



Cultural Chapter: Handball

(3-4 lessons)

Content: The chapter opens with Felix and Franzi getting ready to watch a game of Handball*. Their favourite team *Füchse Berlin* is going to play against another team. Before watching a video clip of the game, they explain talk about the game and mention which positions they would like to play themselves. They try a few preparation warm up exercises and practice for a Handball match. Felix and Franzi teach the children how to cheer on their team in German and together they explore the popularity of this kind of sport in Germany. (Playing a match could be organised during a PE lesson. A penalty shoot-out from the 7m spot could also be an option if a whole match is too long or too difficult to organise.)

*Note: Here Handball is written with a capital letter to emphasise that the European version of this game is meant, sometimes called 'team handball' or 'Olympic handball'.

What is the chapter about?

- ▷ Learning sports vocabulary
- ▷ Learning how to cheer on a team
- ▷ Revisiting basic numbers in a score, and ordinals with position
- ▷ Learning about Handball as a popular sport in Germany
- ▷ Revisiting colours (Handball team shirts)
- ▷ Locating important Handball teams in Germany

The words needed:

<i>Handball (the game)</i>	Handball
<i>der Handball</i>	the handball
<i>das Spiel</i>	the game
<i>das Spielfeld</i>	the pitch
<i>ein Tor</i>	a goal
<i>beliebt</i>	popular
<i>eine Mannschaft, ein Team</i>	a team
<i>werfen</i>	to throw
<i>fangen</i>	to catch
<i>schießen</i>	to shoot



<i>ausweichen</i>	to sidestep/ avoid /dodge
<i>verteidigen</i>	to defend
<i>prellen</i>	to bounce
<i>gegen</i>	against
<i>der Angriffsspieler/der Angreifer</i>	a player in attack/forward
<i>der Abwehrspieler/der Verteidiger</i>	a defending player/defender
<i>der Mittelfeldspieler</i>	a midfield player
<i>der Kreisläufer</i>	a circle player
<i>der Torwart</i>	the goalkeeper
<i>der Schiedsrichter</i>	the referee
<i>die Fans</i>	the fans
<i>der Trainer</i>	the trainer
<i>der Anpfiff</i>	the whistle for the start of play
<i>die Shorts</i>	shorts
<i>das Trikot</i>	shirt
<i>die Sportschuhe</i>	trainers
<i>die Meisterschaft</i>	the championship

Some more words you might like:

<i>Wir haben gewonnen!</i>	We have won!
<i>Wir haben verloren!</i>	We have lost!
<i>Pech gehabt!</i>	Bad luck!
<i>Berlin vor, noch ein Tor!</i>	Come on Berlin, let's have another goal!
<i>im Westen/Osten/Süden/Norden</i>	in the west/east/ south/north
<i>in der Mitte</i>	in the middle
<i>right</i>	rechts
<i>left</i>	links



Lesson 1: Felix and Franzi are preparing for a big game!

Story: The chapter opens with Felix and Franzi getting ready to watch a game of Handball. Their favourite team *Füchse Berlin* (Berlin Foxes) is going to play against another team. Before watching the video clip, they explain the game and mention which position they would like to play themselves. They try a few preparation warm up exercises and practice for a handball match.

Let's learn!

- ▷ Learn about Handball in Germany
- ▷ Learn a range of words associated with the sport
- ▷ Revise how to express likes and dislikes

Let's get ready!

- ▷ Puppets and letterbox dwelling
- ▷ Pennants (small triangular flags with team emblem) for a German Handball club, such as the Berlin Foxes, <http://www.fuechse.berlin/>
- ▷ A picture of a Handball pitch showing the positions of the players
- ▷ Flashcards illustrating the items required for the game (see appendix)

Let's begin!

- ▷ Sing the *Hallo* song and take Felix and Franzi out of the dwelling.
- ▷ Felix and Franzi are REALLY excited! Soon on television their Handball team will be playing an important game! They come on singing the name of their chosen club! *Berlin vor, noch ein Tor! Füchse vor, noch ein Tor!* (Come on Berlin/Foxes, let's have another goal!)

