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| **Subject:** | Language Arts |
| **Title:** | Pep Talk |
| **Grade Level:** | 6 |
| **Purpose:** | Have students envision what they could say to a group of athletes to boost morale and inspire them to try their best to win a game. |
| **Curricular****Connections:** | * Engage in exploratory communication to share personal responses and develop own interpretations.
* Use talk, notes, personal writing and representing, together with texts and the ideas of others, to clarify and shape understanding.
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| **Materials:** | * Pep talk planning and writing page
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| **Activity:** | 1. Review the structure of a three period hockey game, with breaks.
2. Explain how a coach talks to the players during the period breaks. What makes this an important game to win. For example:
* Is the team playing to get into the play offs?
* Is it a Stanley Cup playoff game?
* Is it against a team they have a fierce rivalry with?
1. As a class, or on their own, students create a scenario where a hockey team needs motivation.
2. Discuss with students what motivates athletes. Ask students:
* **who** they think the athletes would play their best for: fans, family, other teammates, etc.
* **why** an athlete may not be playing their best game
* **what** are some things they would say if they were the coach to help motivate the players to try and win the game
1. Write a pep talk to give to your team.
2. Share it with the class or a classmate.
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| **Extension:** | Discuss the positive and negative ways to motivate people. Students decide what would be more inspiring, and why. |
| **Assessment:** | Is the student able to:* Imagine a scenario where a pep talk would be needed.
* Focus their motivational writing to connect with the scenario.
* Utilize language to motivate.
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**Scenario**

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**Pep Talk**

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