

Newspaper In Education

Baseball Across New York

Student Worksheets



New York News Publishers Association
Newspaper In Education Program

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This guide is designed as a tool to accompany the *Baseball Across New York* series created in partnership with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. It offers teachers several short answer questions based on the content of each feature. In some cases, references to websites are included with additional materials about the person or their pursuits. Lastly, the guide includes two or three activities per feature called "Newspaper Tie-ins." These activities are suggestions on how to bridge the articles to classroom lessons for grades 4-8. Each activity can be narrowed or expanded to accommodate the needs of each student. Feel free to modify these activities or to create your own. *All rights reserved. 2011*

Name _____

The Doubleday Myth

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

Americana _____

genesis _____

inaugural _____

synonymous _____

Read The Doubleday Myth is Cooperstown gain article. Then answer the following questions.

1. According to the Spaulding Commission, who invented baseball, when and where? _____

2. Who started the idea of a Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown?
a) Ty Cobb b) Stephen C. Clark c) Abner Graves d) Ford C. Frick
3. Name the first five inductees of the Baseball Hall of Fame. What year was it? _____

4. For many years Abner Doubleday was wrongly believed to be the inventor of baseball. What should he really be remembered for? _____

5. Find Cooperstown on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Related Website:

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/doubledy.htm> - Arlington National Cemetery's website for Doubleday

Newspaper Tie-ins

- Professional journalists wade through the available information and determine not only what is interesting and important but they also verify that it is accurate. Do you think a journalist would have agreed with Spaulding Commission's findings that Abner Doubleday invented baseball? Why or why not? Discuss this as a class.
- The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum celebrates and preserves baseball history. It is also an economic engine for Cooperstown. Use the local and business sections of your newspapers to identify goods and services produced in your community. Determine who or what produces these goods and services. Indicate where you found each item in the newspaper. Use the chart on the next page to organize what you've found.

Section/ Page #	Goods or Products	Services	Where purchased?

Follow-up: What economic impact do you think baseball has on your hometown?

Name _____

Baseball Back in Time

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

etiquette _____

hawkers _____

spectators _____

victuals _____

Read the **Baseball Back in Time** article. Then answer the following questions.

1. True or false, according to base ball rules of 1864 a fly ball caught after one bounce is still considered an out. True False
2. Why are young female fans that arrive without a male escort seated in a special section to watch the historic games at the Genesee Country Museum? _____

3. What are the vintage nicknames used for a pitcher? What nickname would you use for your favorite baseball player and why? _____

4. The Genesee Country Village and Museum is in Mumford, NY. Find Mumford on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Related Websites:

<http://www.gcv.org/> - The Genesee Country Village and Museum

<http://www.19cbaseball.com/> - 19th Century Baseball

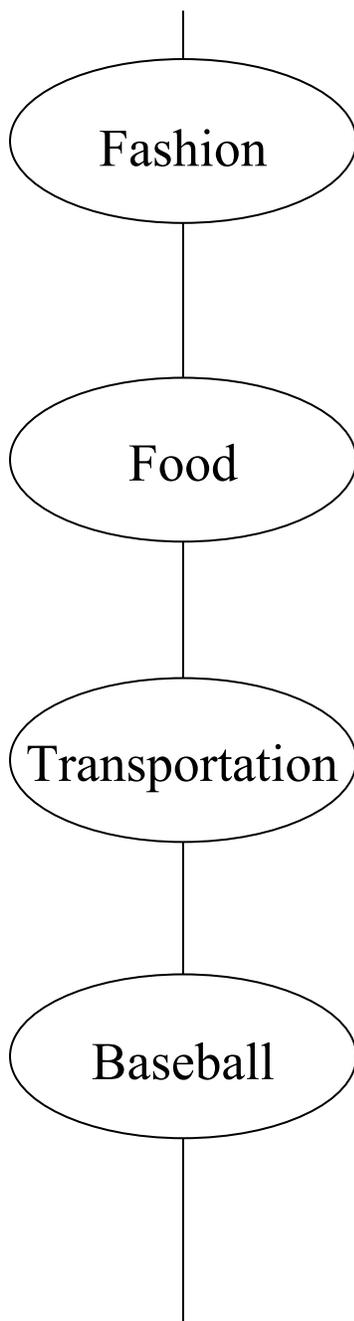
Newspaper Tie-ins

- Baseball in the 1800s was played without protective gear. Look through newspapers (in-print or online) for examples of protective measures we use today that did not exist in the 1800s. Your examples can be for any sport or other type of activity. What conclusions can you make about what you've found?
- Use the chart on the next page to compare and contrast different aspects of the 1860s and today – fashion, food, transportation and, of course, baseball!

Using current newspapers and past editions (paper or electronic archives or microfilm), and other sources describe fashion, food, transportation and baseball from 1860s and now.

Then

Now



Follow-up: Which example represents the most radical change? Which change affects you most?

Name _____

Adirondack Baseball Hero

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

climactic _____

hiatus _____

rejuvenated _____

southpaw _____

surpassed _____

Read the Podres, Baseball Hero from the Adirondacks article. Then answer the following questions.

