

Soccer

by Tia Yushi

illustrated by Linda Solovic



Many people believe soccer is the best sport. Most boys and girls play soccer.



Each player is dressed for soccer. This coach and everyone on his team have the same kind of shirt. This team chose red shirts with dots. This is the red team.



This coach and her team decided on stripes. This is the blue team. Their shirts look unlike the red team's shirts. These players are putting on long socks over shin pads.



Soccer teams need good skills. At first, team players may be unskilled at using only their feet on the field. The more teams play, the more skillful players get.



Soccer is a fast game. Soccer teams must behave safely. It is unsafe and unkind to bump into players. It is a coach's job to teach and remind players to play safely.



Each team's job is to score goals. Blue team players try to kick the ball into the red team's goal. Each team has a goalkeeper. The red team's goalkeeper tries to stop the blue team's players from making goals.



A goalkeeper is the only player who can pick up the ball. He or she can catch it and keep it out of the goal. Goalkeepers must react fast and stop goals.



When the game ends, players say "Good job!" no matter who wins. Kids have fun replaying soccer games by telling and retelling plays their team made.