

**BECAUSE  
OF THEM  
WE CAN**

**BOX**

**JUST FOR KIDS**

**BECAUSE OF  
THE NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUE**

**AGES 5-8**





# THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES

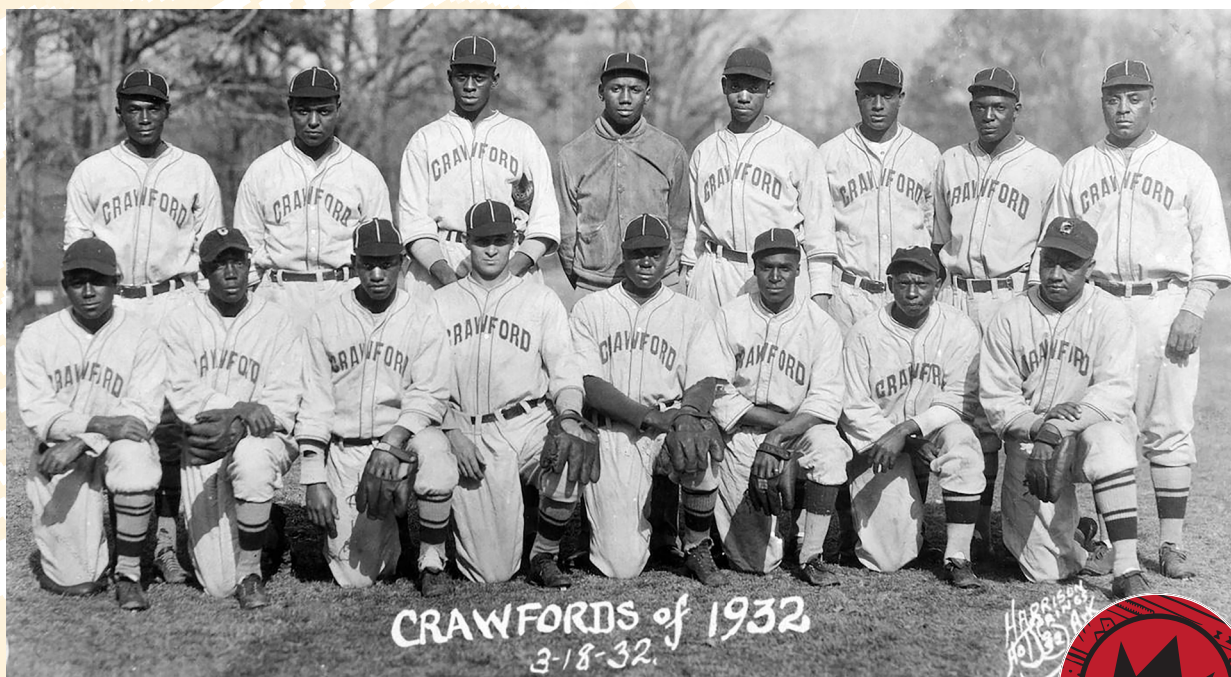
*Instructions: Read the text to learn about the National Negro Baseball League and then answer the questions.*



The Negro baseball leagues were a place for African Americans after they were **denied** from the White teams. They had a really hard time trying to play **professional** baseball. In those days Blacks and Whites were **separated** and many people wanted to keep it like that, even in sports.

In 1920 the first Negro baseball league was started by Andrew 'Rube' Foster and other Black team owners. He had played baseball before and was owner of the Chicago American Giants.

The league **survived** for a long time and many fans went to the games. However, because of the **Great Depression** many of the teams could not go on. After the depression, the new Negro League was started. Once Black players could play professional baseball with white teams, the Negro Baseball league ended after some time.





# READ & RESPOND



1. Who started the first Negro Baseball league and why? Use evidence from the text.

Handwriting practice lines for the first question. The page contains 10 sets of horizontal lines, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

2. Why did the Negro Baseball League end? Use evidence from the text.



Handwriting practice lines for the second question. The page contains 10 sets of horizontal lines, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



# THE FANTASY FIELD

Instructions: Take a look at all the teams that were a part of the National Negro league and choose the teams with your favorite names, colors, and logos. Use these ideas to design your own league baseball team!



1919 - 1939  
**THE ATLANTA BLACK CRACKERS**  
Originally known as the Atlanta Cubs and later briefly the Indianapolis ABCs.



1897 - 1907  
**CUBAN X-GIANTS**  
Originally most of the players were former Cuban Giants, or ex-Giants.




1911 - 1930  
**THE LINCOLN GIANTS**  
In 1890, the Lincoln Giants were founded as the first colored professional team in the West.



1920 - 1959  
**MEMPHIS RED SOX**  
The Memphis Red Sox were an American Negro league baseball team that was active from 1920 to 1959. Originally named the Barber College Baseball Club.



1931 - 1942  
**THE BACHARACH GIANTS**  
The Bacharach Giants were a Negro league baseball team that played in Atlantic City, New Jersey.



1926 - 1950  
**NEW ORLEANS BLACK PELICANS**  
A minor Negro league baseball team that played in the first Negro Southern League and were based in New Orleans, Louisiana.



1937 - 1938  
**DETROIT STARS**  
The Detroit Stars were a major Negro league baseball team that played in the Negro American League for one season in 1937.



1912 - 1942  
**HOMESTEAD GRAYS**  
Also known as Washington Grays or Washington Homestead Grays. The team was formed in 1912 by Cumberland Posey, and remained in continuous operation for 38 seasons.



