographs but simple illustrations.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. This lesson plan, focused for grades 2-5, helps students to understand the history of the Olympics through the subject of social studies.
http://lessonplanspage.com/sshistoryoftheolympicsfullplan25.htm/

2. This website includes photographs from a wide range of sports including equipment indoor and outdoor sport activities
freedigitalphotos.net/images/sorts_and_leisure_g37.html

[ISBN 1-932273-49-2]
WIDA Level: Developing-Bridging
Reading Level: 6.0+ (Use for Photographs only)
Interest Level: Grades 2+
Availability: Hardcover

Summary: Sports Illustrated is full of information about a wide range of sports. This anniversary edition provides fifty years of memorable moments in sports history from 1954-2004. While the book does include numerous lengthy articles, one section is specifically titled “The Photographs” on page 48, where photographs ranging from baseball, wrestling, soccer, swimming, tennis, and many others. Articles could be covered and discussions would be sparked by simply investigating the photographs. Specific pictures that would be utilized are featured on pages 50-57, 60-65, 68-70, 72-87, 90-105, 107-125, 128-146. (Some pictures were not selected due to topic other than sports)

Use with ELLs: This book would be a great resource for English Language Learners due to it’s versatility in connections, the ability to discuss vocabulary, and to show real life situations common and memorable to sports. The pictures also provoke emotional connections such as defeat, happiness, success, and hard work. This is a very connectable subject for all learners.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. This lesson plan ranges from Kindergarten through grade eight and includes a wide range of materials for a physical education activities.
http://www.kerpoof.com/edu/plans/Celebrate_Sport/Celebrate_Sport_Lesson_PlanREVISED9-09.pdf
2. This video orally describes the contents of the book and summarizes the importance of the 50 year anniversary.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqQoyK2adS0
3. This video speaks about another related Sports Illustrated book connected to basketball.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_C4nXCljoY

Online Resources for Sports Illustrated
1. Visiting the Sports Illustrated website online provides current news as well as another resource for individuals to use at home.  http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/
2. This resource is specifically targets younger students while providing similar information as the higher leveled Sports Illustrated.  
   http://www.sikids.com/magmediakit/franchise/mag_fran.htm

WIDA Level:  Emerging-Developing
Reading Level:  3.0 (Text is limited to days of the week only.)
Interest Level:  Grades PreK-2
Availability:  Hardcover

Summary:  This book features a young boy’s experiences towards playing baseball and growing old.  He wishes to play baseball with the younger children, but feels left out.  The he notices a group of older men who all sit together on a park bench.  The boy then decides to dress and act like the older men.  To his surprise, they begin to play and have a great time without him too.  He is very shy and wants to play.  In the end, the boy learns that it does not matter what age you are, you can still have fun with your friends; especially with baseball!  He also learns the importance of speaking up for oneself.

Use with ELLS:  This book contains universal issues such as friendship, growing older, and even playing with others.  The students may be able to connect with these concepts while thinking of how the character feels through emotions and facial expressions featured in the illustrations.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1.  This list of books and lessons help to teach students about overcoming shyness  
   http://www.rhml.lib.mo.us/bks_bashful.pdf
2.  This website helps to teach and understand sports etiquette for children.  This would accompany this book to help alleviate students feeling left out during games, exercise, or sporting events.  
   http://www.coaching-kids-sports.com/sportsetiquette.html
3.  This website provides a review of the book with a look at some inside pages.  
WIDA Level: Entering-Emergent
Reading Level: 1.0 (Simple sentences with feelings/actions)
Interest Level: Grades K-3
Availability: Hardcover, Paperback

Summary: A young gymnast is thinking of quitting. She feels as though she cannot perform like her friend, Jan. However with a little encouragement from her friend, Ella tries her best and is able to show off her new move with ease. This book not only shows how determination and persistence are keys to success, but friendship and believing in oneself can also aid in development.

