THE CARTOON BOOK OF

AMERICAN FOOTBALL



GOAL & INVASION

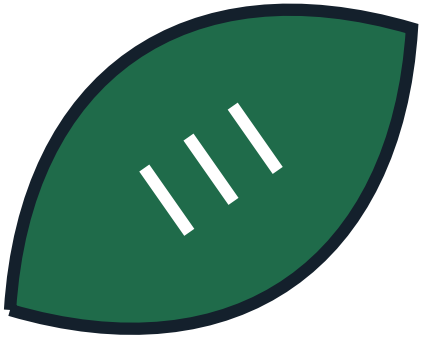
SPORT ON EARTH

Sport on Earth Books · The Ball & goal Family

Original illustrations · No characters were copied in the making of this book

Meet American Football!

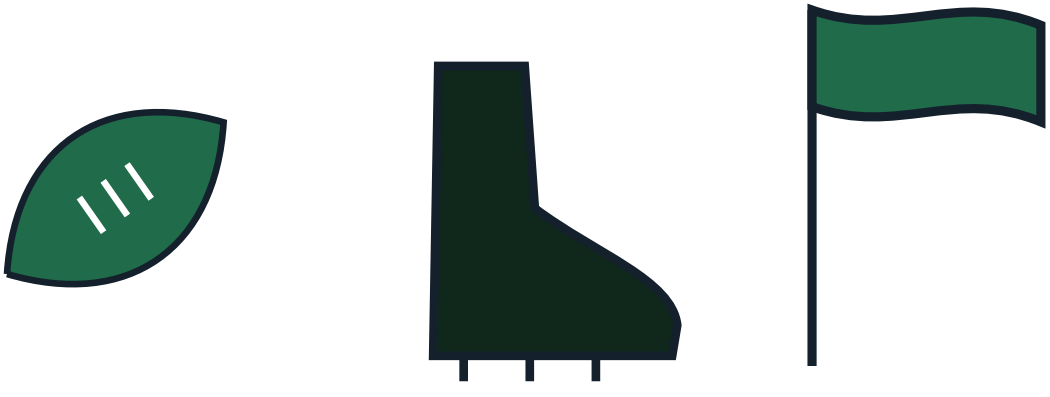
Eleven a side; advance the ball 10 yards in four downs or score touchdowns and field goals.