1920 - 1950  
**BALTIMORE ELITE GIANTS**  
The team was established by Thomas T. Wilson, in Nashville, Tennessee as the semi-pro Nashville Standard Giants on March 26, 1920.




1913 - 1936  
**BALTIMORE BLACK SOX**  
The Black Sox were one of the original six teams to make up the Eastern Colored League in 1923.



1924 - 1927  
**HARRISBURG GIANTS**  
The Giants became known primarily for their hitting; along with Charleston, outfielder/first baseman Heavy Johnson.



1931 - 1948  
**N. Y. BLACK YANKEES**  
The Black Yankees played at Paterson, New Jersey's Hinchliffe Stadium from 1933 to 1938. They had no primary home ballpark in 1939 and 1940.



1939 - 1950  
**NEW YORK CUBANS**  
Despite playing in the Negro leagues, the team occasionally employed light-skinned Hispanic baseball players as well, as they were also ignored by the major league baseball teams.



1910 - 1932  
**HILLDALE ATHLETIC CLUB**  
They won the first three Eastern Colored League pennants beginning in 1923 and in 1925 won the second Colored World Series.



1933 - 1952  
**PHILADELPHIA STARS**  
The Stars were an independent ball club in 1933, and a member of the Negro National League from 1934 until the League's collapse following the 1948



1910 - 1956  
**CHICAGO AMERICAN GIANTS**  
The Chicago American Giants were a Chicago-based Negro league baseball team. From 1910 until the mid-1930s, the American Giants were the most dominant team in black baseball.



1905 - 1942  
**BROOKLYN ROYAL GIANTS**  
The Brooklyn Royal Giants were one of the prominent independent teams prior to World War I before organized league play began.



1938 - 1942  
**JACKSONVILLE RED CAPS**  
The Jacksonville Red Caps were a Negro league baseball team based primarily in Jacksonville, Florida.



1936 - 1948  
**NEWARK EAGLES**  
The Newark Eagles were a professional Negro league baseball team owned by Abe and Effa Manley.



1931 - 1933  
**INDIANAPOLIS ABCS**  
The Indianapolis ABCs, was the first professional baseball team owned and operated by a woman, owned by Olivia Taylor from 1922 to 1926.



1930s - 1980  
**INDIANAPOLIS CLOWNS**  
Tracing their origins back to the 1930s, the Clowns were the last of the Negro league teams to disband, continuing to play exhibition games into the 1980s.



1931 - 1940  
**PITTSBURGH CRAWFORDS**  
Popularly known as the Craws. During the mid-1930s, the Crawfords were one of the strongest Negro league teams ever assembled.



1920 - 1965  
**KANSAS CITY MONARCHS**  
The Kansas City Monarchs were the longest-running franchise in the history of baseball's Negro leagues.



1907 - 1930  
**CUBAN STARS (WEST)**  
The Cuban Stars were a team of Cuban professional baseball players that competed in the United States Negro leagues from 1907 to 1930.



1916 - 1933  
**CUBAN STARS (EAST)**  
The Cuban Stars (East) were a team of professional baseball players from Cuba and other Latin American countries who competed in the Negro leagues in the eastern United States from 1916 to 1933.



1942 - 1950  
**CLEVELAND BUCKEYES**  
The Buckeyes played in two Negro World Series, defeating the Washington Homestead Grays in 1945, and losing to the New York Cubans in 1947.



1906 - 1919  
**ST. LOUIS STARS**  
Originally the St. Louis Giants, a Negro league baseball team that competed independently until they joined the Negro National League in 1919.



1920 - 1960  
**BIRMINGHAM BLACK BARONS**  
They shared their home field of Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama, with the white Birmingham Barons, usually drawing larger crowds and equal press.

**All Stars**

# IT'S YOUR TURN!

*Instructions: Now create your own team - give it a name, design your jersey, and draw your own League Logo!*

**TEAM NAME:**

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**LOGO:**

## GLOSSARY

**Denied** - refused to accept or admit (something)

**Professional** - done by people who are paid to play or compete

**Separated** - located far apart from each other

**Survived** - continued to exist

**Great Depression** - period from 1929 to 1941 was a time when America's economy was not working. Many banks failed, many people lost their homes, and many farmers lost their farms



# HOMERUN MATH FUN

*In this game you will find out if factors of a number is even or odd by counting 2s. Each time you get an answer correct you will be able to move on to the next base. If you get an answer incorrect you will have one more attempt to get the next answer correct or you strike out. You can challenge yourself by choosing to play both teams or you can play with another player.*

<b>1</b>	Is 1 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>2</b>	Is 2 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>3</b>	Is 4 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>4</b>	Is 5 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>5</b>	Is 7 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>6</b>	Is 8 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>7</b>	Is 9 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>8</b>	Is 10 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>9</b>	Is 15 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.
<b>10</b>	Is 20 odd or even? Count by 2s to show your answer.

**ANSWER KEY:** (1) ODD - You cannot count by 2s (2) EVEN - 2 (3) EVEN - 2, 4 (4) ODD - 2, 4, 6 (5) ODD - 2, 4, 6, 8 (6) EVEN - 2, 4, 6, 8 (7) ODD - 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 (8) EVEN - 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 (9) ODD - 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 (10) EVEN - 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20

## TAKE THE PLEDGE

**I WILL HONOR**  
THE SACRIFICES OF  
MY ANCESTORS.

**I WILL BELIEVE**  
IN ME.

**I WILL PURSUE**  
MY DREAMS.

**I WILL HELP**  
OTHERS ALONG  
THE WAY.