

Spotlight on Sport

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Books about sports and sportspeople. They can be fiction or non-fiction.

History of the sport genre

Sports stories have been popular in the United States since the start of the twentieth century. These books were often about the 'all-American' hero (someone who embodied American values).

Because Australia is a sporting nation sport books have been published here since the 1800s. The early sporting books are all non-fiction, and the writing style of sports books has changed a lot over time.

Sport is a popular theme in YA novels, as authors want to write books for teenagers who are interested in sports. In recent years authors and publishers have recognised that a lot of girls are also interested in sports and there has been a wave of sports books about girls.

Famous sport authors

Pat Flynn

David Warner

J.C. Burke

Rick Bundschuh

Cath Crowley

Michael Panckrige

Jonathan Harlan

Donna King

John Larkin

Felice Arena and Garry Lyon

Shamini Flint

Jake Maddox

Common themes in the sport genre

All different types of sport

People succeeding at sport

Biographies of sport stars

Former sports champions failing at sport

Friendships made through playing sport

People using sport to overcome other struggles in their lives