Where It Is Played



The Gear

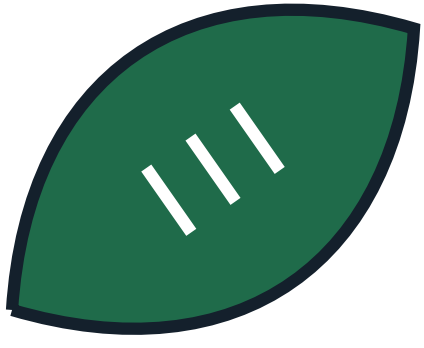


Meet the Ball & goal Family

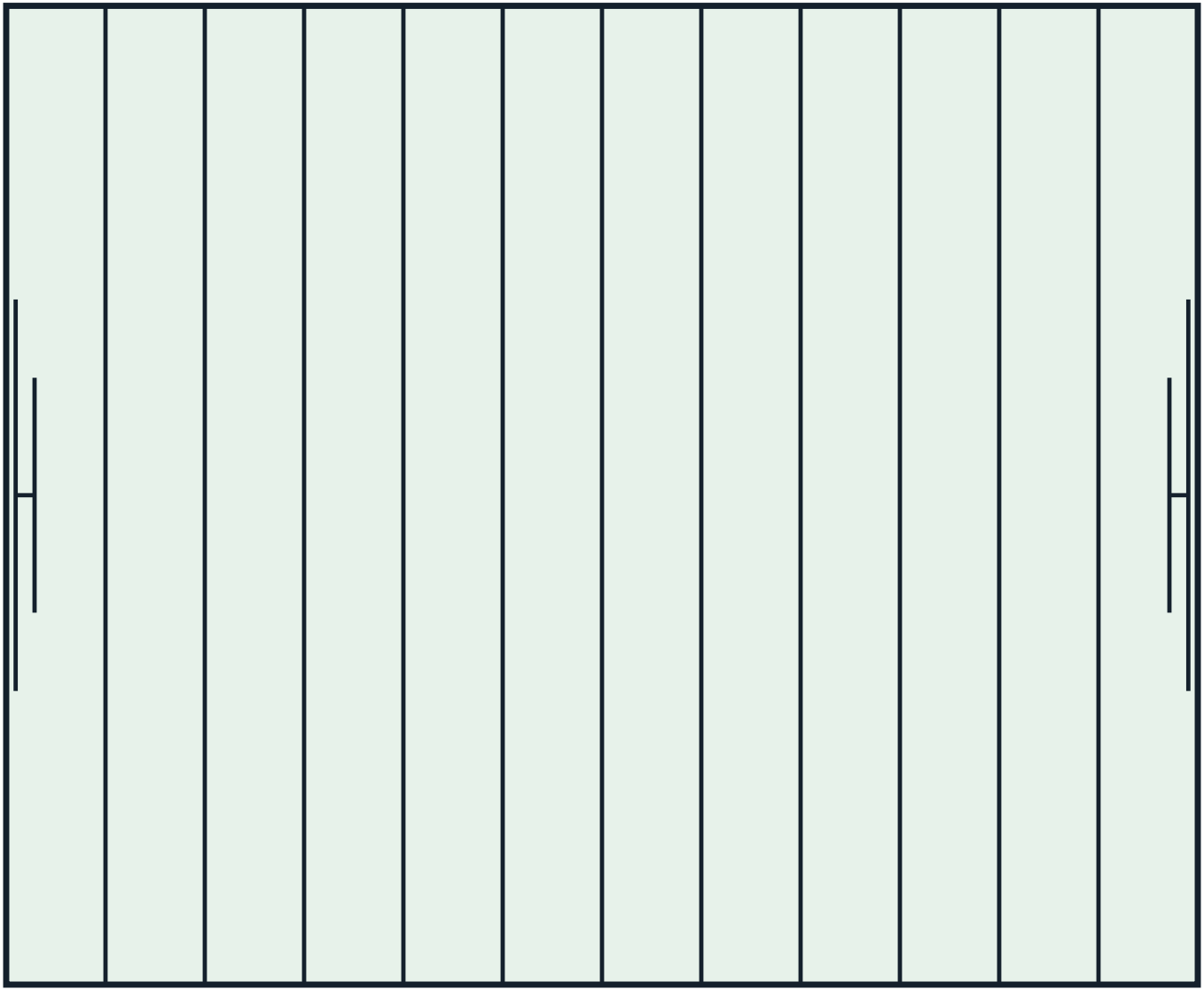
- Football (Soccer) — Two teams of 11 try to score in the opposing goal, mostly without using hands.
- Rugby Union — Fifteen a side, full contact, with the ball passed backwards.
- Rugby League — Thirteen a side with six tackles per possession. A faster, more continuous game than union.
- Australian Rules Football — Eighteen a side on a large oval. Kick or handball the ball and score goals (6 points) or…
- Canadian Football — Twelve-a-side gridiron game with three downs, run by the CFL.
- Gaelic Football — Irish field sport mixing soccer and rugby, run by the GAA.

How to Play

American football was not so much invented as litigated into existence: the forward pass, the hash marks and the modern passing rules all arrived as emergency repairs to a game that kept killing its players or boring its presidents. The NFL's own later changes are dossiered on the NFL league page.



The Playing Area



Good to Know

The Story So Far

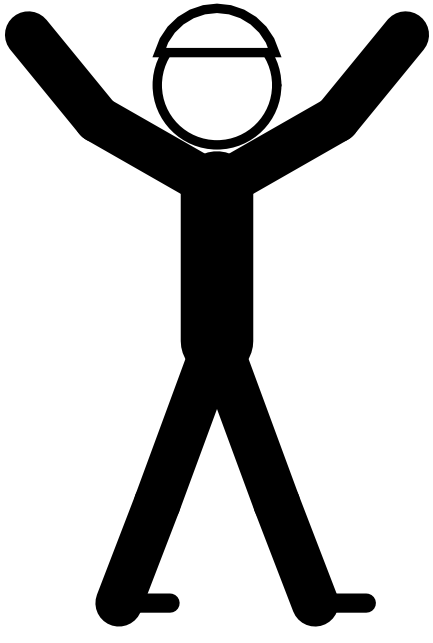
Evolved from rugby in US colleges in the 1870s; the NFL formed in 1920; first Super Bowl in 1967.



Rules That Changed the Game

- 1906 — The Legal Forward Pass: Every subsequent page of football history — the T-formation, the West Coast offence, the modern pass-first NFL — is a descendant o.
- 1933 — The 1933 Passing Liberation (and Hash Marks): The hash marks and the unrestricted pass location are invisible fundamentals of the modern game; the later hash-mark narrowing for.
- 1996 (FBS postseason 1996; regular season 1996) — The Kansas Plan (College Overtime): College overtime is now a distinct tactical sport (defence first or second, when to chase two) whose shootout endpoint is again un.

