

# WORLD CUP WONDER

**SPARK™**  
**Home Play**  
**SOCCER**

# “GOOOOAAAAA”

Find some space in your yard or at the park and try the challenges below. When you have completed it, color in a patch of the soccer ball touching the challenge box. When you have colored all of the patches in all of the balls you are a World Cup Wonder!

## DRIBBLING

- Dribble while tapping the ball with the inside of your feet for 20 taps each foot.
- Dribble while tapping the ball with the outside of your feet for 20 taps each foot.
- Dribble and keep the ball close and under control for 5 minutes.
- Dribble under control and change directions 20 times.
- Do 20 top taps.
- Do 20 pull backs.

## PASSING

- Make 10 short (5-10 paces) passes to a stationary target while standing still.
- Make 10 short passes to a stationary target while moving.
- Make 10 short passes to a moving target while standing still.
- Make 10 short passes to a stationary target while moving.
- Make 10 long (15+ paces) passes to a stationary target while standing still.
- Make 10 long (15+ paces) passes to a stationary target while moving.

## TRAPPING

- Do 20 drop traps with your R foot.
- Do 20 drop traps with your L foot.
- Trap 20 passes (or kicks against a wall) with your R foot.
- Trap 20 passes (or kicks against a wall) with your L foot.
- Trap 10 passes (or throws against a wall) with your chest or thighs to settle the ball.
- Trap 20 passes (or kicks against a wall) while moving.

## SHOOTING

- Take 10 shots on a stationary ball with your R foot.
- Take 10 shots on a stationary ball with your L foot.
- Take 10 shots while dribbling to the R.
- Take 10 shots while dribbling to the L.
- Take 10 shots from a pass with your R foot
- Take 10 shots from a pass with your L foot

## Some Things You Really Must Know

### \* The World's Game!

Soccer is considered the most widespread and popular sport in the world. Although historians have found evidence that soccer was played in China as early as A.D. 112, (and early Polynesians, Eskimos, Aztec Indians and Celts played games similar to soccer), England is credited for "civilizing" the game around 1863 with official rules.

### \* Is it Football or Soccer?

Well, actually, it is both. Most of the world calls the game "football," but, in Canada and the United States, it is known as soccer. How did this come to be? In England, by the early 1800s the game had evolved into 2 types of play; one type called Rugby or "rigger"

permitted tackling, tripping, shin-kicking and carrying the ball. The other type played by a set of rules known as the Cambridge Rules, forbid handling the ball and kicking opponents. This version eventually became known as Association Football or "assoc."

Common slang among Oxford University was deliberately shortening words and adding "er" to the end. One day, a student, named Charles Wreford Brown, was asked if he liked to play rigger. By shortening "as**SO**ciation" and adding "er," he replied, "No, soccer!" And since Americans already have a sport called football, the world's football is called soccer in the states.

## Direct Kicks

Q – Why do soccer players listen to their shoes?

A – Because they like sole music!

Q – What tea do soccer players drink?

A – PenalTEA!

Q – How do you turn on the lights to the stadium?

A – With a soccer match!

Q – How does a soccer field end up like a triangle?

A – Somebody kicked a corner!

Q – What's the difference between a bad soccer team and an albatross?

A – The albatross has two good wings!

Q – Why did the soccer ball quit the team?

A – It got tired of being kicked around!

Here are some interesting websites to check out when you need a halftime break. Remember, halftime in a soccer match is usually about 15 minutes, so don't spend too much time lounging around. We need you taking the game-winning penalty kick. **GOAL!**

<http://www.soccerhall.org>  
The official website of the Soccer Hall of Fame located in Oneonta, New York.

<http://www.fifa.com>  
The Official web site of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, the international governing body of soccer. World Cup news, league standings from other countries, great photos, and highlight videos.