Let's do it!

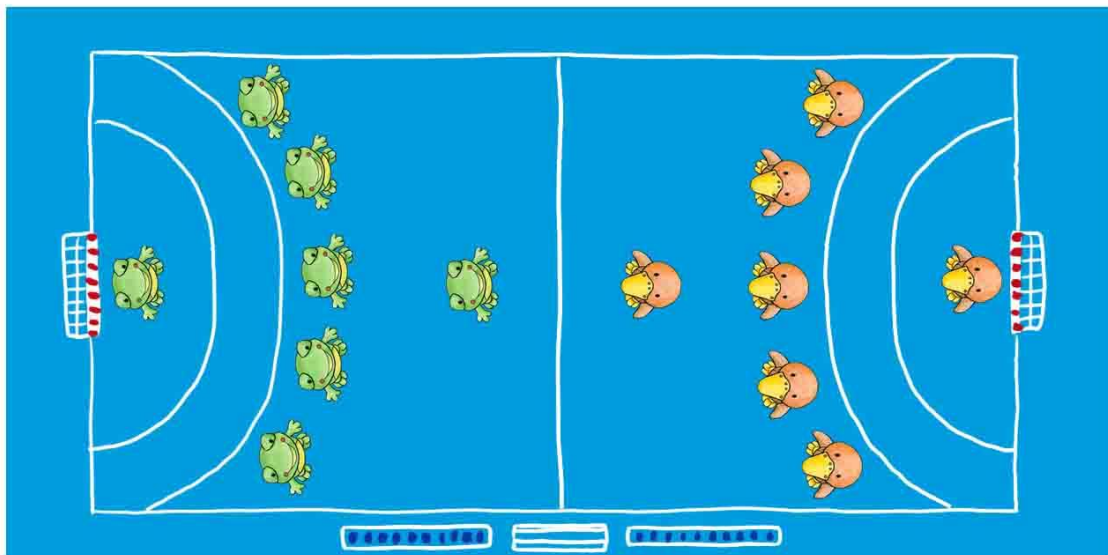
- ▷ They then ask the children about their favourite sports. The children answer in German using the phrase: *Ich mag ...* (I like...). They could also express what they do not like: *Ich mag ... nicht.* (I don't like ...) Then Felix asks if they know about Handball in Germany. Some children might mention Handball as an offence in football, but for most it will be new information.
- ▷ Felix and Franzi then explain Handball is very popular in Europe, especially in Germany. They tell the children a little about the game to generate interest, curiosity and enthusiasm.



Note: For those unsure about the game, Handball is a team sport in which two teams of seven players each (six outfield players and a goalkeeper) pass a ball with their hands with the aim of throwing it into the goal of the other team. A standard match consists of two periods of 30 minutes, and the team that scores the most goals wins. Certain rules about how many steps are allowed without bouncing the ball are similar to those in Basket-ball. Modern handball is played on a court 40 by 20 meters (131 by 66 ft), with a goal in the centre of each end. The goals are surrounded by a 6-meter zone where only the defending goalkeeper is allowed; the goals must be scored by throwing the ball from outside the zone or while jumping into it. The sport is usually played indoors. The game is popular with men, women and children.

You can watch a good summary about the rules here: Handball rules (in English: 01:19 min) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uELMbK6oe_4

- ▷ The children could watch other children prepare for a match here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBzuhK1H500> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yig6zDhow4> or here:
(The internet provides other opportunities to further research the game and its rules if required by the teacher.)
- ▷ Felix and Franzi then teach the words for the positions in the game and items required. For example: *Das ist ein Angriffsspieler. Er schießt Tore.* (This is a forward player. He scores goals.) Show the flashcards of the positions and items from the game as they are mentioned and a picture of a Handball pitch. (for flashcards see appendix)