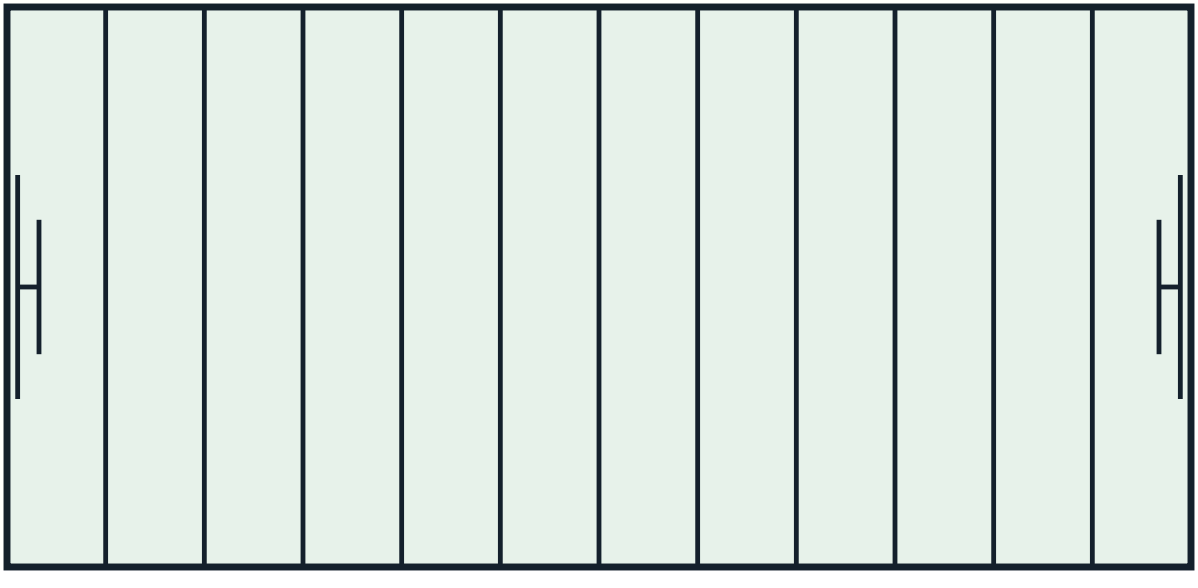
Colour the Action



Psst — this page is a colouring page!

The Sport Today

NFL, plus the CFL in Canada and developmental leagues.



At School and College

NCAA football is huge and acts as the main NFL pipeline; high school football is a major local institution.

Play It Near You

Pop Warner, flag football, and recreational leagues.

Through the Year

NFL from September to the Super Bowl in February; college season runs August to January.

The Ball & goal Family

Every sport belongs to a family of games that share its shapes and skills. Here are some of this book's closest relatives — each with a cartoon book and a colouring book of its own.

- Football (Soccer) — Two teams of 11 try to score in the opposing goal, mostly without using hands.
- Rugby Union — Fifteen a side, full contact, with the ball passed backwards.
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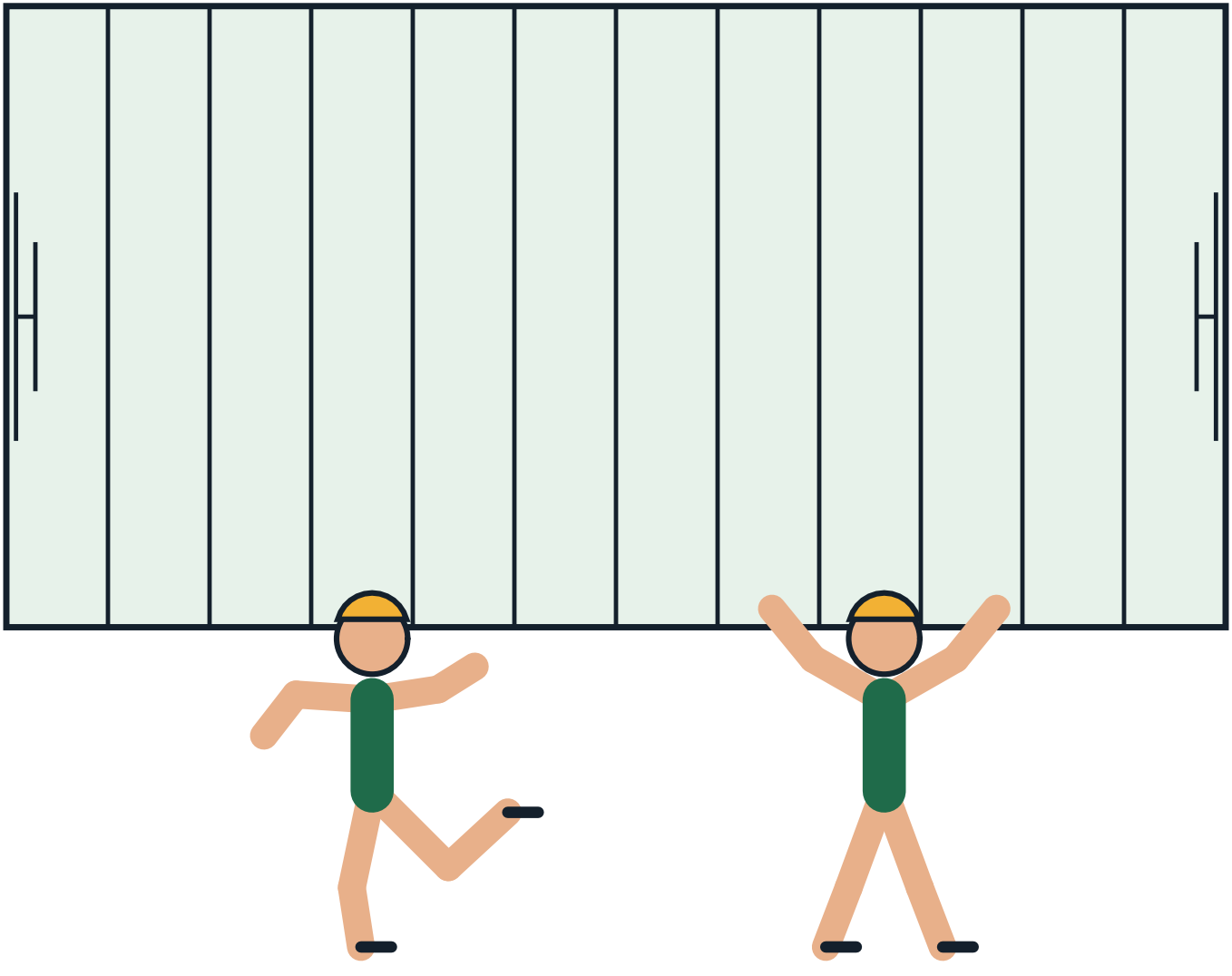
- Australian Rules Football — Eighteen a side on a large oval. Kick or handball the ball and score goals (6 points) or…
- Canadian Football — Twelve-a-side gridiron game with three downs, run by the CFL.

