NAME GAME

Do you have a nickname for our new NBL team?

MOST sporting teams around the world have nicknames. They are usually named after the country, city or area they represent, but then given a nickname. Often these nicknames are animals.

For example, the oldest nicknames for Australian national sporting teams are the Kangaroos (Rugby League) and the Wallabies (Rugby Union). Kangaroos are Australia's most famous animal, so not surprisingly they have been a popular choice.

Other Australian national teams have used a blend of words (a portmanteau word) which includes 'roos'. Australia’s national men’s football (soccer) team is known as the Socceroos.

While our women’s hockey team is called the Hockeyroos.

The Australian men’s basketball team is called the Boomers, which is a name given to a male kangaroo.

The AFL also has lots of teams named after animals, for example the Hawthorn Hawks, the Geelong Cats, the Sydney Swans and the Brisbane Lions.

Interestingly, the North Melbourne Kangaroos are the only AFL team named after an Australian animal.

Other sports have used native animal names though. Tasmania’s men’s and women’s cricket teams are known as the Tasmanian Tigers.

Tasmanian teams in both Australian Rules football and basketball leagues have been named after Tasmanian Devils.

But animals are not the only source of nicknames for sporting teams.

Australia’s netball team is named after a plant, the Diamonds, while New Zealand’s team is named after a stone, the Silver Ferns.

Sometimes the nicknames for sporting teams are not what you would expect. The Tasmania University Football Club is known as the Rainbows.

Some names represent the history of the location in which the team is based. The Philadelphia 76ers, in America’s National Basketball Association (NBA), are so-named because the United States Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia in 1776.

Other team nicknames have just been derived from the dominant colours of team uniforms.

For example, English Premier League club Liverpool is simply known as The Reds.

You probably have heard that Tasmania is going to have a new team in the National Basketball League (NBL) next year. But did you know the NBL is currently running a competition to name the team, and there other some great prizes to be won.

To enter go to: www.nbltas.com.au

Continued Page 2
Challenge to design a logo

Once you have come up with your name for Tasmania's new NBL team, you might be ready for another fun activity.

You might like to try designing a logo featuring your nickname for the team. Logos are a symbol or icon used to promote an organisation. Logos are of course not just used by sporting teams, or clubs. Nearly all organisations, large and small, have a logo.

You might have noticed some logos at the top of page 1 of The Wonder Weekly. The aim of a logo is to aid people's recognition of an organisation. A lot of thought can go into this, because organisations want the logo and other branding to represent unique qualities. Designs vary greatly, but generally use letters, shapes or images, or a combination of these elements. Marketing and graphic design experts are involved in developing logos.

In the case of sporting teams, logos represent the team's name, and/or nickname, and generally match the colours worn by its players. Teams with animal nicknames often include a caricature of that animal in their logo. We have provided an example, above, for a basketball team known as the Bears. As you can see the logo shows the team's name and colours, and it is very clear which sport it relates to.

If drawing and design is not of interest to you, perhaps you could try a different challenge. Make a two-column list of how many logos you instantly recognise during the course of one week, and where you spotted them. It might be on television, in a store or on a billboard. You might be surprised how long your list is by the end of the week. It will also be interesting to find out which logos you see on multiple occasions.

Children's University Tasmania members can earn stamps in their passports for this challenge, at the discretion of school coordinators.

In the case of sporting teams, logos represent the team's name, and/or nickname, and generally match the colours worn by its players.

Teams with animal nicknames often include a caricature of that animal in their logo. We have provided an example, above, for a basketball team known as the Bears. As you can see the logo shows the team's name and colours, and it is very clear which sport it relates to.

If drawing and design is not of interest to you, perhaps you could try a different challenge. Make a two-column list of how many logos you instantly recognise during the course of one week, and where you spotted them. It might be on television, in a store or on a billboard. You might be surprised how long your list is by the end of the week. It will also be interesting to find out which logos you see on multiple occasions.

Children's University Tasmania members can earn stamps in their passports for this challenge, at the discretion of school coordinators.

In the case of sporting teams, logos represent the team's name, and/or nickname, and generally match the colours worn by its players.

Teams with animal nicknames often include a caricature of that animal in their logo. We have provided an example, above, for a basketball team known as the Bears. As you can see the logo shows the team's name and colours, and it is very clear which sport it relates to.

If drawing and design is not of interest to you, perhaps you could try a different challenge. Make a two-column list of how many logos you instantly recognise during the course of one week, and where you spotted them. It might be on television, in a store or on a billboard. You might be surprised how long your list is by the end of the week. It will also be interesting to find out which logos you see on multiple occasions.

Children's University Tasmania members can earn stamps in their passports for this challenge, at the discretion of school coordinators.

In the case of sporting teams, logos represent the team's name, and/or nickname, and generally match the colours worn by its players.

Teams with animal nicknames often include a caricature of that animal in their logo. We have provided an example, above, for a basketball team known as the Bears. As you can see the logo shows the team's name and colours, and it is very clear which sport it relates to.

If drawing and design is not of interest to you, perhaps you could try a different challenge. Make a two-column list of how many logos you instantly recognise during the course of one week, and where you spotted them. It might be on television, in a store or on a billboard. You might be surprised how long your list is by the end of the week. It will also be interesting to find out which logos you see on multiple occasions.

Children's University Tasmania members can earn stamps in their passports for this challenge, at the discretion of school coordinators.