

SPECIAL REPORT

SOCCER AID PLAYGROUND CHALLENGE



BARCELONA and England star Toni Duggan kicked off the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge for Unicef last week, at an international school in Spain. She tells *First News* all about the day and how you can get involved with your own Playground Challenge.

SCHOOL VISIT

I'm really enjoying my time in Barcelona. Since moving from Manchester City last summer, I've been busy getting to know my teammates and learning a new language. Among all that, I was pleased when Unicef asked me to drop in on a fantastic school just outside Barcelona recently. I've always loved meeting young pupils and this particular trip was really great.

The International School of Catalunya (or ISCAT for short) is a Unicef UK Rights Respecting School and has the same curriculum as schools in the UK, so there were lots of pupils there studying hard to get ready for their SATs and A levels. But the day I visited was a bit different.



Toni at ISCAT

SPECIAL REPORT

THE PLAYGROUND CHALLENGE

This year, the school is joining hundreds of schools across the UK that are taking part in the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge. On Friday 8 June, Unicef are asking pupils to bring in a small donation from home and to wear your favourite football or sports kit for the day, and kick, bounce or carry a ball around a fun and active obstacle course that you've designed yourselves.

The students at ISCAT explained how they had designed their Playground Challenge using the equipment they had at their school and invited me to get involved. The Soccer Aid match at Old Trafford on Sunday 10 June will feature Robbie Williams' England side against the Soccer Aid World XI, captained by Olympic legend Usain Bolt. So, for the ISCAT Playground Challenge, I joined one team of students representing England against a team representing the Soccer Aid World XI, captained by Year 11 student, Maya.

It was a competitive race and seeing how children of all ages came together for the Playground Challenge was so much fun – I really think it's the perfect way to raise money for Unicef.

It was nice to hear how women's football was so important to both the girls and the boys at the school. And that's an important part of the Playground Challenge too – it is for everyone. It doesn't matter if you're a boy or a girl, or how good you are at football.



GET INVOLVED

I want to encourage girls and boys like you all across the UK to get together with your classmates to design a Playground Challenge, then do everything you can to raise as much as possible. All the money you raise will support Unicef's work to save and change children's lives around the world – just £17 could provide vaccines to protect 10 children from deadly diseases.

I also want to say thank you to the UK Government for matching every pound schools donate. It means that for every £1 you raise, the Government will also give £1, doubling the difference for children all around the world. And don't worry if your school can't fundraise on 8 June, all the donations will be matched until 6 July, so you still have time. Good luck and thank you for supporting Soccer Aid for Unicef!

See a film from Toni's visit at first.news/toni and find out how you can get involved in the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge at unicef.uk/firstnews



Toni and team captain, Maya



Questions on: 'Soccer Aid Playground Challenge!'



GLOSSARY

Unicef – The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund. A programme that provides help to vulnerable children and mothers.

Vaccine – A substance made from the germs that cause a disease, which is then given to people to protect them against that disease.

Curriculum – The subjects that make a course of study in a school or college.

UK Rights Respecting School – An initiative run by Unicef UK that encourages schools to make the rights of children a top priority.

1. Which organisation is behind Soccer Aid's Playground Challenge?

A Plan

B Unicef

C Oxfam

2. What are you being asked to do on Friday 8 June for the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge? Put a tick next to the correct activities.

1	Wear a football kit, or sports kit to school.	
2	Get sporty at school.	
3	Choreograph a dance routine.	
4	Create a sporty picture, or write a sporty story.	
5	Give some money to Unicef.	

3. Find the information in the article.

1	The number of schools expected to take part in the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge.	
2	The date of the Soccer Aid match at Old Trafford.	
3	The amount of money the Government is donating to the Challenge.	

4. According to the article, what sum of money could provide vaccines to protect 10 children from deadly diseases?

5. Why do you think that the article mentions that such a small sum can protect 10 children?

6. Footballer Toni Duggan is quoted as saying that she wants to "encourage girls and boys to design a playground challenge".

Which verb best describes what she means by "encourage"?

1 hinder

2 inspire

3 stop

4 impede

5 restrain

7. Look again at the first sentence of the article:

"Barcelona and England star Toni Duggan *kicked off* the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge for Unicef last week, at an international school in Spain."

Why does the writer use the phrasal verb "kicked off"?

8. Why do you think Unicef chose Toni Duggan to promote the Soccer Aid Challenge?

9. Why is the Government matching donations all the way up until 6 July, not just on 8 June?

10. Why do you think that Unicef has chosen the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge as a way for schools to raise money?

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Extension Activities



A) DESIGN CHALLENGE

Can you come up with an exciting football obstacle course for school playground? You can use PE equipment available in your school and any lines painted on the floor. It needs to be fun and challenging for different-aged children with different skill levels.

For inspiration, watch the video of junior journalist Kendra taking part in Playground Challenges in Lesotho and the UK at live.firstnews.co.uk/kendra

Sketch out your ideas for your challenge below.



