Selection Summary
Bicycle racing champion Lance Armstrong has won races all over the world. Readers will learn that he never gives up. His racing career started with a triathlon when he was thirteen. From there he went on to win races all over the world.

Characteristics of the Text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Narrative Nonfiction: Biography</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text Structure</td>
<td>• Third-person narrative focuses on life and career of Lance Armstrong.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Information presented sequentially</td>
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<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>• Professional bicycle racing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lance Armstrong's life and career</td>
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<tr>
<td>Themes and Ideas</td>
<td>• Champions never give up.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• You can overcome personal problems to achieve a goal.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sports competition is thrilling.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language and Literary Features</td>
<td>• Exclamations for emphasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Descriptive details about subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentence Complexity</td>
<td>• A mix of simple, compound, and complex sentences with clauses and phrases</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Longer sentences (more than 15 words)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocabulary Words</td>
<td>• Content-specific words explained in text: triathlon, champion, Iron Kids Triathlon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Plurals, contractions, compound words: races, didn't, everyone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Many two and three-syllable words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrations</td>
<td>• Color action photos support and extend text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book and Print Features</td>
<td>• Nine pages of text, photos on every page either above or beside text</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Some sentences continuing over several lines</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Photo caption extends text.</td>
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Number of Words: 444
Lance Armstrong by David Lau

Build Background
Read the title to children and discuss the scene on the cover photo. Ask children what they think they will learn about Lance Armstrong in this book. Encourage children to use their knowledge of bicycle riding to think about the book. Ask questions such as: What do you like best about riding a bike? What do you think it’s like to ride a bike in a big race?

Introduce the Text
Guide children through the text, noting important ideas, and helping with unfamiliar language and vocabulary. Here are some suggestions:

Pages 2–3: Explain that this book is about a world famous bicycle racer, Lance Armstrong.
Suggested language: Turn to page 2. This is a picture of Lance Armstrong wearing his racing uniform. The last sentence reads: Lance liked to race, and he never gave up.

Page 4: Turn to page 4. What is happening in this picture? Lance was also a winning swimmer. For swimming or biking, Lance always trained hard. He rode his bike ten miles a day! Have you ever trained hard for a race or sports event?

Page 5: Remember to use captions to help you understand a photo and the text. The caption says: Lance runs in a triathlon at age 17. In the triathlon, racers swim, run a race, and ride a bike. Look at the photo. Which triathlon race is Lance taking part in? What do you think racers have to do before entering a triathlon?

Page 8: Turn to page 8. Lance wanted to be win an important bicycle race and become a champion. How do you think never giving up helped him? What else do you have to do to become a champion in a sport?

Page 9: Turn to page 9. The sentence reads: Lance asked his coach for help. His coach had some new ideas to help Lance win. Look at the photo. Do you think Lance listened to his coach? Why?

Now turn back to the beginning and read to learn more about Lance Armstrong’s life.

Learn More Words

champion coach train
Read
Have children read *Lance Armstrong* silently while you listen to individual children read. Support their problem solving and fluency as needed.

Respond to the Text

Personal Response
Ask children to share their personal responses to the book. Begin by asking what they liked best about the book, or what they found interesting.

*Suggested language:* What is one thing you learned about Lance Armstrong’s life that you would like to share with a friend?

Ways of Thinking
As you discuss the text, make sure children understand these teaching points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thinking Within the Text</th>
<th>Thinking Beyond the Text</th>
<th>Thinking About the Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Lance Armstrong is a famous, bicycle racing champion.</td>
<td>• You must never give up if you want to reach a goal.</td>
<td>• The exciting photos bring the words to life for readers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lance became very sick, but got well and raced again.</td>
<td>• You must work hard to become a champion.</td>
<td>• The author really admires Lance Armstrong.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lance Armstrong never gives up.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• The details about Lance Armstrong’s life help make the book more interesting.</td>
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Choices for Support

Fluency
Invite children to choose a passage from the text to read aloud. Have them demonstrate appropriate stress on words, pausing and phrasing, intonation, and use of punctuation.

Phonics and Word Work
Provide practice as needed with words and sounds, using one of the following activities:

- **Make New Adjectives Materials:** index cards and two boxes. Write the following words from the book on index cards and put the cards in a box: *hard, old, strong, long*. Write the suffixes *–er* and *–est* on index cards and put them in the second box. Ask children to select an index card from each box and create new words. Work with children to use the words in original sentences.

- **Build Sentences Materials:** books, index cards, sentence strips. Have children find photos of six words in the book (i.e. *triathlon, bike racing, race, champion, riders, winning*) and write each word on an index card. Then have them write sentences using the words. Call on children to read aloud their sentences to the group.
Writing About Reading

Critical Thinking
Read the directions for children on BLM 30.9 and guide them in answering the questions.

Responding
Read aloud the questions at the back of the book and help children complete the activities.

Target Comprehension Skill

Understanding Characters
Remind children that they can tell more about characters in a book by paying attention to what they say, what they do, and how they feel. Model how to think about understanding characters:

Think Aloud

I read on page 7 that when Lance Armstrong got sick he fought very hard to get well and race again. No matter what, he didn’t give up. When he was stronger he entered a big race in France and won. This shows me that Lance is a strong person who never stops trying.

Practice the Skill
Have children share examples of what characters in other books did, said, and felt and what this told children about the characters.

Writing Prompt
Read aloud the following prompt. Have children write their response, using the writing prompt on page 6.

Think about what you learned about Lance Armstrong in this book. Then write two questions you would like to ask him about his training.
English Language Learners

Reading Support Give English learners a “preview” of the text by holding a brief, small-group discussion with them before reading the text with the entire group.

Oral Language Development

Check the children’s comprehension, using a dialogue that best matches their English proficiency level. Speaker 1 is the teacher, Speaker 2 is the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning/ Early Intermediate</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Early Advanced/ Advanced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> Who is this book about?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> Why is Lance Armstrong a champion?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> How did Lance Armstrong become a champion bicycle racer?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> Lance Armstrong</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He wins bicycle races.</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He worked very hard to reach his goal. No matter what happened, he never gave up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> What sport does he like the most?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> What did Lance do when he got very sick?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He worked very hard to reach his goal. No matter what happened, he never gave up.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> bicycle racing</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He fought hard to get well and never gave up.</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He fought hard to get well and never gave up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> What happens when Lance enters bicycle races?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He wins.</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He wins.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He wins.</td>
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Responding


**Write About It**

Text to Text: Think of the story you read about Mia Hamm. Do you admire Mia or Lance more? Write two sentences to tell what you think and why.

Think About It

Write an answer to the question. Responses may vary.

1. Why does Lance Armstrong never give up?

   He wants to be the best. He wants to be a champion.

Making Connections: Think about something you never give up working on. Write some sentences about what it is and why you never stop trying.

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Lesson 30: Lance Armstrong
Lance Armstrong

Think about you learned about Lance Armstrong in this book. Then write two questions you would like to ask him about his training.

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Think About It

Write an answer to the question.

1. Why does Lance Armstrong never give up?

Making Connections Think about something you never give up working on. Write some sentences about what it is and why you never stop trying.
When he was young, Lance Armstrong was a lot like other kids. He didn’t have any brothers or sisters. He liked to play, swim, and ride his bike. But Lance could also ride his bike for hours and swim for miles. Lance liked to race, and he never gave up.