

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 hardwork! The more you try, the easier it will become.

You'll Need:

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



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.



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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?

