

THE   
**AMAZING**  
**SAM**   
**KERR** 

Find out  
how she got  
**SO GOOD!**

Illustrated by  
James Knight Jules Faber

AMAZING SERIES   
TEACHER RESOURCE



# Publication Details

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**Recommended for Ages:** 8-12

## Themes

- Travel
- Friendship
- Family
- Timeline
- Sports/Sportsmanship
- Leading by example

## Key Curriculum Areas

**Learning Area:** English General Capabilities, Humanities, Social Sciences, the Arts

**General Capabilities:** Literacy, critical and creative thinking; personal and social capability; visual literacy

## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To learn about the achievements of young sporting Australians.
- To use the text as a springboard for general discussion about sport, equality, diversity, and innovation.
- To empower young readers.



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## Plot Summary

Imagine what it would be like to represent Australia as captain of the Matildas, like the amazing Sam Kerr!

How would it feel to hold the record as Australia's greatest goal scorer? Find out what it takes to get so good - the training, the big breaks and the challenges along the way.

## About the Author

### James Knight

James is a veteran Australian cricketer whose best - and only - performances for his country came while he was asleep. Although his childhood dreams of wearing the baggy green cap didn't become a reality, he still went on several tours with the Australian cricket team during the 1990's. That is, as a television reporter and a more than willing net bowler.

## About the Illustrator

### Jules Faber

Jules has illustrated over thirty books, most of them for children, including the best-selling WeirDo series with Ahn Do and The Kaboom Kid series with David Warner. He has worked with all seven of the major publishers in Australia, which has been fun every single time.

## About the Book

Every Amazing Sporting Hero has a story. Featuring easy-read text and fun illustrations, this series is suitable for readers who are happier out of the classroom than in it!

Collect the whole series:

*Amazing Ash Barty, Amazing Pat Cummins, Amazing Dylan Alcott.*

This collection of books shows support for the incredible young sports people who are the future of our country.



# Pre-reading Questions

1. Looking at the cover, title and blurb, who do you think this book is about?
2. What details on the cover support that prediction?
3. Sam Kerr is one of the world's best soccer players. What do you know about her? Before you read the book you may want to research a little about Sam.
4. Why do you think this book might be important to read?

## Writing Style

1. The author begins the first two chapters with many questions.

*“So where should we start the life story of Samantha May Kerr? Do we start by saying when Sam was born? Or perhaps we talk about soccer or Aussie Rules football or netball or horse-racing?”*

Why do you think that he does this?

2. The author is speaking directly at the reader throughout the book. What is that called?
3. Why do you think that the author has brought you, the reader, into the story?
4. The author is taking you on a travel journey whilst telling you the story of Sam Kerr. Do you like to be included in this journey? Why/Why not?
5. The author asks the reader to research whilst reading as this builds background knowledge of the subject and other things relating to the subject. What did you learn about Sam's early years?
6. What does it mean when the author says, “that sport is in our blood”?
7. What other famous sporting families does the author mention?
8. Name two other sporting heroes that the author talks to you about.
9. Is this a novel about a fictional story or a non-fiction style book? What tells you that?
10. The author mentions that “amazing people develop at such astounding rates that new challenges quickly become old challenges”. Can you give an example of that?
11. Why do you think that the illustrator has used this style of font on the cover?
12. Which details in the book were most important to you?



# Illustrations

There are illustrations throughout the book. They are not just there to make the book more appealing. Tell us some things that you learnt by looking at the illustrations.

How did the illustrations make you understand the context better?

Chapter headings are illustrated. How does that make the book more appealing?

# Themes

## Travel

Download a map of the world and pin all the places that were mentioned in this book. (Maybe you want to visit all these places one day, just like Sam Kerr has done!)

## Sportsmanship

What is sportsmanship?

At the back of the book there is a glossary of sportspeople that were mentioned in the book who have shown sportsmanship. Look through this list and highlight those who you had not heard about before.

Can you create a list of your sporting heroes?

## Timeline

Can you create a timeline of one of your sporting heroes?

# After Reading

- What do you think the author hoped you would think after reading the text?
- What do you think about the story/text?
- Can you summarise the text in just two or three sentences?
- What was your favourite part?
- What would you change in this text if you could write it?

# Activities

1. Pick a sportsperson who is not featured in the book and, following the style of the book, write a short biography of their life and achievements. The person can be someone famous or notable, or it can be someone you know and admire.



2. The author uses a lot of words that you may not have come across before. Can you find the meaning of the words below and use them in a sentence?

WORD	MEANING	SENTENCE
Contradiction	_____ _____	_____ _____
Opponent	_____ _____	_____ _____
Attributes	_____ _____	_____ _____
Determination	_____ _____	_____ _____
Motivation	_____ _____	_____ _____
Resilience	_____ _____	_____ _____
Commitment	_____ _____	_____ _____

