

Baseball Saved Us

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

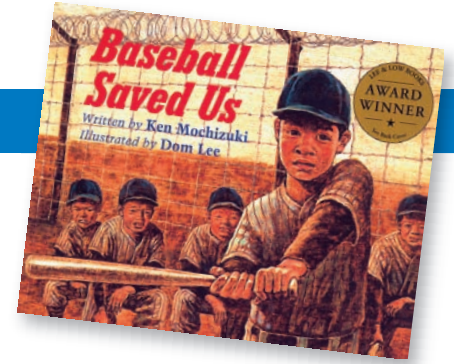
Themes: Sports, Japanese American Culture, Family, Perseverance, WWII

Grade Level: 4th to 5th grade

Book Brief: For a young Japanese-American boy sent to an internment camp during World War II, baseball becomes a way to escape his unhappy surroundings.

Author:
Ken Mochizuki

Illustrator:
Dom Lee



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build background: Talk about the author's note at the front of the book. It explains the background behind the

story. Talk a little about WWII, Pearl Harbor and the creation of internment camps in this country.

While reading, use your inner voice: Let your child write down questions and comments on sticky notes as you read. Put the sticky notes on each page to talk about after reading.

After reading, answer questions: Go back through the story; respond to the questions and comments on the sticky notes.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

FRIENDSHIP BRACELET

Materials: 3 different colors of string or thin rope, tape, beads (optional)

1. Cut 3 pieces of different colored string, about the same length. Tie a knot in one end.
2. Tape the tied end down to hold it steady and braid or twist the string together. Add beads if you want.
3. When the bracelet is long enough, knot the end and tie it around your child's wrist.

OUT AND ABOUT

Let's play ball! Invite some friends to go to a local park or your backyard for a game of baseball, basketball, soccer—or even just tag! Think about how being part of a team brings people closer together.

BASEBALL TREATS

Ingredients: crispy rice cereal, marshmallows, white chocolate chips, red tube icing

1. Mix a batch of crispy rice cereal treats.
2. Grease a muffin tin and fill each well with mixture.
3. Melt white chocolate chips in microwave safe bowl. Dip the top of each treat in chocolate.
4. Make baseball laces with red tube icing.

(For a healthful alternative, cover a rice cake in spreadable cheese and make laces with strips of red bell pepper.)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Heroes (1997),
Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story (2003),
Be Water, My Friend, (2006).



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