- ▷ Some of the children could be asked to position themselves in the room to illustrate the places the players will stand. If space is short, model figures or this lesson's whiteboard app could be used.
- ▷ With *Lippenlesen* the children try to guess the new words (positions) they have just learned as the teacher silently mouths them and try to go to the right position in the field (or move the figure on the field).
- ▷ After having learned positions in the field, the children hear from Felix what the players do on the pitch. For the verbs *fangen*, *werfen*, *schießen*, *ausweichen*, *verteidigen*, *prellen*, (catch, throw, shoot, dodge, defend, bounce) the children learn to mime an action. The teacher can then turn it into a competition and put on some instrumental music. The children move through around the room to the music. When the teacher (or Felix) stops the music and says is saying one of the words, the child doing the action first, will score a point.
- ▷ The teacher should now show a few short clips of the game in the internet to bring it to life. While watching parts of a Handball game, the children conduct a tally to find out which actions: *fangen*, *werfen*, *schießen*, *ausweichen*, *verteidigen*, *prellen* occur most often.

How To Do Dribbling in Handball (01:10)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycoJ9U36toI>

How To Jump and Shoot in Handball (01:12)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kI_a2_FfyEE

How To Be a Defender In Handball (01:32)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpjIy0_KF00

How To Be A Winger In Handball (01:28)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0kZRjaL5Z0>

Note: For an advanced class, you could show the explanations in German.

A very good example is this: Was ist Handball? (ca. 7 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrNoWNdy1pc>

- ▷ A beanbag could be used to try a few ball skills like catching, throwing and throwing with foreshadowing (pretending to throw). If you can organise a real ball (handball), there would be the possibility to use it and get the feeling for the size and kind of the ball. You could repeat a few simple phrases for directions such as: *links*, *rechts*, *in die Mitte* (left, right, in the middle) to direct the kids children where to throw the ball.



Let's summarise!

- ▷ The children are already able to understand, express or even write many German sentences. You can choose what summary would be appropriate for at the end of this lesson. The sentences below are a collection of what you could use for an oral or written challenge.

Handball ist ein beliebter Sport in Deutschland. Ein Team spielt zweimal 30 Minuten gegen das andere Team. Ein Team hat 7 Spieler. Das Feld hat zwei Tore. Die Spieler fangen, werfen, schießen und prellen den Ball. Es ist ein harter Sport. Die Verteidiger stehen an der Linie: links, rechts und in der Mitte. Ein Torwart muss viele Bälle fangen. Der Kreisläufer schnappt den Ball. Dann hat der andere Angreifer den Ball. Er muss ausweichen und springt hoch. Es ist ein Tor. Team 2 gewinnt!

- ▷ Felix and Franzi say they hope the children have enjoyed learning some things about the game and together with the children sing the *Auf Wiedersehen* song.

Note: If agreement can be reached with the PE department or the teacher feels qualified, preparation to play Handball with the class can begin. Practicing ball skills would help to give the class a successful start with the game. Exercises can be seen in the videos referred to on the previous page.

Lesson 2: Das große Spiel!

Story: It is the day of the big game! Felix has prepared a guessing game for the children. After that they prepare banners and finally watch the big game.

Let's learn!

- ▷ Simple phrases to help referee a Handball match
- ▷ Cheering vocabulary/phrases to cheer on your team
- ▷ Getting to know the atmosphere during a game (drums, cheering, noise level, family gatherings, etc.)

Let's get ready!

- ▷ The children will be wearing correct sports clothing.
- ▷ Book the school hall or similar appropriate location for the game.
- ▷ Display the most commonly used phrases on the wall for the children to see.



Let's begin!

