WHO GOT GAME?: BASEBALL AMAZING BUT TRUE STORIES!

GRL S • Grade 4 • Interest Level 4-7

Essential Questions—Get Familiar with the Topic!

- 1. What is baseball?
- 2. What is the historical impact of baseball on American culture?
- **3.** How crucial are sports to the evolution of our society?
- 4. Are baseball and politics connected?
- **5.** How do sports affect the psyche of a community?
- **6.** Why is the appeal of sports so prevalent in our society?
- 7. How are issues of sexism and discrimination evident in sports?
- 8. Why do we, as a society, idolize and venerate sports figures?
- 9. How do sports figures make a difference in our society?
- 10. What qualities do sports figures have?
- 11. Are sports figures heroes?
- **12.** Are sports figures celebrities?
- 13. Can a sports figure go unnoticed?
- 14. Why is it important for people and cultures to construct narratives about their experience?

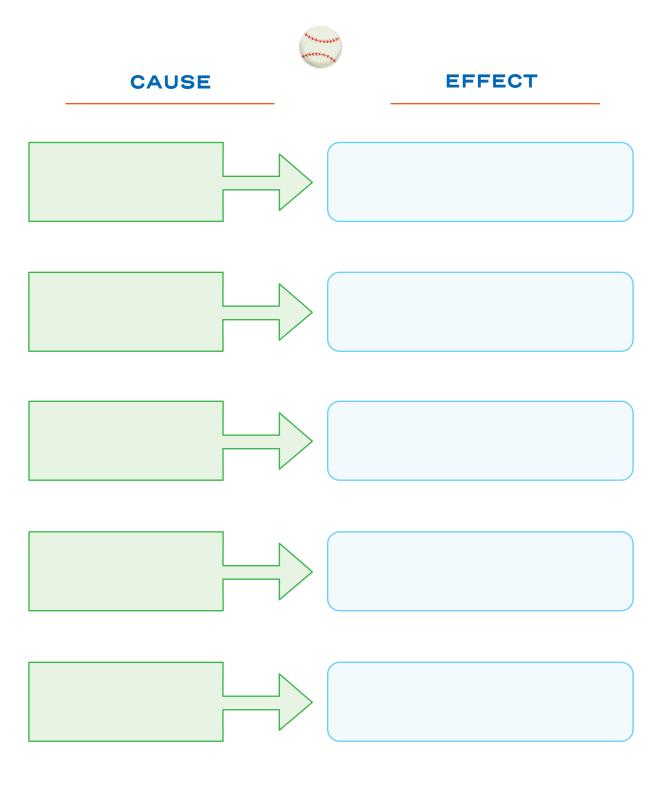
During Reading—Think about It!

- 1. Look at the Table of Contents. What information do you get from the Table of Contents?
- 2. Which stories interest you the most?
- 3. How does author Derrick Barnes structure the text?
- **4.** What are some of the text features that help you navigate this book?
- **5.** How does the author use figurative language?
- **6.** What is the tone of the book?
- 7. What is an unrecognized or unheralded figure?
- **8.** Summarize the introduction.
- **9.** What is the author's purpose for writing this book?
- **10.** Explain the author's point of view.
- 11. What is Derrick Barnes saying about racial, ethnic, and gender discrimination?
- **12.** How has baseball changed over the years? Explain.
- 13. What surprising information have you gained through reading this book?



After Reading—Making Connections

Complete the cause and effect chart using examples from the stories you read.



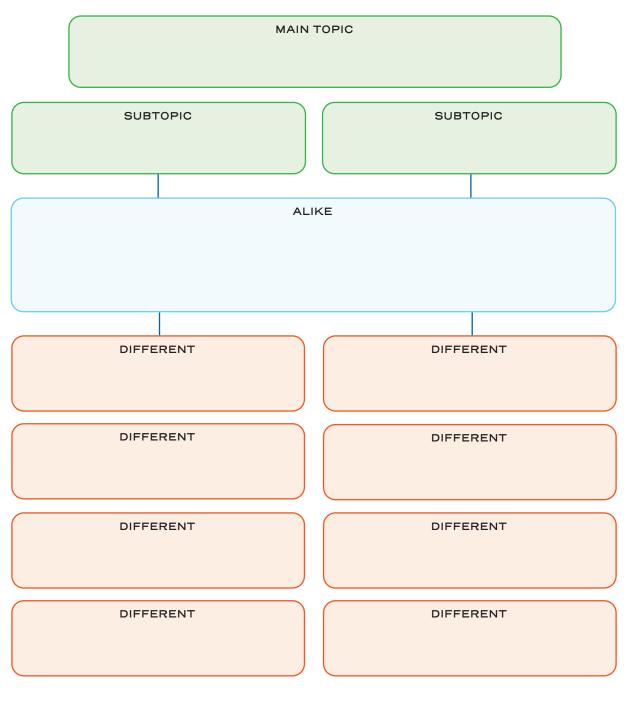
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Compare and contrast baseball figures, stories, records, and comebacks from each section of the book.

Pivotal Players • Sensational Stories • Radical Records • Colossal Comebacks



COMPARE & CONTRAST





Make text to text & text to world Connections

Find evidence from within the book, *Who's Got Game?: Baseball*, to defend the following statements.

- Baseball transforms a society, both reflecting and shaping its values.
- The American Dream is embodied in sports figures and teams, in the records they set and the barriers they break.
- Baseball is a significant social phenomenon.
- Baseball has changed society's views on race, gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic differences and opportunities.
- Identifying with a baseball team impacts personal and community identity.
- Deeply rooted in national and community pride, baseball changes lives, influences politics, fuels the economy, and shapes our culture.
- Baseball brings out leadership qualities in individuals, and it provides a place to develop those skills and model ideal behaviors.
- Varying forms of discrimination have been evident in baseball over the years and to the present day.

Activities

- **1.** Create a newspaper article about someone or an event that you have learned about in the book.
- 2. Write a journal entry covering a pivotal 24 hours in the life of one of the heroes in the book.
- **3.** Create a timeline of important events in baseball history.
- **4.** In small groups, collaborate to create an audio broadcast for something you found to be newsworthy from the book.



