

Baseball Discovery Guide

Companion to The Adventures of Christopher Thornbuckle — Baseball: America's Favorite Pastime

Welcome, Explorer!

Christopher Thornbuckle traveled through time to discover how baseball grew into America's favorite pastime. Now it's your turn to explore baseball history, vocabulary, maps, activities, and important moments from the game.

The Story of Baseball Through Time

- Rounders played in England
 - Town Ball in America
 - 1845 — Knickerbocker Rules
 - 1869 — Cincinnati Red Stockings
 - 1903 — First World Series
 - 1933 — First All-Star Game
 - 1935 — First Night Game
 - 1947 — Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier
 - Baseball expands westward
 - Baseball today
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Baseball Words to Know

Inning — One section of a baseball game
Pitcher — The player who throws the ball
Umpire — The person who keeps the game fair
Pennant — A flag showing team pride
Rookie — A first-year player

Baseball Stats Decoder

RBI — Runs Batted In
HR — Home Run
BB — Walk
ERA — Earned Run Average
OBP — On-Base Percentage

Baseball Then and Now

Early baseball had day games only, wool uniforms, and small wooden stands. Today's baseball includes stadium lights, modern uniforms, and fans watching games around the world.

Questions From Christopher

Why do you think baseball became so popular?
What makes sports bring people together?
Would you rather watch a day game or a night game?

The Sounds of the Game

Crack! Thump! Cheer! Strike! Slide!
What is your favorite baseball sound?

Keep Exploring

Baseball is more than a game. It is a story shared across generations. Keep asking questions. Keep exploring. Keep discovering history.

Activity Pages

- Draw Your Own Team Pennant
- Design Your Baseball Uniform
- Map the Cities Where Baseball Grew
- Write About a Family Baseball Memory
- Baseball History Quiz
- Color Christopher at the Ballpark