

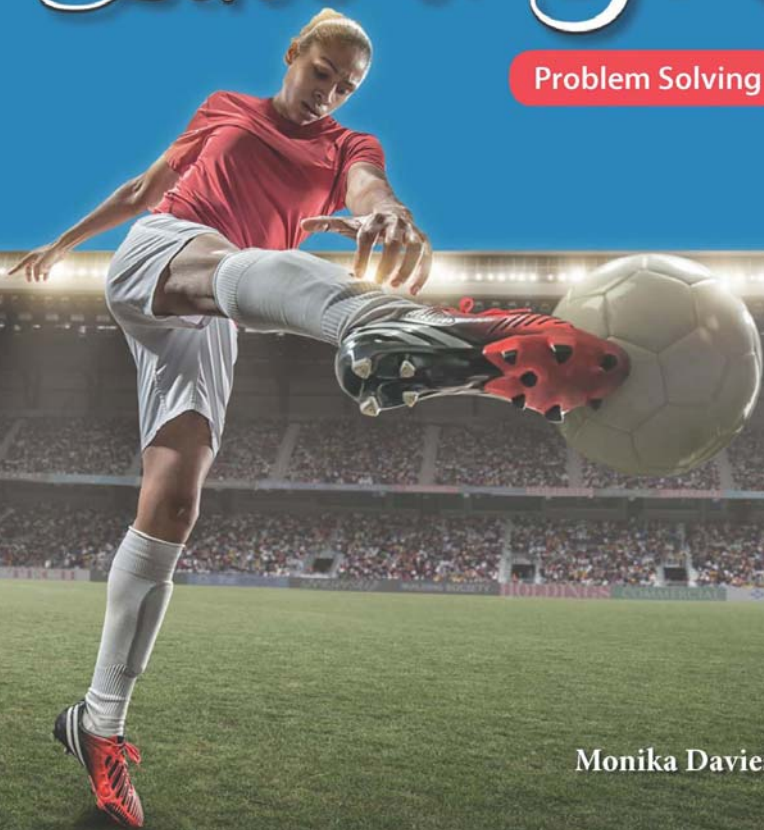
12 \times 2 80
Spectacular Sports

$$70 \div x = 10$$



Playing Like a Girl

Problem Solving



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Play Like a Girl

“This is the century of women.”

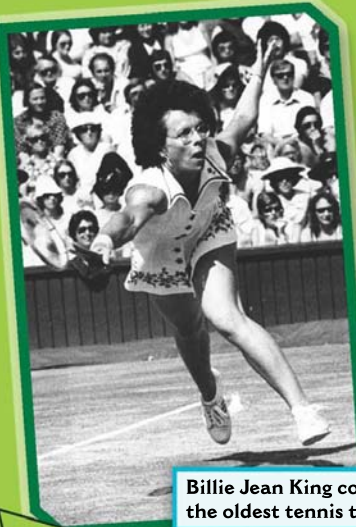
—Billie Jean King

When you hear the phrase “you play like a girl,” what do you think it means? Do you think it is a compliment? Some of the greatest athletes in the world are women. Yet, it can be a challenge to find news articles about female athletes. There are many more reports about men’s sports.

Female athletes are some of the toughest people out there. Every day, no matter the sport, they train. They learn. They work. They strive to be better than they were yesterday.

Explore any sport, and you will find female players that have taken that sport to new heights. Some still compete today, while others played decades ago. These athletes have taken the old insult of “playing like a girl” and have turned it on its head. They have grit—passion and perseverance that help them achieve their goals.

From soccer to tennis to basketball, there are amazing female athletes competing every day.



Billie Jean King competes in 1975 at Wimbledon, the oldest tennis tournament in the world.

A photograph of several sprinters in various colored uniforms (red, blue, green) starting a race on a red track. They are in a low starting position, pushing off their starting blocks. The background shows stadium seating and a clear sky.

Sprinters leave their starting blocks.

LET'S EXPLORE MATH

Before a game, every athlete creates a game plan. The same should be true for every mathlete trying to solve a word problem (that's you!). Match each description to the correct step of this problem-solving plan.

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. Think ? | A. Read and reread the problem. |
| 2. Plan ✓ | B. Determine whether your solution makes sense. |
| 3. Solve ● | C. Show the solution to the problem. |
| 4. Check ✓ | D. Decide which strategy to use. |

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