```
1
        Pediatric sports-related injuries are on the rise in
                                                                    11
2
   America for a variety of reasons. One key reason is that
                                                                    22
   our culture is by nature highly competitive and places a
3
                                                                    34
   a high value on athletic skill. The excitement of qualifying
                                                                    46
4
   for the Olympics and the glamour and appeal of earning the
5
                                                                    58
   high salaries of a sports professional are very enticing to
                                                                    70
7
   both parents and their children.
                                                                    76
        Both orthopedic surgeons and pediatric sports doctors
8
                                                                    87
9
   are seeing a larger number of younger and younger patients
                                                                    99
   than ever before. The types of injuries that the kids are
                                                                    111
   coming in with are more serious than those that were seen
                                                                    122
12 in the past. Damaged and even severed cervical spines, torn
                                                                    134
   ligaments, and traumatized limbs are becoming more and more
                                                                    146
13
   common. Elbow pathology begins for many kids when they are
14
                                                                    158
15 active in baseball at a very young age. Much of this is
                                                                    170
16 related to throwing a baseball excessively. The types of
                                                                    181
   injuries that can happen are things like torn ligaments,
                                                                    193
   compressed joints, and fractured bones. These start out as
                                                                    205
   very minor injuries in young kids, but they build up over
                                                                    216
   time and can cause major problems as kids turn into adults.
                                                                    228
20
        Basketball is causing a high number of problems to the
21
                                                                    240
   knees. Swollen knees can be caused by sudden jumping and
22
                                                                    251
   by quick take-offs. Almost any quick and severe change in
23
                                                                    263
24 position can cause an injury. What looks like a simple
                                                                    274
25 swollen knee could lead to a serious problem later on if it
                                                                    286
26 is not treated properly. Growth plates can close around
                                                                    298
27
   age fifteen.
                                                                    300
   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
```