

LEVELED BOOK • I

Golf

Written by Curtis Thomas

www.readinga-z.com



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Focus Question

How is golf played, and why do people like it?

Words to Know

club

contests

course

events

green

traps

Front cover: A golfer swings on a teeing ground.

Title page: A golf tee steadies a golf ball,

Page 3: A young golfer tries to get out of a hazard.

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Spectacular Sports
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A golfer uses a golf club to hit a golf ball.

A Quiet Sport

Golf is a quiet and fun sport.

Players must be calm to play well.

They must practice to be good.

Golfers often put the ball on a tee before they hit it.



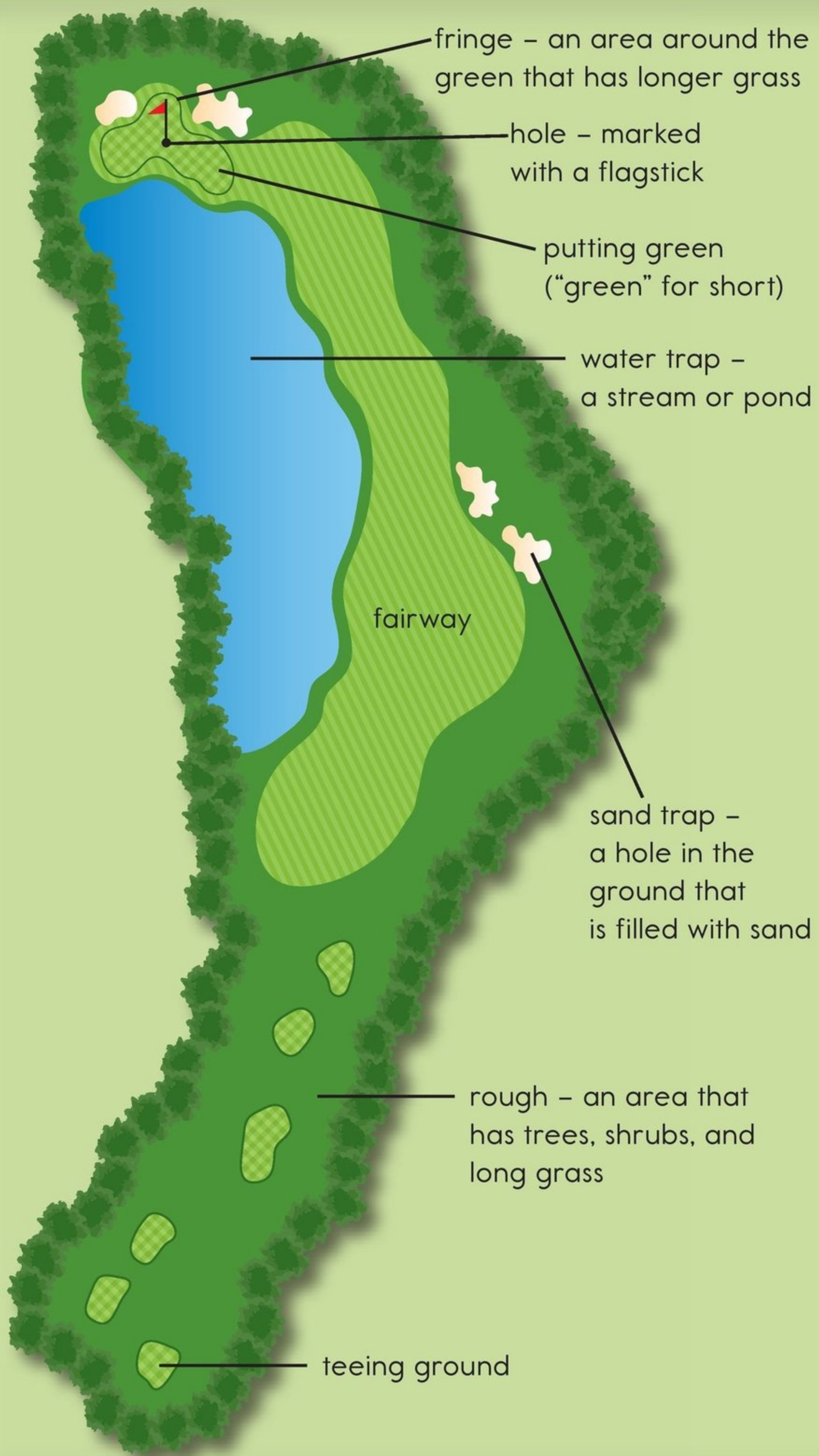
Playing the Game

Players hit a small, hard ball with a **club**.

They hit the ball into a small hole in the ground.

The player who gets the ball in the hole with the fewest hits wins.

Golf Hole



Players hit the ball hard to try to move it to the **green**.

They may need several hits to get it there.

A player hits the ball more than once to get it to the hole.



A lucky player may get the ball into the hole in one hit.

Some golf holes have traps with sand.



A pond is another type of trap.



A golf **course** may have parts with rough grass.

The golf course may also have sand or water **traps**.

A player may need more hits to get a ball out of these places.



Golfers use different kinds of clubs for different kinds of shots.

