

Lacrosse

A Reading A-Z Level J Leveled Book
Word Count: 410

Connections

Writing

What do you think is the most difficult part of playing lacrosse? Draw a picture and write about it.

Social Studies

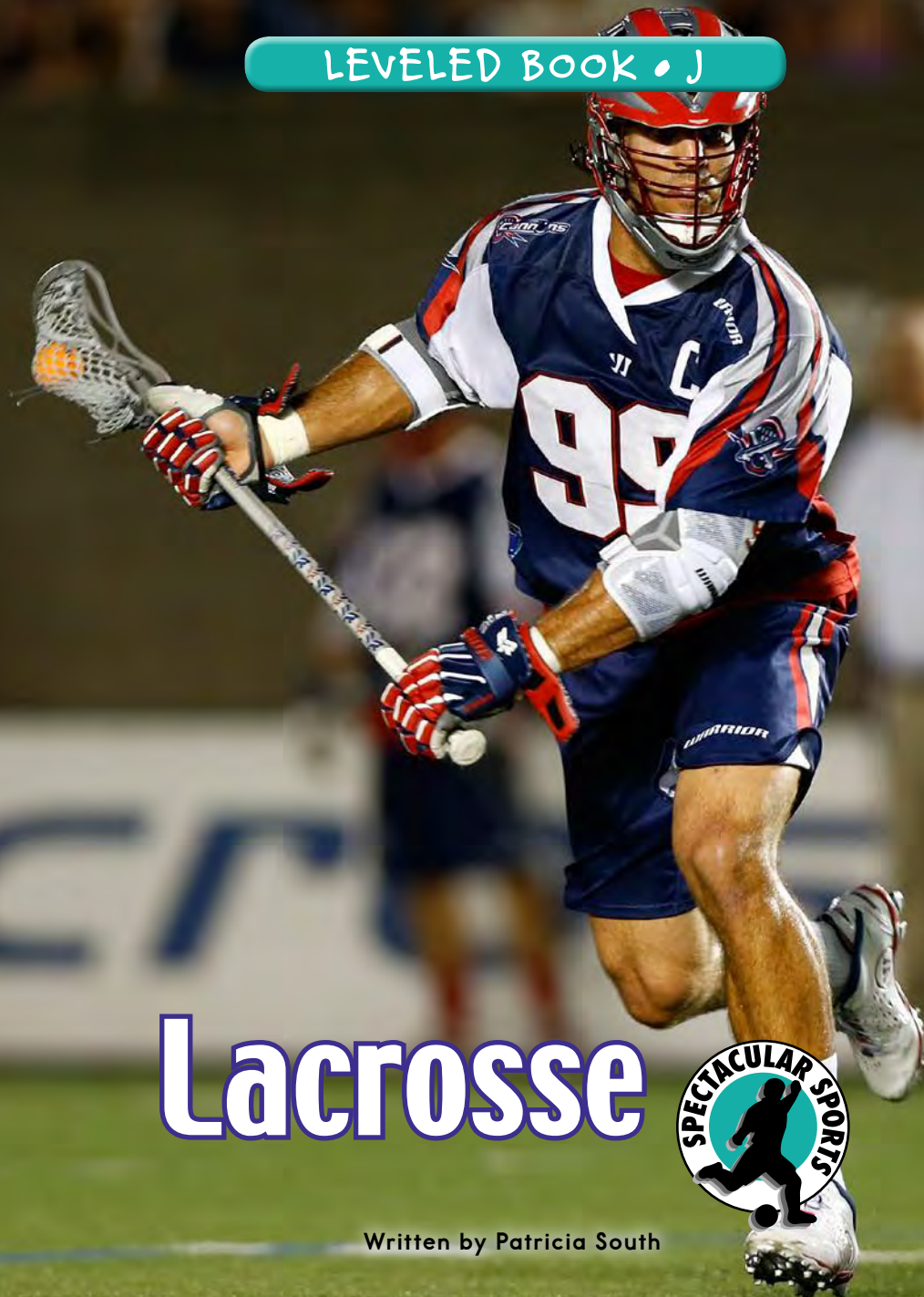
On a map of the world, label the continents. Color the parts of the world that play lacrosse today. Use the map in your book to help you.