Use with ELLs: ELLs would connect with this book because of it’s underlying theme of trying your best and never giving up. All students can connect to this topic whether it be a sport, riding a bike, drawing the perfect cartoon, or learning a new skill.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. This online lesson plan touches upon the theme from the book of perseverance and never giving up. The lesson provides some other book suggestions to coincide with this theme. However, *I Will Try* would be a great supplement. While the lesson plan is directed towards a lower grade level, this skill is ageless and universal.  
2. This website connects the teacher with pre-created flashcards associated with the text.  
   http://www.holidayhouse.com/I-Like-to-Read/flashcards/HH_ReadFC_IWillTry_LoRes.pdf

**WIDA Level**: Entering - Developing  
**Reading Level**: 1.1 (Simple sentences directly connected to the illustrations)  
**Interest Level**: PreK-2+  
**Availability**: Hardcover, Paperback

**Summary**: This book contains simple sentences with the verb to be and introduces readers to the game of baseball through basic plays, equipment, and moves. The book progressively demonstrates an actual game.

**Use with ELLs**: ELLs would enjoy this book because of its simple demonstration of the game of baseball through a featured game. It would also connect to sporting events other than baseball such as a stadium, or what it’s like to be on a team.

**Websites for Suggested Lessons:**
1. This website provides a variety of lesson for older learners ranging from grades 6 through 12. [http://www.pbs.org/baseball-the-tenth-inning/for-educators/lesson-plans/](http://www.pbs.org/baseball-the-tenth-inning/for-educators/lesson-plans/)
2. This site provides lesson plans about baseball history, to Presented by the Library of Congress for older grade levels. [http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/baseball/lessonplans.html](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/baseball/lessonplans.html)
3. This site features more lesson plans for elementary level students connected the the World Series [http://www.edutopia.org/blog/world-series-classroom-activities-matthew-davis](http://www.edutopia.org/blog/world-series-classroom-activities-matthew-davis)
4. This site features the book’s publisher while giving viewer’s an electronic peek at pages. It also contains links to become more familiar with the authors. [http://us.macmillan.com/thisisbaseball/MargaretBlackstone](http://us.macmillan.com/thisisbaseball/MargaretBlackstone)
5. This site features a unit focused on baseball which features the above book and many other titles with a baseball theme. This is a great resource for teachers to use before sharing the story with a group of students. [http://www.readbag.com/oregonread-pg-activities-10-activities-batter-up](http://www.readbag.com/oregonread-pg-activities-10-activities-batter-up)
WIDA Level: Entering-Developing
Reading Level: 2.0 (Two sets of rhyming words per illustration)
Interest Level: Grades PreK-2
Availability: Hardcover

Summary: This simple text book takes the reader through a journey of rhyming words that are associated with sports and sports equipment. The animals presented in the story are not typical to a particular area such as the kiwi, mole, dove, and many other unique animals. The book also connects to a wide range of sports including like skateboarding, bowling, golf, and cheerleading.

Use with ELLs: This book is simple and would be appealing through it’s humor of animals personifying human actions. ELL students would be able to follow the rhyming pattern and connect to the many different animals featured in the illustrations.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. This website lists the above picture book with number of other resources to use for sports education.
   http://web.ccsu.edu/library/curriculumlab/Bibliographies/Sports.htm
2. This resource provides a week of learning about March Madness (basketball) through physical education in the classroom. The above book is featured in these plans and focuses on younger elementary grade levels.
3. This site features the above book in a unit and connects to another book written by Michael Rex titled, Truck, Duck.
WIDA Level: Emerging-Developing  
Reading Level: 2.0 (Simple text to show Tom’s actions and feelings)  
Interest Level: Grades PreK-2  
Availability: Hardcover  

Summary: Tom is so excited about his new bike that he just has to share it with his friend Sam. When he gets to his house, Tom cannot find Sam! Little does Tom know, but his friend Sam has taken his bike while he wasn’t looking. Tom is upset at first when he finds out, but then they begin to share the new bike. When they return home, Sam’s parents have a surprise: A new bike!

