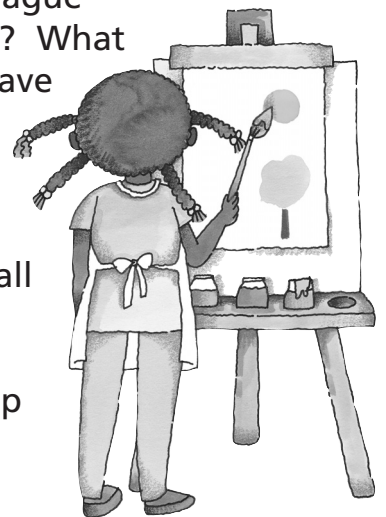


Online Book Club

The Baffling Baseball Mystery

Bring It To Life!

1. Take an imaginary baseball road trip! Look at a map. Using the map and the Internet, find all the places that Christina and Grant visited. Have each member of the book club choose a place they want to see. Collect pictures and a description of each place. Now, it's time to travel! Have each member discuss their place and the things that they would see, hear, touch, smell, and taste there.
2. Play a game of baseball! Find the rules of the game on the Internet or in a book. Discuss them. Divide into teams. Name each team and decide what uniforms each should wear. If playing outside, bring regular equipment. If playing indoors, use soft bats, balls and bases. Have a scorekeeper. Play a couple of innings.
3. Write down the names of all the characters in the mystery on slips of paper. Fold the slips and put them in a box. Ask each member to select a slip of paper from the box. Each member should then answer the following questions as if they were the character they selected. What part of the story is your favorite and why? What makes you so important to the story? Then ask other book club members "Who am I?"
4. Brainstorm ideas about what makes going to a major league baseball game a fun experience. What would you hear? What would you eat? What smells would you experience? Have the members of the book club split into teams and create video commercials to get people to come out to a baseball game.
5. The kids watched several baseball movies. Pick a baseball movie you would like to see and rent the movie. Think about food you would have at the ballpark, such as popcorn, peanuts, hot dogs, and hamburgers. With help from parents, have each member bring a dish to share. Now, enjoy your stadium food and a baseball movie!



Know your SAT Words!

The Baffling Baseball Mystery

SAT Words



1. corridor: _____
2. decimate: _____
3. irate: _____
4. misnomer: _____
5. supine: _____

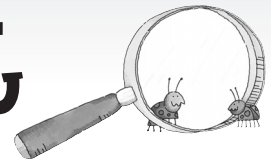
Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.



Online Activity

The Baffling Baseball Mystery

Scavenger Hunt



Want to have some fun? Let's go on a scavenger hunt! See if you can find each item in the book. Good luck! *(Teachers: You have permission to reproduce this page for your students.)*

1. ____ Louisville Slugger factory
2. ____ "The Ted"
3. ____ Babe Ruth rookie card
4. ____ Jackie Robinson
5. ____ diamond
6. ____ home plate
7. ____ Fenway Park
8. ____ popcorn
9. ____ a gigantic bat
10. ____ "The Hammer"



Online Book Club

The Baffling Baseball Mystery

Talk About It!

1. Have you ever been to a major league baseball game? What was it like? If not, would you like to go to one? Why?
2. The kids played a couple of baseball games in the book. Have you ever played baseball? What position did you play? Do you have a favorite major league player?
3. The characters in the book enjoy collecting baseball cards. Have you ever collected baseball cards? If so, why? If you don't collect baseball cards, do you collect anything else? Why do you think people enjoy collecting certain things?
4. Who was your favorite character in the book? Why did you choose that person? Do you have any character traits in common with that person?
5. The kids learned about the Negro Baseball Leagues in the book. Were you surprised to learn that African American players played in their own separate leagues for many years? How do you feel about that?
6. Slugger McCoy was a baseball player who never made it to the "Big Show." Think about the kind of disappointment he may have felt when he could not achieve that dream. What are some things a person can do when they experience disappointment?
7. What is your favorite part of the mystery? What do you think is the scariest part?
8. Grant and Christina visited a lot of famous places on their baseball road trip. Which of those places would you most like to visit? Why did you choose that place?



Online Quiz

The Baffling Baseball Mystery

Pop Quiz

Choose the correct answer for each question below.

1. What is meant by the "Big Show"?
a. Major League Baseball b. Cooperstown c. Yankee Stadium
2. What did Christina find at Turner Field?
a. a black gym bag b. a book about baseball c. a Babe Ruth baseball card
3. What do some people believe Abner Doubleday invented?
a. the automobile b. interactive video games c. baseball
4. What is South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, famous for?
a. Little League World Series b. making baseball bats c. the birthplace of Hank Aaron
5. What did Jack LaForge buy from Papa?
a. the *Mystery Girl* b. cowboy boots c. baseball cards
6. What is the oldest baseball stadium in America?
a. Yankee Stadium
b. Fenway Park
c. Dodger Stadium
7. What is a rookie in baseball?
a. a foul ball
b. a first-year player
c. a type of bat
8. What do the kids get to do at Yankee Stadium?
a. play baseball
b. ride a carousel
c. buy a new bat

