



# Famous Olympic Athletes

## Michael Phelps

### Olympic Achievements

**Country:** United States

**Sport:** Swimming

**Year:** 2004 Summer Olympics  
Athens, Greece

**Total of 8 medals:**

6 gold medals

2 bronze medals

**Year:** 2008 Summer Olympics  
Beijing, China

**Total of 8 gold medals**

Michael Phelps was born in 1985 in Maryland. He began swimming when he was 7 years old. Michael was setting swimming records by the time he was 10.

His Olympic career began with the 2000 Olympic games, where he was the youngest male to make the U.S. team in 68 years. He did not win a medal in the 2000 Olympics.

This would change in the 2004 Olympics. He won a eight medals: six gold and two bronze. He established many Olympic and world records.

The 2008 Olympics were even better. Michael made history by winning eight gold medals, the most gold medals ever won by a person in a single Olympics. He set an Olympic or world record in every event that he won a gold medal.

Michael has been called the greatest swimmer of all time. He was named Sportsman of the Year in 2008 by *Sports Illustrated* magazine.



*Michael Phelps at the 2008 Olympics*

### Secret Code Word

Use the secret code to find a word about Michael Phelps. Write the letter in the blank that matches the number from the code.

19    23    9    13    13    5    18

#### Secret code

1 = A	7 = G	13 = M	19 = S	25 = Y
2 = B	8 = H	14 = N	20 = T	26 = Z
3 = C	9 = I	15 = O	21 = U	
4 = D	10 = J	16 = P	22 = V	
5 = E	11 = K	17 = Q	23 = W	
6 = F	12 = L	18 = R	24 = X	

## Q&A

How old was Michael when he began swimming?

\_\_\_\_\_

When was Michael born?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many gold medals did Michael win in the 2008 Olympics?

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Michael win in the 2004 Olympics?

\_\_\_\_\_