- ▷ Felix appears and tells the children that he has a surprise for them. They have to guess what it is. In the end Felix tells them he has got an audio quiz for them.
- ▷ The children listen to the noise of a Handball game and find out several more things about Handball. By listening to the game but not seeing it, they try to guess whether it is a final, a semifinal, a training match, whether women, men or children are playing and whether the teams are both from Germany or not. They listen for/find out how the audience cheers for their teams (e.g. clapping, whistling, drumming) and how many fouls or penalty shoots occur during the time they listen to the noise.
- ▷ Choose one of the games:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-sgg6DLgBM>
Herzschlag-Finale Handball-Bundesliga 2013/2014, THW Kiel vs. Füchse Berlin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3S34LRBSta0>
2nd Half, Germany vs. France, Handball World Championship 2013
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTe2BJkcBQ>
Women's teams HC Leipzig vs. Thüringer HC, Semifinals German Championship
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s53QHPzZfN8>
Youth Bundesliga 2013, Finals Berlin vs. Magdeburg
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJUZVLg-mHM>
(Boys D-Liga, 2011, HSV Loitz vs. Handball SG Greifswald)
- ▷ Felix then shows the children a slide show with pictures of Handball fans which will need to be prepared by the teacher in advance. They should name items they recognize. (Drums, whistles, clapping hands, balloons, slogans, etc...).

Note: When you google "Handball fans", you just need to click on "Images" to find the latest fan photos. You can use them in a Powerpoint. (We cannot provide them here for copyright reasons.)

Examples of slogans:

Wenn Handball einfach wäre,
würde es Fußball heißen.

(Team) ...
Ihr seid die
Besten!

(Team) ...
Wir sind stolz auf euch!

(Team) ...
Ich bin dafür!

Handball
stärkt Abwehrkräfte!

(Team) ... vor!
Noch ein Tor!

Verrückt nach
Handball!

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- ▷ Then the children look at the photos again and try to read the banners and cheering slogans. You can give them a few more slogans.
- ▷ After preparing their banners, the children sit down in front of the TV/screen. Felix asks the children to guess who will win. Then they watch the match and can discuss (in English) why they think the winning team could make it. They use their banners to cheer their team and can name the positions of some of the players in action when the show clip is stopped for a minute. These expressions can be used while watching:



- ▷ If the teacher feels circumstances are right, the children can try a game of Handball for themselves. This activity will have to be led by a qualified teacher under strictly supervised conditions. The children will have been prepared in terms of the general level of expectations, taking into account health and safety requirements, they will have the necessary clothing and equipment required and know the language that will be used to supervise. It could also be a lot of fun to just stage a 7-metre-penalty-shoot-out.



Note: A seven-meter throw is the equivalent to a penalty kick in soccer but is far more common. Several penalty shots occur in each game. The thrower stands 7 steps with one foot behind the seven-meter line. Between the goalkeeper and the thrower, a distance of three meters has to be kept. When the referee blows the whistle, the thrower has got 3 seconds to score a goal. The thrower can do foreshadowing Roma, what do you mean by this please? but one foot needs to stay on the ground and he is not allowed to step over or touch the 7-m line. (Advise the children not to shoot directly at the goalkeeper.)

- ▷ The teacher might like to devote more than one session to the preparation. Much of the game could be punctuated by the teacher with phrases the children know well, such as: *Gut! Wunderbar! Ja! Nein! Das ist besser!*

Let's do it!

- ▷ The children play the game. The rest of the class (and maybe invited guests) can enjoy watching. Felix and Franzi can help to cheer them on.
- ▷ The children can name their team after a famous German one and chant: *Stuttgart vor – noch ein Tor!* (Come on Stuttgart, let's have another goal!)
- ▷ The teacher or another adult not occupied can take photos during the game for captions later.

Let's summarise!

- ▷ The children give feedback on how the activity has gone. This could be in English (e.g. I understood the rules. I like chanting. The game is rough. I scored a goal.) or German (*Das war toll!* - That was great!)
- ▷ The children could vote for their favourite German word or phrase – some will suggest sentences of the day. First the teacher takes in suggestions (translations need to be given by the children) and writes them on the whiteboard. Then the voting will reveal what the number 1 word or sentence is.



Lesson 3: Handball in Deutschland

Story: Felix and Franzi now wish to enable the children to find out more about this popular sport in Germany.

Let's learn!

- ▷ The names of a few famous German Handball clubs
- ▷ Their location in Germany on a map
- ▷ Further facts about the game
- ▷ Positions in a league table
- ▷ The colours of the shirts worn
- ▷ The names of a few famous German Handball players, male or female

Let's get ready!

