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TEAM'S A to Z of the Brazil Football team

BEFORE YOU READ: What do you know about Brazil? What do you know about the World Cup?

They've won the World Cup five times already. They're favourites* to win this year's World Cup. They play beautiful football. They're BRAZIL!

> One of the team's nicknames is 'Canarinhas', which is Portuguese for 'the little canaries'. A CANARY is a ellow bird and the team wear bright vellow shirts.

The Brazil team is supported by the world's most passionate **FANS**. "Football is our religion," says ex-manager Carlos Parreira.



Football is played anywhere and everywhere in Brazil. Some beaches like the **IPANEMA** beach even have football pitches on them! It's difficult to play on sand, so you have to learn to flick* the ball into the air. Is this why Brazil's footballers are so good?

Brazil's biggest new star is NEYMAR. He's 22, he's a striker* and he plays for Barcelona in Spain. Neymar was spotted* playing football in the street at the age of 11 and

It is watched over by Rio's famous statue of Jesus Christ. The World Cup final will be played here on the 13th of July! We can't wait!

professional footballers in Brazil, and 1,000 Brazilians playing in Europe.





THE ANSWER IS ON PAGE 15

signed by the Brazilian team Santos.

In 1958, the Brazil team was led to its first World Cup win

by a 17-year-old player called PELÉ. He became the world's most famous footballer. He is still Brazil's top scorer with 77 goals.

Brazil's footballers wear a

most important natural resource*. The

blue is for Brazil's bright blue sky. The

Five stars are sewn* onto Brazil's shirt

green is for the forests and jungles.

- one for each World Cup win!

yellow, blue and green KIT.

The yellow is for gold, Brazil's

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The World Cup mascot is

a Brazilian **ARMADILLO**.

The mascot is called Fuleco and his name was chosen

The 2014 World Cup

football is called

the BRAZUCA.

by the Brazilian public.

The design of the ball

traditional bracelets

that Brazilians wear for

was inspired* by

good luck.

passives; football vocabularv



The Brazil team's home ground is the Maracanã STADIUM in Rio de Janeiro.

The Brazil manager selects* the TEAM. But how does he choose? There are 200,000

Will Brazil be the WORLD CUP WINNERS in 2014?



TEAM: singular or plural?

• You can use either a singular or plural verb with the noun "team".

SPORT

- It's a singular noun but it describes several people. We can say "The team is playing well" or "The team are playing well."
- Most people use a plural verb, especially in spoken English.

Passive hunt!

"The name was chosen by Brazilians" and "Neymar was spotted playing football in the street" are both examples of passive sentences.

How many passive sentences can you find in this article?

TEAM'S World Cup POCKET GUIDE

Dates: 12th June - 13th July 2014 **Opening game:** Brazil v Croatia Number of teams: 32 Number of matches: 64 Winner? : will win the 2014 World Cup! Website:

www.fifa.com/worldcup

WORDWISE

* favourite (n): the team that most people think will win *** to inspire (v):** to make people want to follow your example * to flick (v): to make a ball go a short distance quickly with your foot or head *** natural resource (n):** things that humans need that are in, on or under the earth *** to sew (v):** make clothes with a needle and cotton *** striker (n):** a footballer whose job is to score goals

- *** to spot (v):** to notice something
- * to select (v): to choose



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