Notes:

B) RESEARCH CHALLENGE

First, find out more about how the money raised through Soccer Aid helps children around the world. Write a set of research questions that you would like to find the answer to before you start. Here are a couple of questions to get you started:

My Research Questions

- How many years has Soccer Aid been going?
- What are the deadly diseases that the vaccines prevent children getting?

Research websites

- i) Watch all of Kendra's videos about her trip to Lesotho: live.firstnews.co.uk/unicef/
- ii) Find more information at the Soccer Aid website: www.socceraid.org.uk/why-soccer-aid-matters/

Teacher Answers

AIM OF THE NEWS COMPREHENSIONS: News reports are unique non-fiction texts. Being real, they naturally engage students, and with the range of topics that are covered, help to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the wider world outside the classroom. The reports are ideal for short, focused comprehension or discussion activities. Along with the opportunity to find fascinating facts and appreciate the opinions of those involved, there is plenty to be inferred and deduced to understand in more depth what is being reported. Like authors, journalists play with language, so news 'stories' are rich nuggets of text to investigate and provide the opportunity for literacy programmes.

TEACHER ANSWER GUIDE: The teacher answers are intended to provide a guide to the reading skill each question is practising. Suggestions are given for a starting point for responses that students would be expected to give at the start of KS3. Further suggestions then give fuller, more developed responses that students will work towards by the end of KS3, in preparation for the non-fiction elements of GCSE English language.

1. Which organisation is behind Soccer Aid's Playground Challenge?

READING SKILL – Find and explain information

(NC 2a)

Expected response:

A	Plan
B	Unicef
C	Oxfam

2. What are you being asked to do on Friday 8 June for the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge? Put a tick next to the correct activities.

READING SKILL – Find and explain information

(NC 2a)

Expected response:

1	Wear a football kit, or sports kit to school.	X
2	Get sporty at school.	X
3	Choreograph a dance routine.	
4	Create a sporty picture, or write a sporty story.	
5	Give some money to Unicef.	X

3. Find the information in the article:

READING SKILL – Find and explain information

(NC 2a)

Expected response:

1	The number of schools expected to take part in the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge.	Hundreds
2	The date of the Soccer Aid match at Old Trafford.	Sunday 10 June
3	The amount of money the Government is donating to the Challenge.	£1 for every £1 raised by schools

4. According to the article, what sum of money could provide vaccines to protect 10 children from deadly diseases?

READING SKILL – Find and explain information

(NC 2a)

Expected response

● £17

5. Why do you think that the article mentions that such a small sum can protect 10 children?

READING SKILL – Understand writer's intent

(NC 2f & 3)

Staring point

● To encourage the reader to donate, because it demonstrates how much good their money could do.

Development

● It also highlights the fact that, even if the reader only donates a small amount of money, it can still help. So, this encourages less well-off readers who may not usually give to charity to still make a donation and take part in the fundraising event.

6. Footballer Toni Duggan is quoted as saying that she wants to “encourage girls and boys to design a playground challenge”. Which verb best describes what she means by “encourage”?

READING SKILL – Understand vocabulary in context

(NC2a)

Expected response

1	hinder
2	inspire
3	stop
4	impede
5	restrain

7. Look again at the first sentence of the article:

“Barcelona and England star Toni Duggan *kicked off* the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge for Unicef last week, at an international school in Spain.”

Why does the writer use the phrasal verb “kicked off”?

READING SKILL – Recognise effects of language choices

(NC 2f & 3)

Starting point

- One of the meanings of the phrasal verb “kicked off” is started, as in Toni Duggan started the Soccer Aid Challenge last week.

Development

- However, the phrasal verb is also a pun, as you can also kick off a football game. Duggan is a footballer, and the Challenge is all about football.

8. Why do you think Unicef chose Toni Duggan to promote the Soccer Aid Challenge?

READING SKILL – Infer information and justify with evidence from text

(NC 2c & 8)

Starting point

- Because she is a footballer and plays for Barcelona and represents England too, so she is a perfect fit to promote the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge.

Developed responses

- Also, she’s a woman, so may inspire girls to get involved in the football challenge, not just boys. She is known in two countries, England and Spain, where football is very popular, so she will be good at raising awareness about the Challenge internationally.

9. Why is the Government matching donations all the way up until 6 July, not just on 8 June?

READING SKILL – Infer information and justify with evidence from the text

(NC 2 & 8)

Expected response

- It gives schools more time to plan and organise an event, ensuring that the charity will receive as much money as possible.

10. Why do you think that Unicef have chosen the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge as a way for schools to raise money?

READING SKILL – Infer information and justify with evidence from the text

(NC 2 & 8)

Starting point:

- It’s an easy way for schools to raise money for the charity, because most schools have sports equipment to create an obstacle course and many children have either a football kit or sports kit to wear on the day of the Challenge.

Developed response:

- Also, the Challenge provides a fun way for pupils to keep fit, while also raising money for a worthy cause.