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LEVELED BOOK • J



Lacrosse



Written by Patricia South

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Glossary

ancient (<i>adj.</i>)	from a very long time ago (p. 4)
exciting (<i>adj.</i>)	causing feelings of joy; interesting and lively (p. 4)
First Nations (<i>n.</i>)	people who lived in present-day Canada before Europeans arrived, or the descendants of those people (p. 5)
goal (<i>n.</i>)	the place where a ball or puck must end up to score points in a game (p. 11)
settled (<i>v.</i>)	moved to a new place and made a home there (p. 6)
woven (<i>adj.</i>)	made with threads, yarns, or other materials (p. 11)

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Focus Question

What makes lacrosse a unique sport?

Words to Know

ancient	goal
exciting	settled
First Nations	woven

Front cover: A Massachusetts player runs with the ball in a game against North Carolina.

Title page: A lacrosse stick holds the lacrosse ball.

Page 3: High school teams play in Oregon.

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Spectacular Sports
Level J Leveled Book
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Correlation

LEVEL J	
Fountas & Pinnell	J
Reading Recovery	17
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High school teams play a game in Oregon.

Lacrosse Lives On

Now, more than ever, people love playing lacrosse.

It is a fun team sport that is exciting to play and to watch!

One player on each team is the goalie. He or she stands next to his or her team's net. The goalie's job is to keep the ball from going into the net. If the ball goes into the net, it is worth one point. At the end of the game, the team with the most points wins!



A goalie keeps the ball from going into the net. Balls can move very fast.



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Lacrosse players use a stick with a net on it to carry a ball.

A Fun Game!

The sport of lacrosse is **exciting** to play.

It is **ancient**, fast, and fun!



Girls' high school teams compete across the United States. These girls are playing in Georgia.

When a player gets the ball, he or she runs to get to the net. The player can also pass the ball to another player using the stick. Each team tries to keep the ball.

A game starts with one player from each team in the middle of the field. The ball is on the ground between the players. When the whistle blows, the game begins. The two players use their sticks to get the ball.



Two players are about to start a game.

An Old Sport

Lacrosse comes from a **First Nations** team sport. Tribes in North America played lacrosse hundreds of years ago. It was an important game to them.



First Nations people first played lacrosse long ago. Their games could last for three days.



First Nations and other people play a lacrosse game in Canada over one hundred years ago.

Long ago, people from Europe **settled** in North America.

They saw First Nations people playing lacrosse.

The settlers liked the game and started playing it.

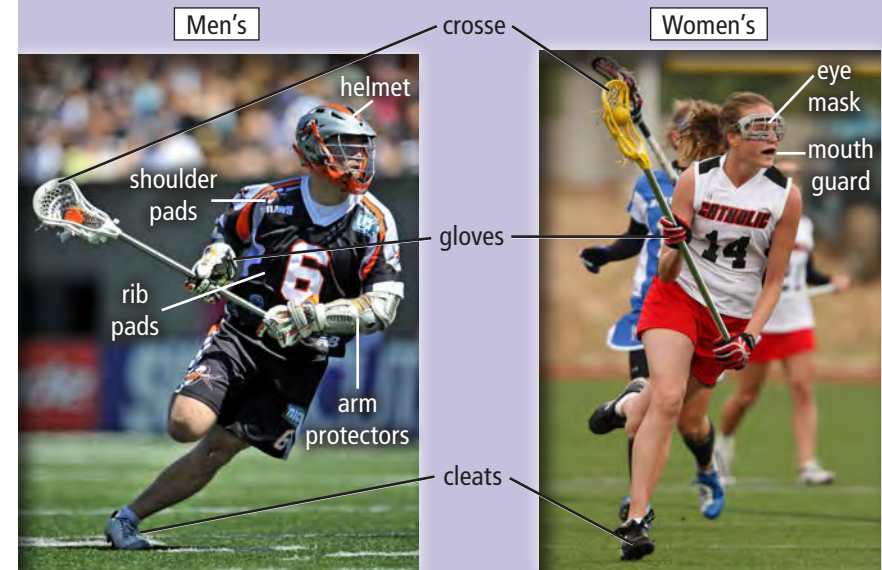
Sometimes, they played with First Nations people.

There is a net, or **goal**, at each end of the playing field.

A lacrosse stick has a **woven** cup at the end.

