

1) Checking VARdy!

ACTIVITY 1

Oh no, some of the sentences from the Vardy story have got jumbled up! Can you help put them back in the right order? [Answers on page 10!]

A) For once, Jamie beloved wasn't for cheering City Leicester his; no, cheering Chelsea instead he for was.

B) That once Jamie stop couldn't season, he started had scoring.

C) He was holder the Premier a new and country hottest in League striker the record.

D) £1million - Fleetwood paid that's, back City what 2012 Leicester had Town in.

E) Because now 132 City first league moments in winning for were the Leicester away the title from time years.

ACTIVITY 2

When I'm writing the Ultimate Football Heroes books, I make LOTS of mistakes – wrong spellings, missing words, missing full stops, missing capital letters. So it's a good thing that I have an editor who reads through my work and helps to correct all of my errors. This time, however, I'm on my own, so could you please be my editor and find the 9 mistakes in each of these paragraphs? You can use the finished Vardy story to help you spot them. [Answers on page 10!]

A) THINK ABOUT: capital letters, full stops, missing words

during his first year in the Premier League, jamie had only grabbed all season, but he felt so much sharper second time around All he had needed was a bit of to adapt, just like when he first arrived in the Championship. now, he was ready to the 'Number 9' shirt with pride, just like his childhood hero, David Hirst, had back in the day, at Sheffield Wednesday. But while Jamie did still support his old boyhood, he was all about leading the line for Leicester City now

B) THINK ABOUT: proper nouns, spellings

Back in august at the start of the season, the newspapers had made Leicester one of the favourites for regelation. And the odds on The Foxes wining the title? A whopping 5000-1! Yes that's right, some people thought lionel Messi signing for Stoke was more likly than leicester lifting the premier League trofy.

C) THINK ABOUT: everything (no clues this time!)

Yes, he had done it Pointing proud at his chest, Jamie raced over to the Leicster fans to celebrate his amazing acheivement Only four years earlier, at the age of 4, he had still been playing non-league football, while also working in a factory. And now look at him! He was a new Premier league record holder and the hottest striker in the country

2) Football by Numbers

Numbers are really important in football, especially if you're a top-scoring striker like Jamie. So, are you Vardy enough to ace this special Maths test? [Answers on page 10!]

1. Growing up Vardy's hero was Sheffield Wednesday striker David Hirst. Hirst played for three clubs over the course of his career:

Barnsley - Appearances 28 - Goals 9

Sheffield Wednesday - Appearances 294 - Goals 106

Southampton - Appearances 30 - Goals 9

Can you add up Hirst's total amount of club appearances and club goals over the course of his career?

Total Appearances:

Total Goals:

Fun Fact 1: Alex Ferguson was rumoured to have tried to sign Hirst six times for Manchester United, but Sheffield Wednesday refused to sell him. Ferguson gave up and signed Cantona instead!

2. Vardy started out as a young footballer at Sheffield Wednesday but was released at the age of 16. Leicester City has been the club where he has spent the majority of his professional career. Can you total up how many goals Vardy has scored for Leicester in the Premier League?

2019/2020	Leicester City	Goals 19
2018/2019	Leicester City	Goals 18
2017/2018	Leicester City	Goals 20
2016/2017	Leicester City	Goals 13
2015/2016	Leicester City	Goals 24

Fun Fact 2: Vardy has been player of the season on one occasion, player of the month four times and scored goal of the month one time!

3. Vardy helped Leicester win the Premier League title in 2016. They hadn't won the title for 132 years. Can you work out which year they previously won the top division?

Fun Fact 3: Leicester started the season as one of the favourites to be relegated, having narrowly avoided that fate in the previous season.

4. Can you work out how many years these clubs had to wait between titles? Some are still waiting!

a) Manchester City won the top division in 1968 and then had to wait until 2012 to win their next one.

How long did they wait between titles?

b) Tottenham Hotspur have won the top division twice. Once in 1951 and then again in 1961.

How long did they have to wait between titles?

How long has it been since they last won one?

Fun Fact 4: Of the current Premier League teams Newcastle United are the top-flight club who have had the longest wait for another top division win, previously winning it in 1927, a whopping 93 years ago!

5. Vardy and his teammates watched the Chelsea vs. Spurs game desperately hoping for a Chelsea victory. It didn't start well, with Spurs racing into a two-goal lead courtesy of a goal each from Harry Kane and Son-Heung min. Gary Cahill scored for Chelsea in the 58th minute before Eden Hazard smashed in an equaliser in the 83rd minute. How many minutes passed between Cahill and Hazard's goals?

Fun Fact 5: Spurs were shown nine yellow cards in this match, a Premier League record!