- ▷ Puppets and letterbox dwelling
- ▷ Map of Germany
- ▷ Prepare and set up city rallye game (see p.11)
- ▷ Table showing positions of Handball teams
- ▷ iPads, netbooks or computers
- ▷ sheet for completion on Handball facts

Let's begin!

- ▷ Sing the *Hallo* song and take the puppets out of their dwelling.
- ▷ Felix and Franzi appear each saying the name of a German team (city) trying to convince the other one who will be German champion this year. Obviously they disagree.
- ▷ Then Felix asks the children to find out what they think. He shows them the league table of the year. The children should use a map to find out where the famous Handball clubs in Germany are. They might even ask friends (perhaps at a partner school in Germany) via the internet what they think.

A league table can be found here:

<http://www.dkb-handball-bundesliga.de/de/dkb-hbl/tabelle/>



Let's do it!

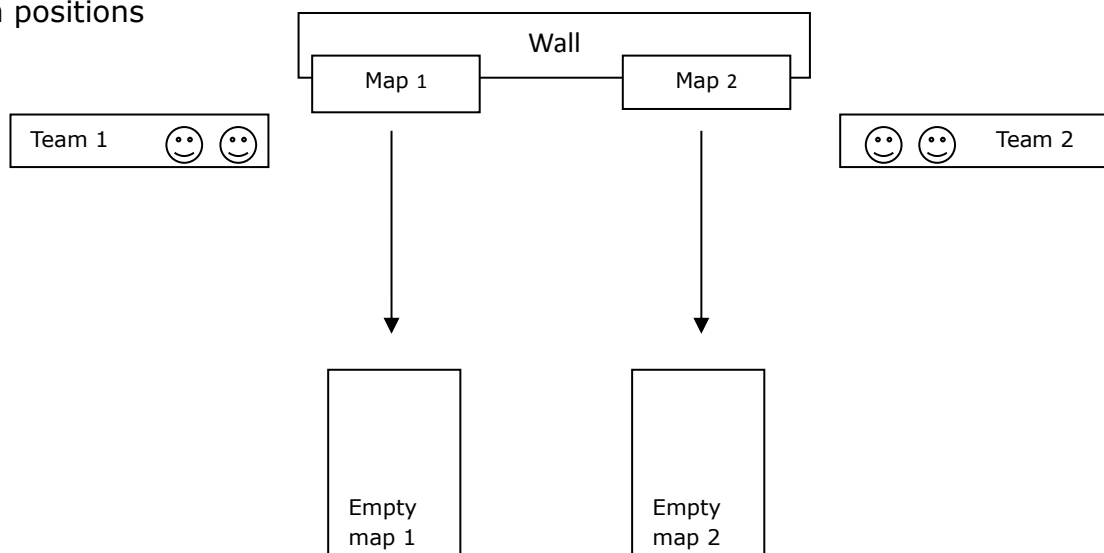
- ▷ Play the city rally game. The children take part in the competition.

Description: Two large and two small maps of Germany are required, as is a room such as the school hall. The smaller maps are hung on the wall at the back of the room. The larger ones are placed on the ground at some distance and show the outline of Germany with the capital. (see below)

The first two children get the name of a city in Germany. That can be a city with a famous Handball club. They then have to look at the smaller map showing the city's location and then run to the larger outline. The cards are then placed where the city should be. The children then run back and the next two then run to place their German cities on the map correctly.

The order of the cards can be mixed so that, for example, team 1 could be looking for Berlin and team 2 is looking for Kiel. To finish each team has to place all cities correctly. 10 to 12 cities could be included. Speed is important, but so is accuracy. Two judges should jointly assess and set points. For example, if a city is placed too far away from the actual place, a point can be deducted. It can also be about the fastest time that counts, taking into account safety considerations.

Team positions



The game can be repeated and probably the children will get faster as they familiarise themselves with the locations of the cities.



In preparation for the competition, the teacher can show the students the nine cities on the map and provide relevant helpful information, such as:

- Augsburg is located in the south in the state of Bavaria not far from Munich
- Frankfurt / Main is located in the west
- Bochum is in the Ruhr district ...

