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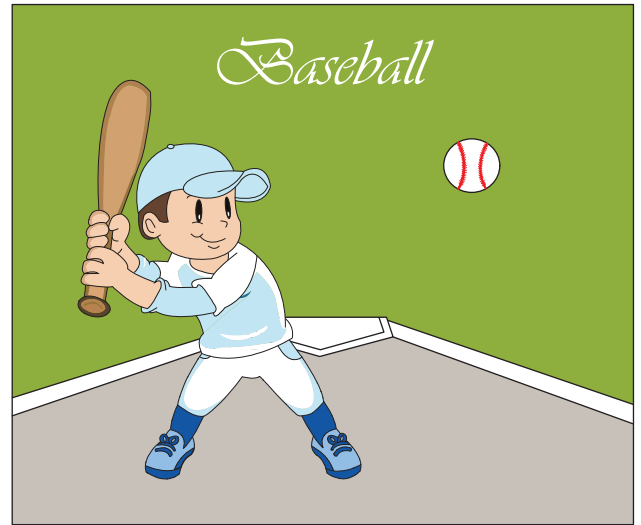
# A Game of Baseball

by Katie Clark

Baseball has been played in America for almost 200 years. No one knows exactly how the game got started, but today it is one of the most popular sports in the country.

Each baseball game is played between two teams. The teams take turns at bat and playing the outfield. When a team is at bat,

players try to hit the ball and run to base. Once on base, they try to score a run, or a point, by making it to home plate.



If a player on base gets tagged, they are considered out. If a player hits the ball and the other team catches it, the batter is considered out. When a team gets three outs it is time for the teams to switch places.

The team in the outfield works together to pitch, catch the ball, and tag runners out. They want to keep the opposite team from scoring runs or making points.

These rounds are called innings. There are nine innings in a game.

The game of baseball is played with a bat and a ball. There are also gloves, bases, and a pitcher's mound.

The team in the outfield puts nine players on the field. This includes a pitcher who stands on the pitcher's mound. It also includes a catcher who stands behind home plate. The other players are at the bases or in the outfield.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Baseball is played on a baseball diamond. This is the shape of the field. If a batter hits the ball outside the lines of the baseball diamond, the ball is called a foul ball. The batter must try again. If the batter swings at the ball and misses, it is called a strike. When the batter gets three strikes the player is considered out.

If the batter hits the ball and it stays inside the bounds, the player can run to first base. If the ball hasn't been recovered by the other team when the batter gets to first base, the batter can try to make it to second base. The batter tries to make it to first, second, and third base before running all the way to home base.

When a batter hits the ball all the way past the outfield it is called a home run. The player gets to run to all the bases without fear of being called out. It is an automatic point for the team.

Baseball is considered an American sport because that is where it was first invented. It's a fun sport to play, and it's also a great sport to watch!

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

# A Game of Baseball

1) How is a point scored in baseball?

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2) Which of the following is not true of baseball?

- a) Baseball was invented in America.
- b) If the batter swings at the ball and misses it once, he gets out.
- c) There can be as many as nine innings in a game.
- d) A home run is when a batter hits the ball past the outfield.

3) Define the following baseball terms from the passage.

Home run - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Pitcher's mound - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Strike - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4) Complete the paragraph.

\_\_\_\_\_ in America more than two centuries ago, baseball is one of the most  
\_\_\_\_\_ played sport today. To score a \_\_\_\_\_ , it is a must that the  
batsman runs to bases and makes it to \_\_\_\_\_ .