6. Vardy's goals in bringing home the title were invaluable. However the team was also built upon a very solid defence. Can you add up the total height of Leicester's defenders and keeper in their title winning season?

Kasper Schmeichel	-	189cm
Wes Morgan	-	186cm
Robert Huth	-	191cm
Danny Simpson	-	176cm
Christian Fuchs	-	187cm

Part 2: Are you able to convert that total in centimetres into metres? (Clue - to convert from centimetres into metres remember to divide by 100!)

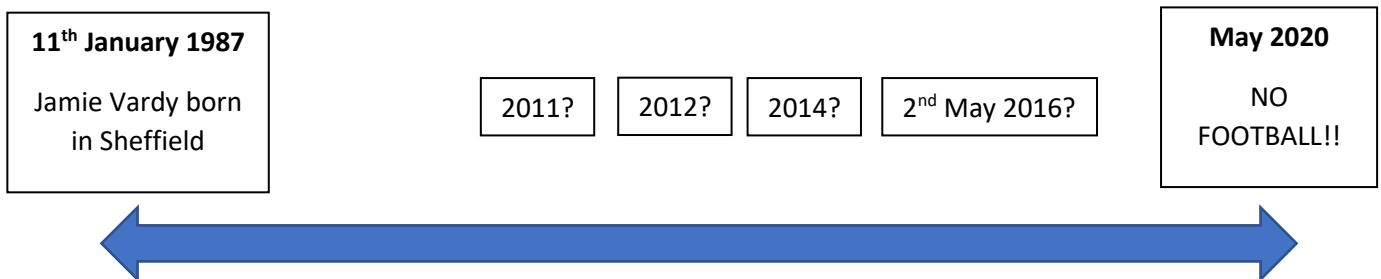
Fun Fact 6: Leicester City had one of the tallest sets of defenders in the league.

[Remember, answers on page 10!]

3) Football by Facts

ACTIVITY 1

On a new piece of paper, draw a Jamie Vardy timeline like the one below, only much bigger and longer! Then, using the story to help you, add as many facts as you can to your timeline.



ACTIVITY 2

Well done! Now, by doing some extra research about Jamie, can you add 3 new bits of information to your timeline that weren't already in the story? For example:

1. What was the name of the football team that Jamie joined in 2007?
2. What was the name of the football team that Jamie joined in 2010?
3. What did Jamie do on 18th August 2012?
4. Where did Jamie go in June 2018, and why?
5. When did Jamie retire from playing for England?

[Answers on page 11!]

When you're finished with your Jamie Vardy fact timeline, don't forget to share your awesome work with us via email at ultimatefootballheroes@gmail.com!

4) How Well Do You Know Your Hero?

Did you enjoy learning about Jamie's amazing journey from non-league footballer to Premier League Champion? If so, it's time to test your knowledge and understanding with these 6 fun quiz questions. [Answers on page 11!]

1) Vardy uses his pace to score lots of his goals. Which words or phrases in the following passage has the author used to show the reader that Vardy is very fast? (page 2) Why do you think the author chose to use these words?

'In the 24th minute, Kasper caught the ball and launched another quick Leicester counter-attack. He rolled it out to Christian Fuchs, who looked up and delivered the perfect pass, just in behind the United defence. ZOOM! Jamie was onto it in a flash, and before Matteo Darmian could catch him, he slid a shot past David De Gea.'

2) What do you think the phrase 'it was now or never' means in the following passage (on page 3)?

'Jamie reached the ball first, but he didn't have much time. He could see Dejan Lovren racing over to stop him and Mamadou Sakho too. Plus, Simon Mignolet was moving back towards his goal-line, so it was now or never...'

3) What do you think the word 'pouncing' means in the following passage (on page 3)?

'11 minutes later, Jamie made it 2-0, pouncing at the back post like a proper Premier League striker. Leicester just would not be beaten.'

4) Vardy had moments when he thought about giving up on his dream of playing football. What had stopped him from giving up on playing the sport that he loved? (page 3)

5) Why do you think that Vardy laughed back in 2011 when his agent John Morris suggested that one day he might play for England? (page 3)

6) Vardy's story is inspiring. A player who chased a dream and worked hard to rise up through the leagues to win the Premier League title. What lessons do you think we can all learn from his career and achievements?

5) Kicking off your Creativity 1: Writing

Now it's your turn to become an author! Here are 3 fun football writing activities for you to try at home. Good luck and don't forget to share your work with us via email at ultimatefootballheroes@gmail.com

ACTIVITY 1 – 'SO HOW DOES IT FEEL, JAMIE?'