Use with ELLs: ELLs can connect to receiving a new present and wanting to share it with a friend. Whether the present be a bicycle, toy, or other item, it would be something so exciting, they would want to share and describe what they have done with this item.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:  
1. This video clip shows how to ride a bike for the first time and what equipment you will need. Each step is explained in detail picturing which part of the bike is essential for that move and/or tip.  
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-oJ4NA_M4g  
2. To learn more about James Ransome, the author, visit his homepage where visitors can discover other titles and more information about his life.  
   http://jamesransome.com/new.html
WIDA Level: Entering-Emergent  
Reading Level: 1.0 (Geometry Terminology; statements and ‘WH’ Questions)  
Interest Level: Grades PreK-2  
Availability: Hardcover, Paperback  

Summary:  *Shapes in Sports* presents as a mathematics book for the topic of geometry by displaying shapes in real life settings. The illustrations feature photographs of sports and exercise in motion featuring the shapes found in each picture.

Use with ELLs: These photographs will not only promote vocabulary development, for English Language Learners but present sports and other methods of exercising such as soccer, car racing, yoga, kayaking, and others in real contexts. ELLs would enjoy this book due to it’s real life photographs, and its presentation of numerous sports.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:  
1. This website shares a physical education lesson on how to teach shapes through body movement.  
http://www.pecentral.org/lessonideas/ViewLesson.asp?ID=305#.UVogho7FVaU  
2. This website features the book title along with listed awards the book has won, reviews of the book, as well as displaying other books apart of the Spot the Shape series.  
[ISBN 0-02-735991-3]
WIDA Level: Emerging-Bridging
Reading Level: 1.5 (Song Lyrics)
Interest Levels: Grades K-2+
Availability: Hardcover, Paperback

Summary: This book illustrates the classic American song of “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” through the Brooklyn Dodgers. From playing ball in the street, to what a baseball stadium entails, to how the game is played, readers of all ages can connect to this story with limited text.

Use with ELLs: Baseball is a very appealing connection to a wide range of cultures such as students from the Dominican Republic, Japan, and many others. ELLs can also make connections to similar sports even if they have not been exposed to baseball before.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. An Internet Lesson that focuses on Grades 3-6 on building background knowledge on baseball history while suggesting creative ways such as creating travel brochures to ballparks, and creating nicknames for famous players today, to incorporate baseball into the classroom.
2. This video depicts a teacher-created unit to develop teamwork. Throughout the video, the teacher explains each activities such as teaching the lyrics to the song, creating team pennants, and comparing and contrasting other sports. Although this seems to be geared towards second grade, these lessons could be adaptable to a wide range of levels.
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2A36qdom8hw
3. This link shows a quartet singing the song. It is suggested that lyrics could be provided for the viewers to follow along with.
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upW4dLoKGxc
4. To provide students with background knowledge, utilize this website from the Baseball Hall of Fame. This particular page displays lessons from a variety of subject areas that incorporate baseball.
   http://baseballhall.org/education/school-programs/curriculum
5. This website provides connections to the authors and publishers while also providing questions to propose to students. You must sign into the site to receive these resources or utilize the free trial.
   http://wcmu.org/radio/childrens_bookshelf/cb_bookshelf_questions_2011.html#ballgame
WIDA Level: Emerging-Expanding
Reading Level: 2.0 (Some complex adjectives and action words directly connected to soccer)
Interest Level: Grades 1-4
Availability: Hardcover

Summary: With the scored tied, the anticipation builds throughout this book. The literature is written in verse form which adds excitement and emotions to this soccer game. Readers are able to feel as if they are playing the game through the text and illustrations. While the text may present difficulties for some readers, it enhances vocabulary development while teaching some specific terms to the sport.

Use with ELLs: This book presents a different method of text layout of poetry. ELL students can connect to an exciting moment in their life such as the anticipation of moving, or like the book, winning or scoring a goal in a sporting event.

Websites for Suggested Lessons:
1. Video of how to shoot a goal in soccer.
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1ucSYdBHZQ
2. How to incorporate poetry with sports
   http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/race-with-grace-sports-920.html
3. This website provided in-depth information about the author, Robert Burleigh as well as reviews for various titles he has written.

Resources:
1. Robert Burleigh’s home page
   http://robertburleigh.com/