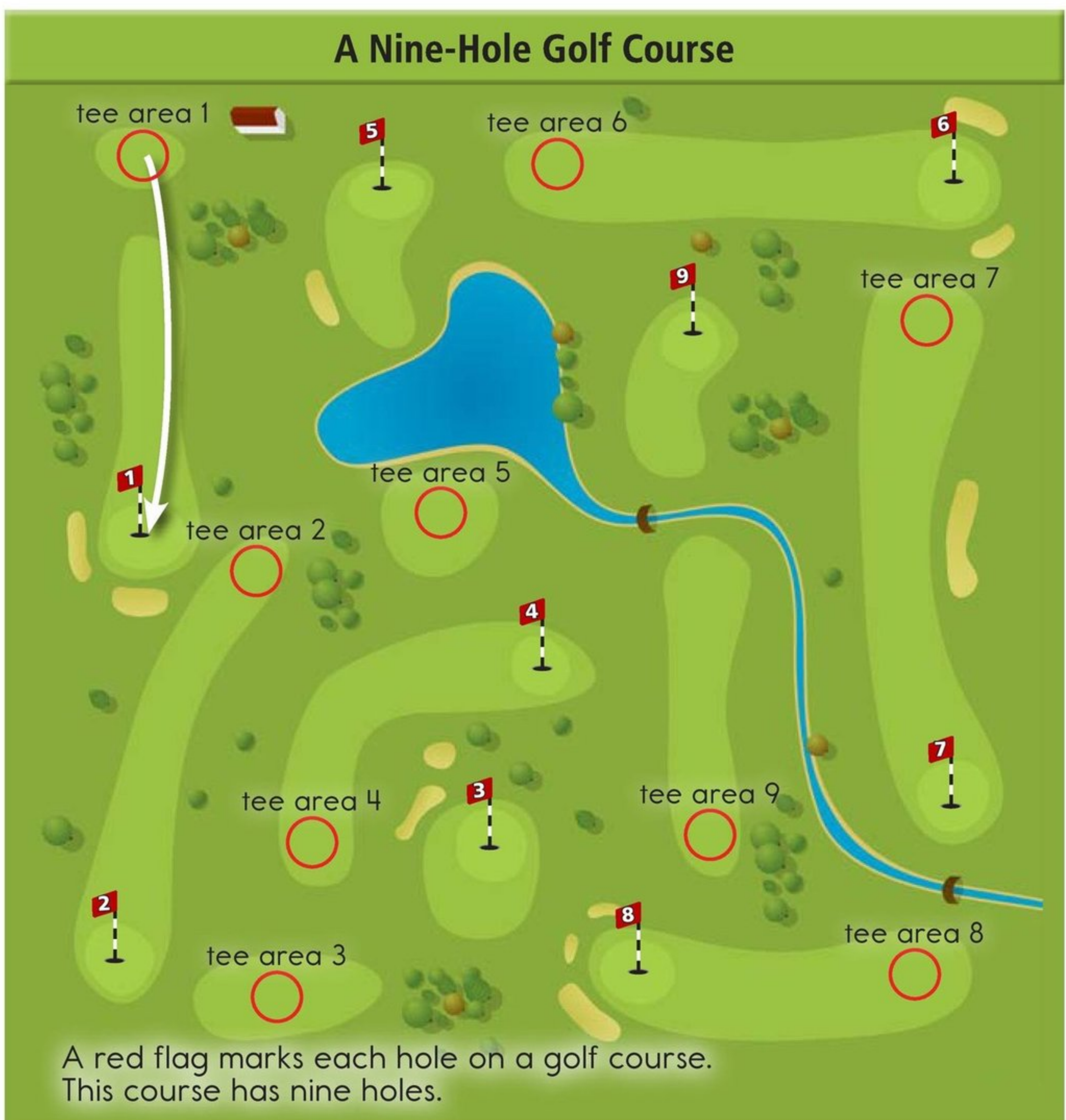
Some clubs are good for hitting the ball far away.

Others are good for shorter shots.

Each hole of a golf course has a starting place at one end.

The green with the small hole is at the other end.

A golf course has nine or eighteen holes.



Golf Long Ago

Golf began hundreds of years ago.
The first golf balls were
made of wood.

Now, golf balls are made
of rubber and plastic.



old golf ball
and golf clubs



New golf balls fly higher
and farther than old ones.

Golf Around the World

Many people around the world love to play golf.

The sport is popular in countries where people speak English.



The United States has more places to play golf than any other country.



Some big golf contests happen every year. Many people come to watch.

Golf Contests

Some people play in big **events**.

Some events have many **contests** each year.

Men and women play in different golf events.

Famous Golfers

Jack Nicklaus is the best golfer ever to play the game.

Patty Berg and Tiger Woods are two other great players.





Geese share the golf course in California (top). Elk eat the grass on courses in Colorado (middle and bottom).

A Fun Game

Funny things can happen in golf.

Animals can come very close.

Do you want to play?

If you practice hard, you can have fun playing golf!

Glossary

club (<i>n.</i>)	a long stick used to hit a small ball in the game of golf (p. 5)
contests (<i>n.</i>)	events where people do something for the purpose of winning (p. 13)
course (<i>n.</i>)	a large area of land set aside for a sport such as golf or racing (p. 8)
events (<i>n.</i>)	important happenings (p. 13)
green (<i>n.</i>)	a smooth area of very short grass surrounding each hole on a golf course (p. 7)
traps (<i>n.</i>)	obstacles on a golf course usually filled with sand or water (p. 8)

Golf

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Connections

Writing

Design your own hole on a golf course. Label the fairway, fringe, hole, putting green, water trap, sand trap, rough, and teeing ground. Write a description of your design and include a tip about how golfers can complete it successfully.

Social Studies

Choose one famous golfer. Write the golfer a friendly letter telling what you've learned and asking questions about golf.

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