Game Day!

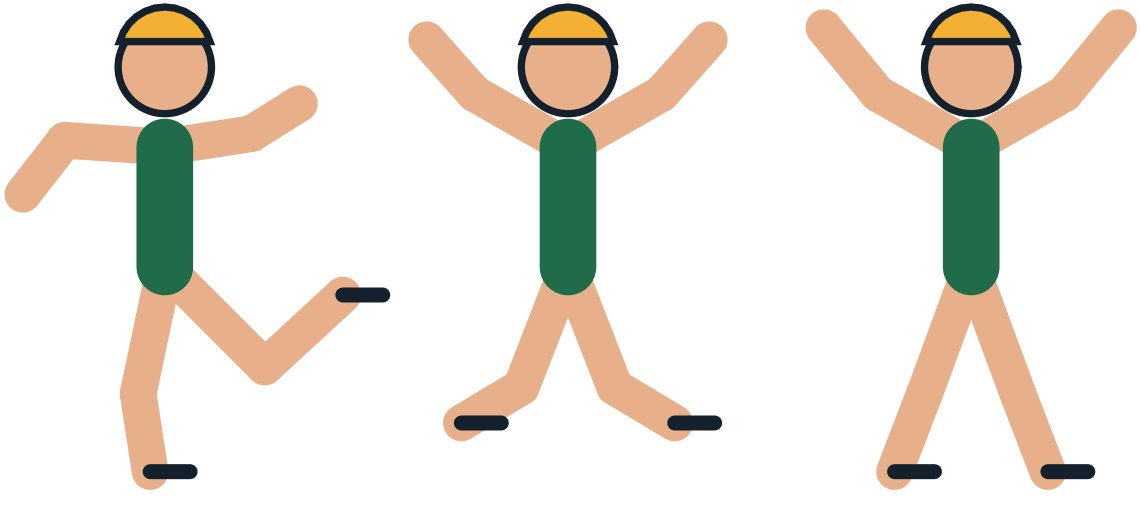


The Sport on Earth Mark

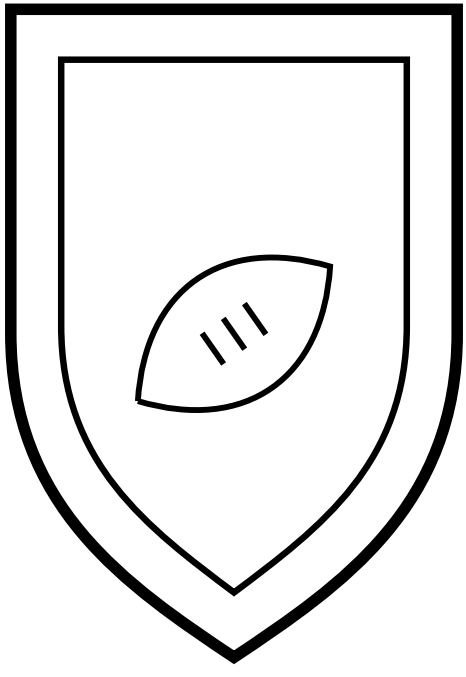
Every sport on Sport on Earth carries its own original mark, drawn for the site. Here is this sport's.