This way the cities are initially localised at least once to help.

In addition, there may be a 'cheat sheet' for finding the cities, which the teams may use if they do not know where the required place is located. This takes longer, but will enable the children to complete the task successfully.

Instead of using the 'cheat sheet' for reading, the more able children could try and describe the location of the city to the runners

Example description of the location of the venues (for the 'cheat sheet'):

Berlin ist im Nordosten Deutschlands. Es ist die größte Stadt in Deutschland.
(Berlin is located in north eastern Germany. It is the largest city in Germany.)

Augsburg ist eine Stadt in Bayern. Sie befindet sich in der Nähe von München. (Augsburg is a city in Bavaria and is located near Munich.)

Leverkusen ist eine Stadt im Ruhrgebiet. Das ist im Westen Deutschlands, nördlich von Bonn. (Leverkusen is a city near the Ruhr. It is located in the west of Germany, north of Bonn.)

- ▷ After the game, the children will know a few places in Germany. Felix (or the teacher) sets the children a research task. They are to use their iPads, netbooks or computers to find out whether these places have a handball club or not. Then the children should choose one club and find at least seven facts about the club or the game Handball in Germany. (According to the abilities of the class, the teacher could increase or decrease this number.) They may find out more if they wish to. Obviously the children will be encouraged to use their own words where possible, rather than simply transcribing.
- ▷ The teacher might like to illustrate showing an example prepared beforehand. The teacher will need to explain to the children that they might not understand all the words on the websites, but need to look for words they can guess and get the gist.



A good starting point is:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Handball-Bundesliga> or use the page of the European Handball Federation:
<http://www.eurohandball.com/>

Another, in German for more able children is:

<http://kiwithek.kidsweb.at/index.php/Handball>

- ▷ It is recommended that children work in pairs, and record their findings.
- ▷ They can have a given time to complete their task, and at the plenary feed back to the wider class some of the facts and information they have learned.
- ▷ Their finished work could then be either used for display or shared with the wider school community at an assembly. The work could also feature as an element of their German folder.
- ▷ As well as facts in English about their club, children could write a few sentences in German about its location, such as: *SG Flensburg-Handewitt ist in Schleswig Holstein, im Norden.*
- ▷ Children could look at a club and give its ranking in German, using ordinals, e.g.: *Wetzlar ist auf dem vierten Platz.* (Wetzlar is in fourth place.)
- ▷ Comparing which country has won titles in Handball, the children will notice that – with a big lead - Germany (including former East Germany (GDR - DDR) has won most of the titles worldwide in both categories, men and women:

http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europ%C3%A4ische_Handballf%C3%B6deration

- ▷ There is a list of best German Handball players of the year that the children could explore (*Handballer des Jahres*).
- ▷ They could find out about the club/tricot colours and take a guess which colour occurs most often and name these in German.
- ▷ Now it is time to find their local Handball teams. The British Handball Association's website makes it easy to find the nearest club to your school:
<http://www.englishhandball.com/club-finder/>
- ▷ The teacher could try to invite a coach or player from a local team or try to visit a match with the class. Another Handball match could be played if time allows.



Let's summarise!

- ▷ At the plenary, children share their key findings to the wider class.
- ▷ The children could prepare a questionnaire. The teams think of questions for the other team, then they compete.

Let's show others!

- ▷ Have a display showing the positions of Handball players on the pitch for the class to see or display information about German Handball clubs including logos, shirts, key players, location as well as the British ones.
- ▷ If a real game has been played, have photos with captions in English and German about the game: e.g: *ein Tor* (a goal).

Let's have even more fun!

- ▷ An extra homework might be to design a pennant for a chosen club in Germany. A picture could be sent abroad.
- ▷ If the school has a partner school in Germany information could be exchanged about the sport and how it is played in their school.
- ▷ The Voyage website offers a range of information about Handball: <http://www.ukgermanconnection.org/kids-handball>.
- ▷ They could do a profile of a famous German or British Handball player. Basic biographical information in German can be repeated from chapter 5.