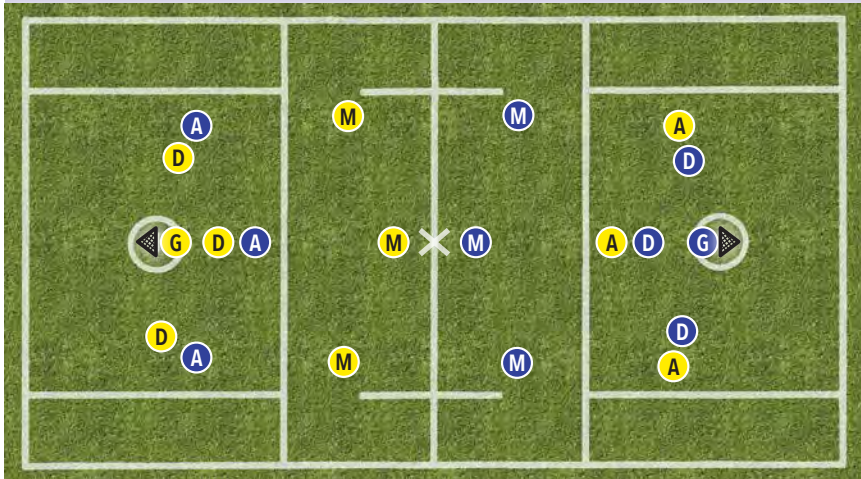
Players use the sticks to try to get a ball into the other team's net.

Lacrosse Equipment



Men and women have different rules for lacrosse. They wear different things to help protect them.

Men's Lacrosse Field



(A) attacker (G) goalkeeper
(D) defender (M) midfielder

Game Rules

A lacrosse field is about the same size as a football field.

A lacrosse game has two teams. Teams for men have ten players. Teams for women have twelve players.

For a while, mostly settlers in Canada played lacrosse. Then, some schools in the United States began playing. Still, the game wasn't popular. The sticks used in the game were handmade and hard to get. Later, sticks were made more simply. Over time, people began playing the game across the country.



Players play a practice game to get ready for a women's match in 1926.

Lacrosse Today

Today, men, women, boys, and girls play lacrosse.

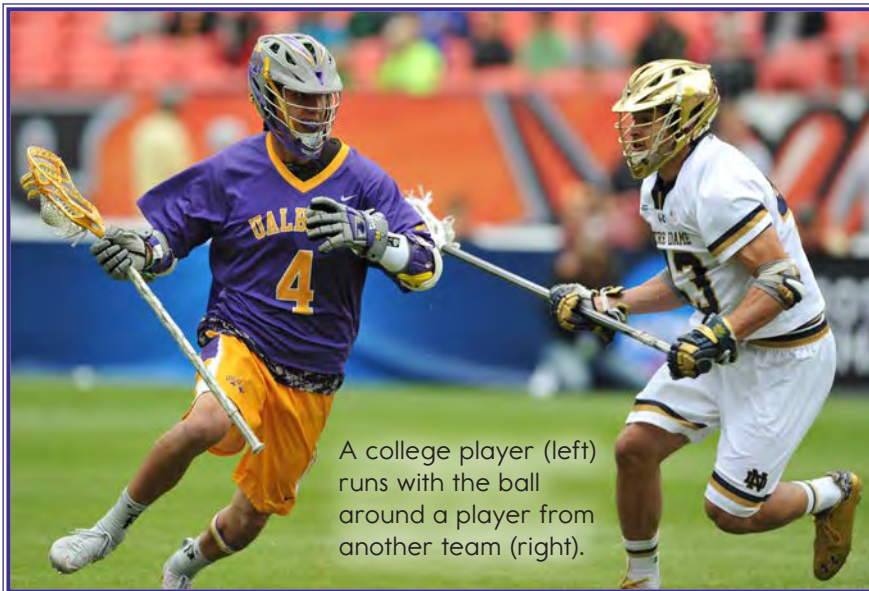
Lacrosse teams usually play outside in a field.

Sometimes they play indoors.

This is called *box lacrosse*.

Lacrosse is popular in schools.

There are two leagues in North America.



A college player (left) runs with the ball around a player from another team (right).

Lacrosse is most popular in Canada and the United States.

People in England and Australia also play the sport.

Today, lacrosse is catching on all over the world!



The United States lacrosse team (white) plays Canada (red) in a game.