Moves of the Game



Design a Badge

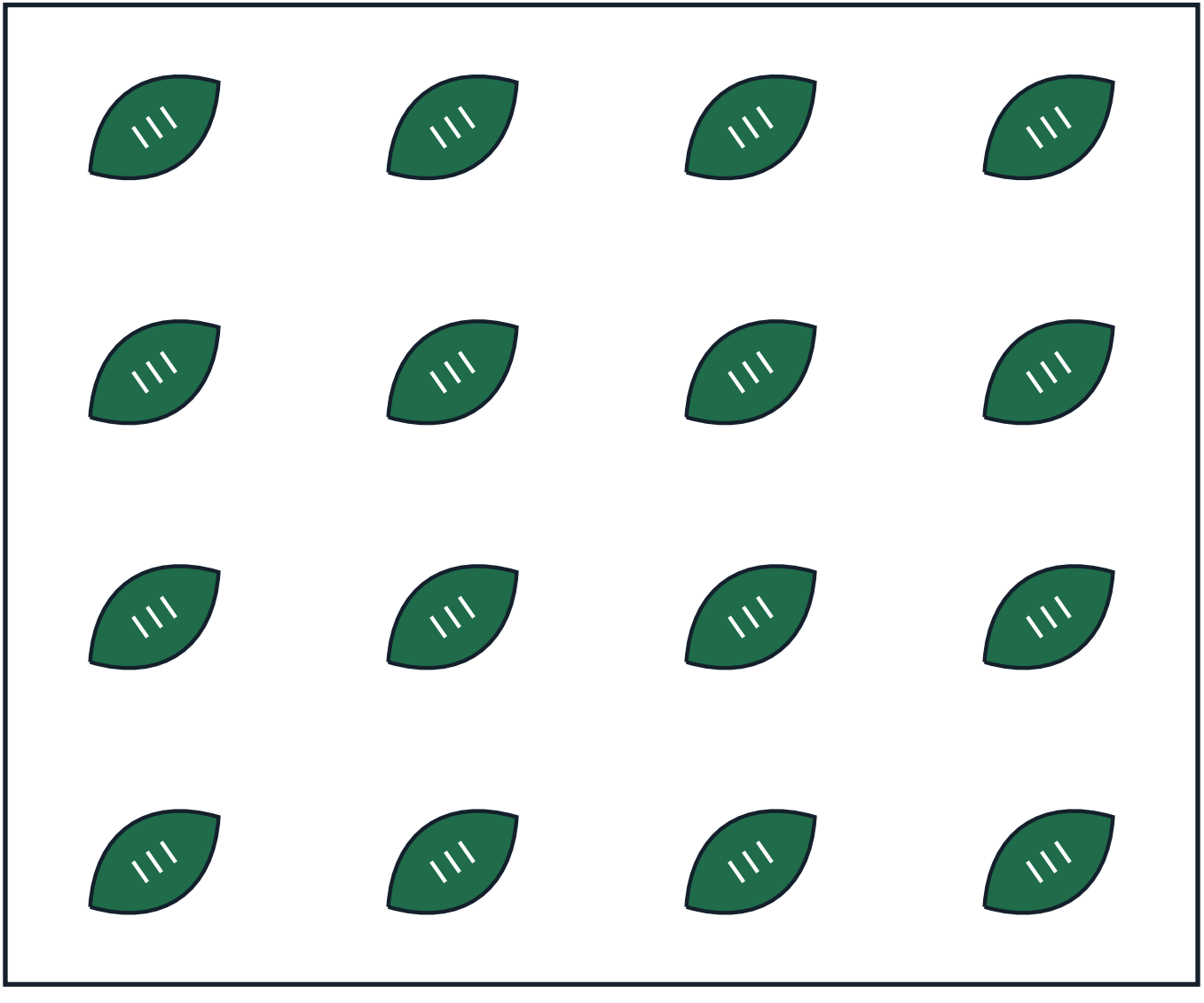


Draw and colour a badge for your own team.

