SUMMARY Students read about various sports and the talents needed for each.

VOCABULARY
Concept Words
- basketball players
- swimmers
- runners
- ice skaters
- tennis players
- football players

INTRODUCE THE BOOK
BUILD BACKGROUND Talk with students about what it takes to play sports such as football, basketball, tennis, and others. Have students suggest talents or abilities that are needed for each.

ELL Have the class determine gestures or actions for each of the concept words. Help students with words they don’t know. While reading the book, have students gesture or perform the action when they hear the word.

PREVIEW Invite students to take a picture walk to preview the text and illustrations. Name the sport and discuss what the athlete is doing on each page.

READ THE BOOK
SET PURPOSE Have students set a purpose for reading What Can Athletes Do? Ask them to think about what makes a person good at the sport shown on each page.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS
PAGE 3 What physical traits do these athletes need to jump high? (They need strong legs.)

PAGES 4–5 What special abilities do swimmers and runners have in common? (They both must train whole bodies to play their sport; they both require excellent lungs and hearts.)

PAGES 6–7 You must be strong to ice-skate and to play tennis. But what other ability must you have to be successful at these sports? (You must have great technique and form to be good at these sports.)

TEXT-TO-SELF QUESTION
What sport do you enjoy playing? What abilities do you have that allow you to enjoy that sport?

REVISIT THE BOOK
READER RESPONSE Answers
1. jump high; swim fast; run fast, long, and far; leap and spin; hit the ball fast and hard; throw a football far and run fast
2. Possible responses: They must be coordinated, be able to run and jump well, have strong endurance, have mental strength, and have determination.
3. Responses will vary but should be supported with reasons.

EXTEND UNDERSTANDING Explain to students that playing sports is the job of professional athletes. Ask students to list other jobs that require a type of specialization.

RESPONSE OPTIONS
ART Have students choose a sport from the book that they would want to play and have them draw themselves playing it. Provide old magazines and allow students to cut out pictures and glue them around their illustrations.

SOCIAL STUDIES CONNECTION Provide simple biographies of famous athletes. Have students choose an athlete they admire and write a sentence that describes that person’s achievements. Then have students write another sentence explaining why they admire that athlete. Encourage students to illustrate their writing.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER, PAGE 40 Have students complete the web with physical talents that athletes need to play football. Help students with descriptive words they don’t know.
Complete the web with talents needed to play football.