



Famous Baseball Players



Babe Ruth

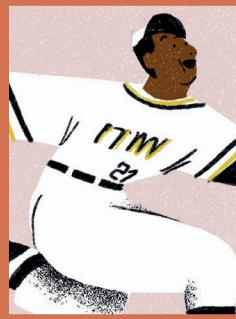
(1895 – 1948)

is one of baseball's first big stars. He was a legendary baseball player for the New York Yankees known for his ability to hit home runs.



Jackie Robinson (1919 – 1972)

became the first Black player in the history of Major League Baseball when he started playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. His uniform number, 42, is retired (not used) across the major leagues to pay respects to him.



Roberto Clemente

(1934 – 1972)

is a talented right fielder from Puerto Rico who played for the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1955 to 1972. He was the first Latino player to get 3,000 hits. He sadly died in a plane crash while trying to deliver aid to people in Nicaragua after an earthquake.

Toni Stone

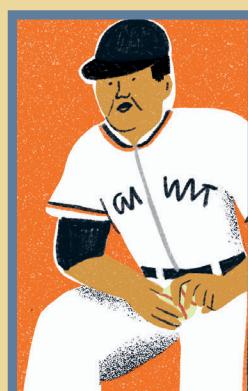
(1921 – 1996)

made history in 1953 when she became the first woman to play professional baseball in the Negro Leagues. She played second base for the Indianapolis Clowns.



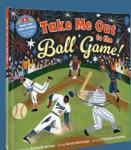
Masanori Murakami (1944)

pitched for the San Francisco Giants in 1964, becoming the first Japanese player in the history of Major League Baseball. He pitched professionally in Japan for 18 seasons.



Jim Abbott (1967)

played for the California Angels, New York Yankees, Chicago White Sox, and Milwaukee Brewers from 1989 to 1999. He was born without a right hand and pitched a no-hit game against the Cleveland Indians on September 4, 1993, while playing for the Yankees.



A reimagining of the classic baseball anthem!

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Illustrations and text adapted from *Take Me Out to the Ball Game!* (Barefoot Books) written by Nathalie Alonso, illustrated by Naida Mazzenga, and sung by Francesca Fuentes



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ACTIVITY

How to Play Catch

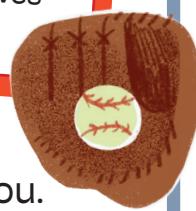
While it may be simple, learning to catch a baseball is hard work! The more you try, the easier it will become.

1. With an adult partner, start by getting used to grabbing the baseball with your glove.
2. Next, try throwing the baseball gently up in the air and catching it with your glove.
3. Once you feel like you can catch it, throw the baseball to your partner. Catch it when they throw it back to you.
4. Try throwing the baseball high up in the sky, down low, and directly to your partner. Be sure to not throw it too hard or too fast!

With regular play and patience, you will be able to throw the ball harder and faster with your partner over time.

You'll Need:

- Two people (you and an adult partner)
- Two baseball gloves
- Baseball



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This timeline shows some of the important milestones in the history of baseball. What do you notice about the people and settings? Do they change or stay the same over time?

1920s

Babe Ruth becomes famous for his record-breaking home runs

1921

The first baseball game aired on radio



1930

The first night game

1939

The first baseball game aired on TV

1947

Jackie Robinson becomes the first Black player in Major League Baseball

1993

Jim Abbott, who was born without a right hand, throws a no-hit game (no one from the opposite team hit the ball!)

1953

Toni Stone becomes the first woman in the Negro Leagues, followed by Connie Morgan and Mamie Johnson