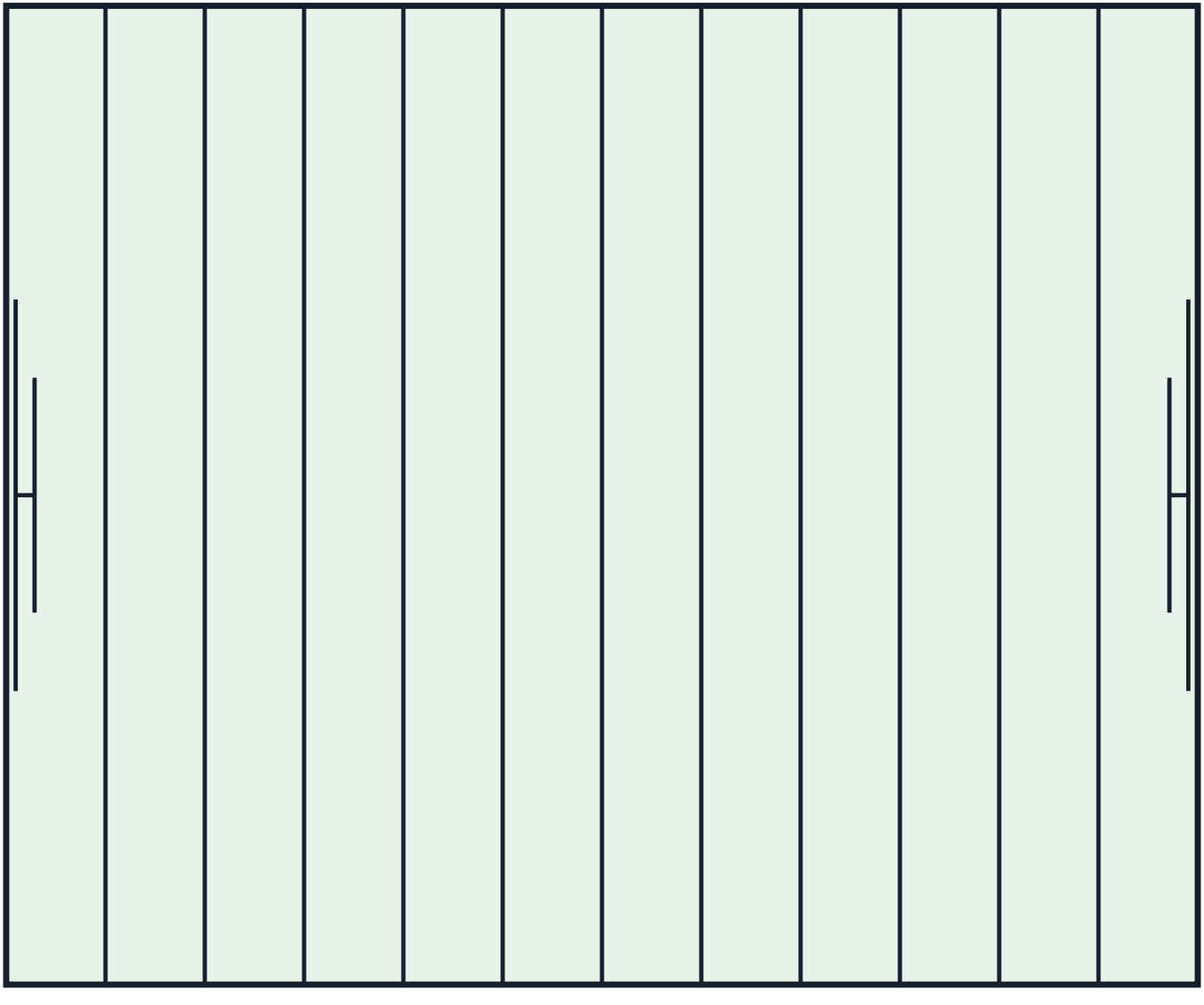
The Gear Parade



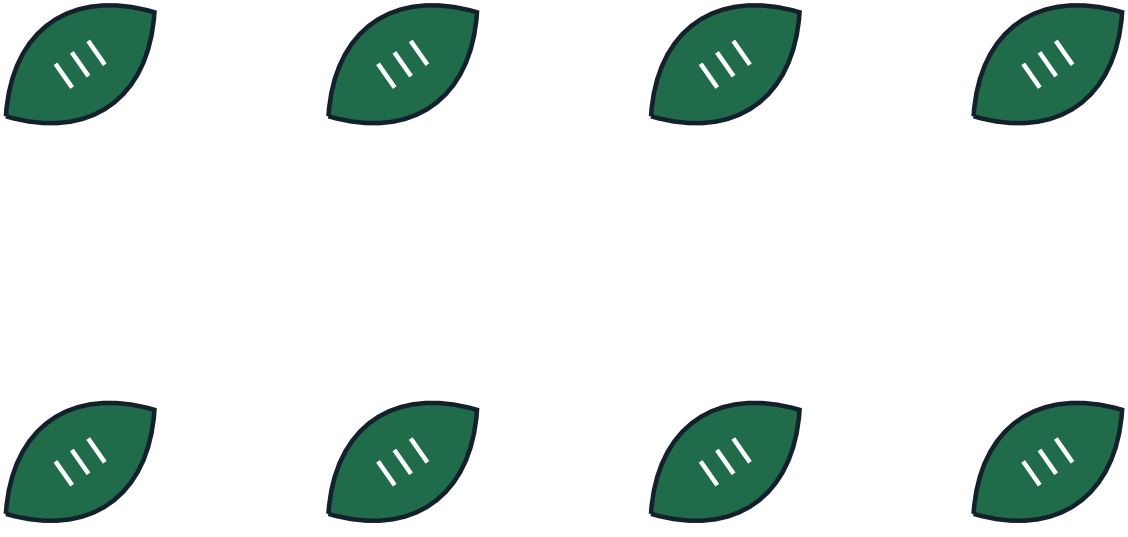
Pattern Play



The Arena From Above