Imagine that you are Jamie Vardy, celebrating winning the Premier League title at home with your Leicester City teammates, when suddenly, there's a knock at the front door. It's a journalist, asking, 'SO HOW DOES IT FEEL, JAMIE?'

How would you reply? Write a short speech and, if you're feeling really brave, why not read it out loud in front of an audience, showing off your best acting skills!

ACTIVITY 2 – CARRY ON THE STORY!

The Vardy story ends in May 2016, but a lot has happened to Jamie since then. So this is your chance to CARRY ON THE STORY! Maybe you'll choose to write about:

- Jamie's experiences at Euro 2016
- Leicester's Champions League adventure in 2016-17

and/or

- His brilliant 2019-20 season so far

ACTIVITY 3 – PLAY YOUR PART!

So far, we've only heard the story of Leicester's historic 2015-16 title win from Jamie's point of view. However, there are lots of other interesting characters involved. This is your chance to PLAY YOUR PART! by telling the tale from a different perspective. In your version, will you be:

- Leicester City's captain, Wes Morgan?
- Chelsea's wing wizard, Eden Hazard, who scored the goal to give Leicester the title?

or

- Tottenham's star striker Harry Kane, who misses out on his Premier League title dream?

6) Kicking off your Creativity 2: Art

What our Vardy story needs now is some amazing artwork! Here are 3 fun football drawing activities for you to try. Good luck and don't forget to share your work with us at ultimatefootballheroes@gmail.com

ACTIVITY 1 – THE FRONT COVER

Fancy designing a front cover for the Vardy story? Great! Maybe you've seen the Ultimate Football Heroes books before, but if not, here's a brilliant example, drawn by Jonah Fielden:



ACTIVITY 2 – THE FOOTBALL ACTION

Jamie is one of the fastest forwards in the Premier League, so what about trying to draw a picture of him racing towards goal, or even shooting to score?

ACTIVITY 3 – THE FOXES

Leicester City's nickname is 'The Foxes', so try drawing a picture of a fox. Or, if you're feeling really ambitious, why not draw a whole football team of foxes?!

ANSWERS

1) Checking VARdy!

Activity 1

- A) For once, Jamie wasn't cheering for his beloved Leicester City; no, he was cheering for Chelsea instead.
- B) That season, once he had started scoring, Jamie couldn't stop.
- C) He was a new Premier League record holder and the hottest striker in the country.
- D) £1million – that's what Leicester City had paid Fleetwood Town, back in 2012.
- E) Because Leicester City were now only moments away from winning the league title for the first time in 132 years.

Activity 2

- A) 1) During, 2) Jamie, 3) 'five' missing, 4) full stop after 'around', 5) 'time' missing, 6) Now, 7) 'wear' missing, 8) 'club' missing, 9) full stop at the end
- B) 1) August, 2) newspapers, 3) relegation, 4) winning, 5) Lionel, 6) likely, 7) Leicester, 8) Premier, 9) trophy
- C) 1) exclamation mark after 'it', 2) proudly, 3) Leicester, 4) achievement, 5) full stop after 'achievement', 6) 24, not 4!, 7) League, 8) hottest, 9) full stop at the end

2) Football by Numbers

- 1. David Hirst: 352 Appearances 124 Goals
- 2. Vardy has scored 94 goals for Leicester City in the Premier League.
- 3. 1884
- 4. a) Manchester City - 44 years, b) Tottenham Hotspur - 10 years (Extension - they have been waiting 59 years since their 1961 title).
- 5. 25 minutes
- 6. 929cms, 9.29m

3) Football by Facts

Activity 2

1. Stocksbridge Park Steels
2. FC Halifax Town
3. Jamie made his Football League debut, for Leicester versus Peterborough United
4. Russia, playing for England at the 2018 World Cup
5. 28th August 2018

4) How Well Do You Know Your Hero?

1) Zoom / onto it in a flash

Various answers and backed up by opinion. Answers could include the fact that the word zoom is associated with quick movement, such as a speeding car. A flash is a short burst, only there for a short moment, much like Vardy when he is running at pace.

2) Vardy only has a split second to make the shot and for it to result in a goal. If he left it any longer, he would lose the opportunity and provide time for Mignolet to return to his line or for Lovren and Sakho to get closer to him.

3) To jump forward and seize an opportunity/ to attack something. In this context it means that Vardy leapt and attacked the ball, seizing his opportunity to score.

4) The support of his friend and family encouraged Vardy to keep going and not give up on his dream of playing football during the tough times.

5) Vardy laughed because at that time he was playing for FC Halifax which was a long way off from the Premier League, let alone playing for his country. It would have seemed unlikely to him at that time that he would go on to achieve all that he managed. Any variation upon this answer.

6) Pupil to give their own answer.