1. What two cities have been home for the Dodgers? _____

2. True or false, Johnny Podres was undefeated in the postseason. True False
3. With the help of Podres' pitching, what two teams did the Dodgers defeat to win the World Series in 1955 and 1959? _____

4. Find Witherbee on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Related Websites:

<http://www.baseball-reference.com/players/p/podrejo01.shtml> - Johnny Podres' Stats

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/14/sports/14podresx.html> - Podres' *New York Times* obituary

Newspaper Tie-ins

- Johnny Podres failed at his first attempt for a World Series win. Yet, he was a vital part of the team's later successes. Review your newspaper for stories about local people who have become successful despite early challenges or defeats. Select one local example and explain why you think they eventually succeeded.

- Look through your newspaper (either print or online) for news about Major League Baseball. What player today reminds you most of Johnny Podres? Why? Defend your answer.

Name _____

Baseball in Binghamton

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

affiliations _____

disbanded _____

farm system _____

hierarchy _____

Read Baseball in Binghamton article. Then answer the following questions.

1. Why did professional baseball leave Binghamton in 1968? _____

2. Name the major league teams that have been affiliated with Binghamton baseball teams throughout the years. _____

3. What is the hierarchy of a major league team’s farm system? _____

4. Find Binghamton on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Related Website:

www.minorleaguebaseball.com – Official website for Minor League Baseball

Newspaper Tie-ins

- In 1968, Johnson Field was removed to make room for a highway expansion. Look through the newspaper for current or proposed construction projects in your area. What do you think will be the short term and long term effects of this development?

- Find a family member or friend who has watched minor league baseball games. Interview them about their experience. Did they get to watch a player who later played in the major leagues? Write a brief story based on the interview in newspaper style. Use the chart on the next page to organize your interview and notes.

1. Name of the person you are interviewing _____

2. Why did you decide to interview this person? _____

3. Plan your questions and record the interviewee's responses.

Planned interview questions	Interviewee's responses – put exact language in quotation marks

4. Write a first draft of your interview.

5. Share your draft with a writing partner or group.

6. Revise and complete your writing.

This activity was originally developed for *From Writers to Readers* curriculum guide for the Newspaper Association of America Foundation.

Name _____

Baseball in Buffalo

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

amateur _____

dominate _____

expectations _____

ordinance _____

Read Baseball in Buffalo article. Then answer the following questions.

1. Where are the scorebooks from the oldest team in Buffalo (the Niagaras) being preserved? _____

2. Besides baseball, what other amusements were mentioned in Ordinance #19? Why do you think this law was important at the time? _____

3. Which former Buffalo Bison was one of the first African-American professional baseball players?
a) Pud Galvin b) Connie Mack c) Joe Tinker d) Frank Grant
4. What historic event took place on July 4, 1930? _____

5. Find Buffalo on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Newspaper Tie-in

- Electric lighting changed the way we play and view baseball. Look to see if there is a science section or page in recent editions of the newspaper. Investigate recent scientific developments in the news. Briefly write how these discoveries/developments could change your daily life.

Name _____

Baseball on Long Island

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

invigorating _____

storied _____

Read **Baseball on Long Island** article. Then answer the following questions.

1. How much did it cost to see the All-Star game in 1858? _____

2. Look at the photo of the Brooklyn Dodgers 1947 teammates. One of them is known for a historic first in baseball. Do you know which one and what is he known for? _____

3. What major league team calls Flushing, Queens on Long Island home? How many years has the team played there? _____
4. Find Long Island on a map of New York State. Map the cities and towns on Long Island that are referenced as major league players’ hometowns. Approximately how far apart are the eastern most and western most location? _____

Newspaper Tie-in

- Hall of Famer, Carl Yastrzemski, referring to himself and his father, is quoted as saying, “We worked together and, just as important, we played together.” Look through the recent copies of the newspaper for information about places to work and play. Are there any listings of family owned businesses where parents and children may work together? What types of recreational activities are listed for families? Name something new you learned about your community.

Work	Play

	Ballpark #1	Ballpark #2	Ballpark #3
Ballpark name & location			
Geographic features			
Transportation types			
Necessary people & items			

Follow-up: What conclusions can you make about the location of professional baseball parks?

Name _____

Baseball in Syracuse

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

campaign _____

environs _____

impromptu _____

legacy _____

respite _____

Read Baseball in Syracuse article. Then answer the following questions.

1. True or false, the first Syracuse team to compete outside of the city was the Syracuse Stars Base Ball Club. True False
2. Who was one of the first pitchers to perfect the curve ball?
a) Harry McCormick b) John Dunn c) Moses Fleetwood Walker d) Grover Cleveland Alexander
3. Where did the Chiefs relocate from? What year was it? _____

4. Name the seven major league teams Syracuse baseball has been affiliated with over the years. _____

5. Find Syracuse on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Newspaper Tie-ins

- In 1888, Moses Fleetwood Walker and Bob Higgins were the first African-American to play professional baseball for the Syracuse Stars. Look through your local newspaper archives for other historic firsts. Write a brief summary of one you find.