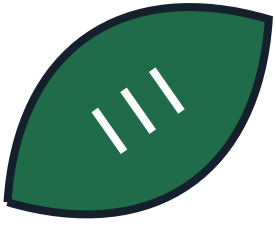
Count the Balls!



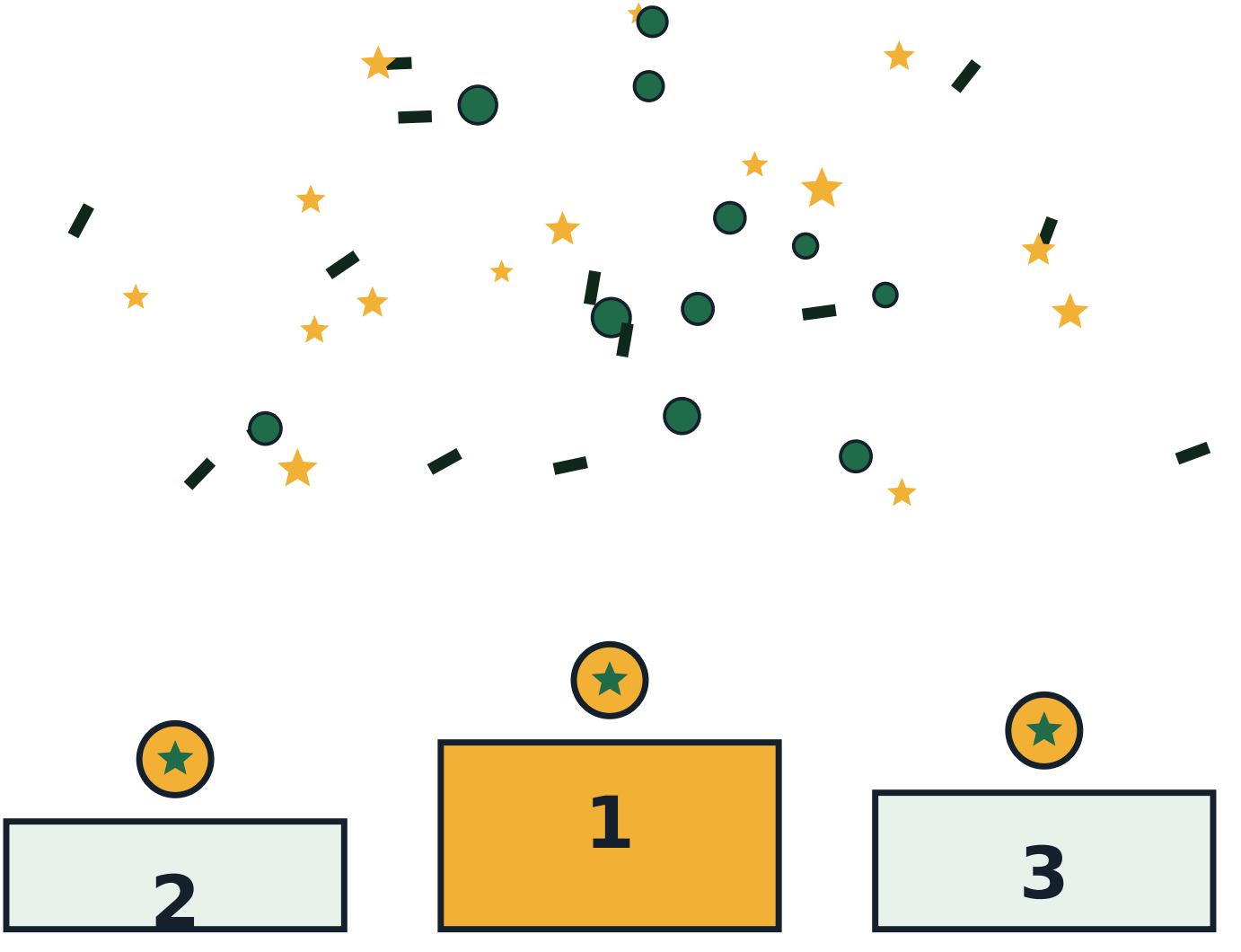
How many can you count? Write the number here: _____

