

FACT FILE: Football World Cup

FUN FACTS:

- In 1966, the World Cup was in England. Thieves stole the Cup and tried to sell it. A dog found it under a tree!
- The youngest player was Norman Whiteside from Northern Ireland. He was only 17 years and 41 days old when he played in the 1982 World Cup.

Every four years, in a different country around the world, there is a big sports competition. It is like the Olympics but only for one sport. The most popular sport in the world! What do you know about the history of the FIFA World Cup?



The first World Cup was in 1930, in Uruguay. In the final game Uruguay beat Argentina and became the first World Cup winners. 13 countries played in the first World Cup. Now there are 32 countries in the competition.

The first time people saw the World Cup on TV was in 1954 when Switzerland held the competition. Now about 3 billion people in countries all over the world watch the World Cup on TV!



Until 2002 the World Cup was always in a European or an American country. South Korea and Japan held the first Asian World Cup. The first African World Cup was in 2010, in South Africa.

Brazil is the most successful World Cup team. They are the only team that has played in every tournament. So far they have won it five times. Germany and Italy have both won four times. Argentina and Uruguay have won it two times. England, France and Spain have won it once.