- Some people are lucky and talented enough to play baseball professionally. Others play baseball for the love of the game. Look through the newspaper for an article about someone who has a real passion for what they do. Do you think it matters if they're amateur or professional?

Name _____

Troy Baseball Legend, Evers

Vocabulary – write a brief definition for the following words:

acrobatic _____

era _____

immortalized _____

inducted _____

Read Troy Baseball Legend, Evers article. Then answer the following questions.

1. How many years after his debut as a rookie was Johnny Evers inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame? How old was he when he was inducted? a) 22 b) 21 c) 43 d) 64
2. True or false, Johnny Evers played for the Chicago Cubs and White Sox. True False
3. What position did Johnny Evers play for most of his baseball career? _____

4. Name the two baseball players most associated with Johnny Evers. _____

5. Find Troy on a map of New York State. About how far is it from your school? _____

Related Websites:

<http://www.baseball-reference.com/players/e/eversjo01.shtml> - Johnny Evers' Stats

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/ct-tinker-cubs-story,0,7702405.story?page=2> – Tinker to Evers to Chance article from *Chicago Tribune* – originally posted July 5, 2010

Newspaper Tie-ins

- Johnny Evers, although a good individual player, was most successful as part of a dynamic infield threesome. Look through the newspaper for examples of people who are successful as part of a larger group. What was accomplished? Do you think any one person could have been as successful alone? Why or why not?
- Newspaper man Franklin P. Adams wrote a poem based on the Chicago Cubs' infielders ability to turn double plays. Find an article in the newspaper that is of interest to you and write a poem based on the story.

Online Resources:

National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum curriculum: various subject units that can be adapted for students from grades 2-12. These materials can be used in combination with a field trip or videoconference, or used as lessons in your classroom.

<http://baseballhall.org/education/school-programs/curriculum>

Baseball in America: The All-American Sport? – An interdisciplinary unit for the intermediate levels (Grades 5-8) developed by the Syracuse Teacher Center and *The Post-Standard* with financial support from the New York Newspapers Foundation. The unit is comprised of 12 lessons that can be taught as a complete unit culminating in a final project or as separate lessons. Student will access and interpret information from the newspaper, the internet, reference books, and teacher-made materials to research the question, “*Is baseball the All-American Sport?*”

www.nynpa.com/docs/nie/baseball_News.pdf

Baseball-Reference: <http://www.baseball-reference.com/>

Answer Key:

Doubleday Myth:

1. Abner Doubleday in 1839 in Cooperstown
2. b) Stephen C. Clark
3. Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Babe Ruth and Honus Wagner, 1936
4. Abner Doubleday should be remembered as a decorated Union Army officer who fought at Fort Sumter and the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War.
5. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Baseball Back in Time:

1. True
2. In keeping with the customs of the mid 1800s, young ladies are separated from the men to avoid scandal and to protect the women's reputations.
3. Bowler, feeder, hurler, thrower. (Nicknames for favorite baseball player will vary)
4. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Adirondack Baseball Hero:

1. Brooklyn and Los Angeles
2. False
3. New York Yankees and Chicago White Sox
4. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Baseball in Binghamton:

1. The stadium, Johnson Field, needed to be torn down to make way for Route 17 to extend across the Southern Tier.
2. Yankees, Kansas City Athletics, Milwaukee Braves and the Mets
3. Triple-A, Double-A, Class A and Rookie
4. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Baseball in Buffalo:

1. Erie County Historical Society
2. Rolling of hoops, flying kites, or anything that might annoy people on the sidewalk of frighten horses
3. d) Frank Grant
4. The Bisons played a baseball game under electric arc lighting.
5. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Baseball on Long Island:

1. 50 cents
2. Jackie Robinson was the first African-American to play in the major leagues.
3. The Mets, 1962 to present – (if the question is answered in 2011 - 49 years)
4. Bridgehampton (eastern most) and Manhasset (western most) are approximately 80 miles apart.

Baseball on Staten Island:

1. 4,400 fans
2. c) Buffalo Bisons
3. 3,700 boys
4. 7 times total – 4 first place and 3 second place finishes
5. (Answers will vary by location of school – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps) There are about 16 miles between Richmond County Bank Ballpark and Hoboken, NJ. At the pace of about 4 to 5 miles per hour for a horse drawn carriage it would take over 3 hours to travel. An electric trolley at the average speed of 10 miles per hour could get people there in roughly half the time.*

Baseball in Syracuse:

1. False
2. a) Harry McCormick
3. Jersey City, NJ in 1934
4. Cardinals, Reds, Phillies, Tigers, Yankees, Blue Jays and Nationals
5. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)

Troy Baseball Legend, Evers:

1. c) 43, d) 64
2. False – he played for the Cubs and Boston Braves
3. Second base
4. Shortstop Joe Tinker and First Baseman Frank Chance
5. (Answers will vary by location – a fast way to find an answer is by using www.mapquest.com or Google maps)