My Favourite Part of American Football

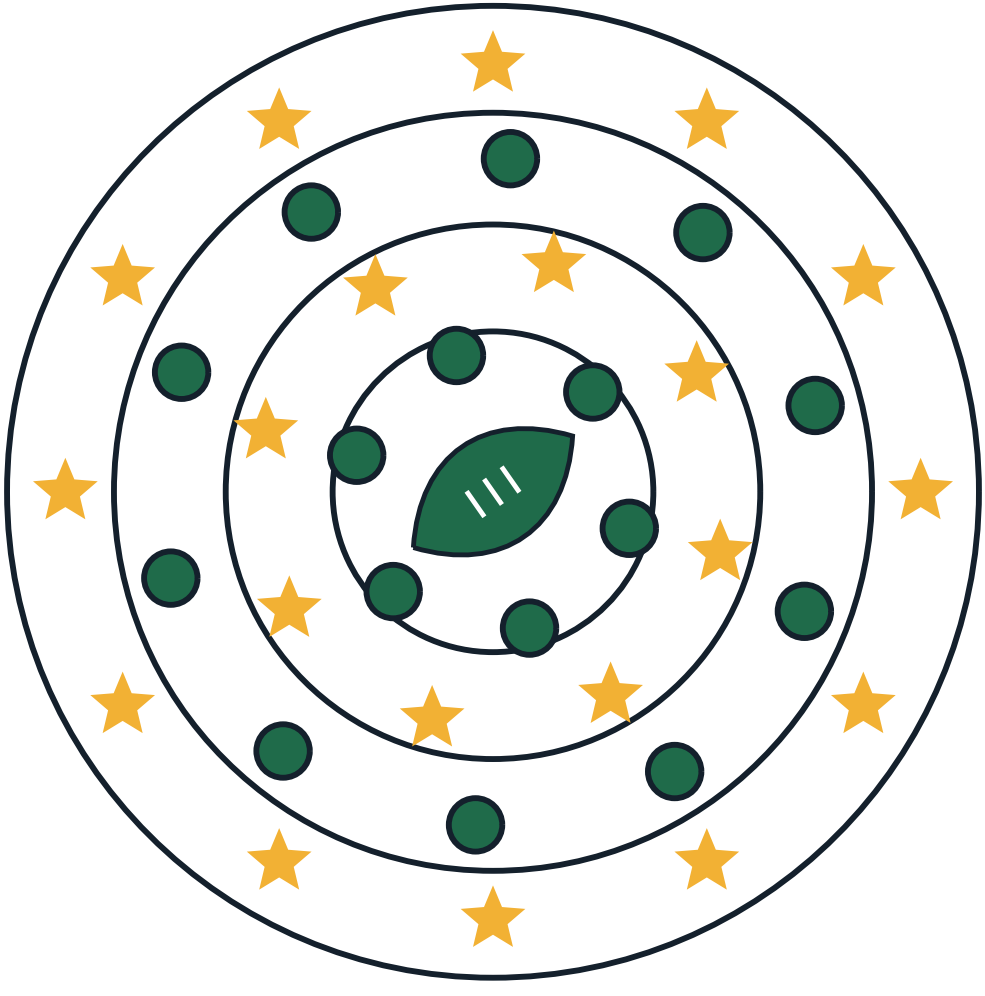
Gear Close-Up



Champions!



The Mandala of the Game



About This Book

Rule-change history: NFL and NCAA rule histories; the 1905–06 rules-crisis record (Intercollegiate Athletic Association proceedings); Pro Football Hall of Fame rule-change documentation.. Everything in this book comes from Sport on Earth's own verified sport files — the same words you can read on the sport's page at Sport on Earth. The illustrations are original artwork drawn by computer for this book series. They are not pictures of real players, real teams or anybody else's characters.

More Books in the Family

- The Cartoon Book of Football (Soccer)
- The Cartoon Book of Rugby Union
- The Cartoon Book of Rugby League
- The Cartoon Book of Australian Rules Football
- The Cartoon Book of Canadian Football
- The Cartoon Book of Gaelic Football
- The Football (Soccer) Colouring Book
- The Rugby Union Colouring Book

My Notes

American Football

The Cartoon Book of American Football — a Sport on Earth Book.

Text from Sport on Earth's verified sport files. Illustrations: original programmatic artwork created for this series, including the site's own sport mark. No copyrighted characters, team logos or player likenesses appear in this book.

Collect the whole shelf: a cartoon book and a colouring book for every one of the 442 sports and games on Sport on Earth.

