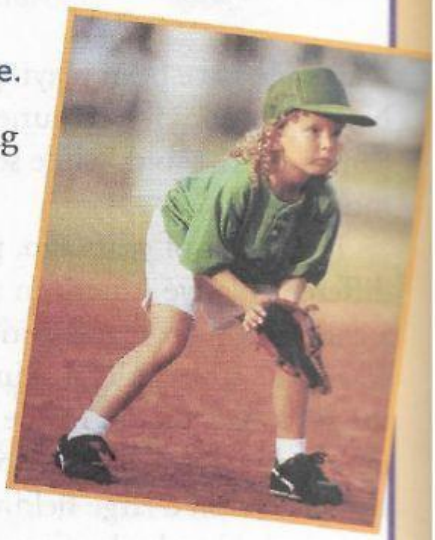
LESSON 2

Drawing Conclusions

As you read a story or an article, look for details to figure out things an author wants you to know but does not tell you. If you make your own decisions about ideas the author does not tell, then you are **drawing conclusions.**

You may draw conclusions about how characters feel or act or why an event took place. Your conclusions should be based on what you read, what you know, and what makes sense. Being able to draw conclusions will help you understand why certain things happen in a story or an article.

Read the story below. Draw conclusions about the ball game.



In the bottom of the ninth inning, the Hornets were leading 7 to 4. The Jays had two outs. With three Jays on base and Lefty "Homer" Brooks at bat, anything could happen. Deep in right field, Shawna punched her glove.

CRACK! Shawna squinted into the bright sky until the spinning circle appeared, as tiny as a golf ball. She held her breath as it got closer and closer.

Shawna leaped and reached. Suddenly she felt the sting of a catch. Grinning, she ran to join her teammates.

Use story details to draw conclusions about the character, Shawna. Write your answers on the lines.

Tip

Always be ready to back up your conclusion with information from the story or article and other reasons you know.

What team is Shawna on?

_____

What did she do to help her team?

_____

How does Shawna feel at the end? How can you tell?

_____

_____

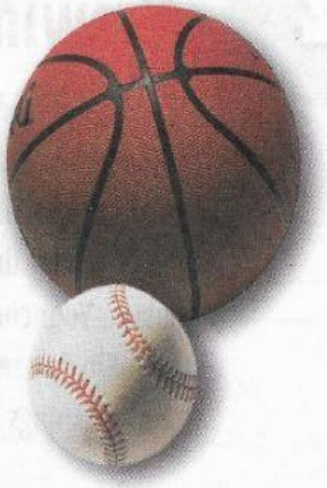
LIVEWORKSHEETS

On Your Own

Read the article about playing ball games. Use the facts you learn to draw conclusions.



PLAY BALL!



by Anastasia Suen

People have been playing ball games in North America for centuries. Some of the games are very old, while some are more modern.

Hundreds of years ago, people of many different Native American nations played a game with a ball and a stick. The ball was made from animal skin. The top of the stick had a loop. Inside the loop was a net made from leather strips. The game was played on a large field with a goal at each end. Hundreds of people played at once, tossing the ball in the air from stick to stick.

The ball and stick game had many different names. French settlers called it "la crosse" because the stick looked like a cross. Today we call the game lacrosse.

People who came from other countries to live in America brought their own ball games with them. Both baseball and football grew out of games that had been played in England. Early American baseball had many names, including "town ball." The name baseball was used as early as 1744. Football became popular as a game for college students in the mid-1800s. At that time it was played more like soccer is played today.

In 1891, a college gym teacher in Massachusetts wanted to create a sport that his students could play indoors during the winter. He remembered a rock-throwing game he played as a child called "Duck on a Rock." He made up new rules and hung two peach baskets on the wall of the gym. That is how basketball was invented.

Today we play many ball games—some old, some new, and all of them fun.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Checking Comprehension

Write the answer to each question on the lines.

1. What is the most important idea you want to remember from reading this article?

_____

_____

2. How are ball games from around the world alike and different?

_____

_____

Practicing Comprehension Skills

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence or answer the question.

3. In the Native American ball-and-stick game, the players probably _____ .

- ○ played on teams
- ○ played on horseback
- ○ hit the ball over a net
- ○ called their game lacrosse

4. What detail helped you figure this out?

- ○ Some games are very old.
- ○ Two goals were used.
- ○ The ball was made from animal skin.
- ○ The ball was tossed in the air.

5. The game of basketball probably got its name from _____ .

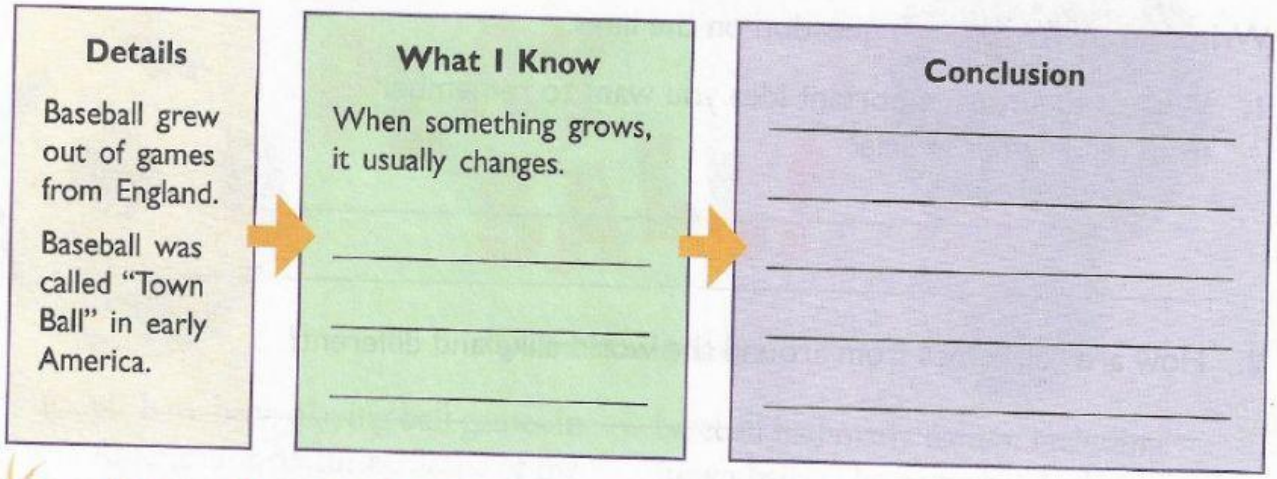
- ○ Native American baskets
- ○ a basket maker
- ○ fruit baskets
- ○ a ball that looked like a basket

6. What detail helped you figure this out?

- ○ Students played indoors.
- ○ It's like "Duck on a Rock."
- ○ The game was played in a gym.
- ○ Peach baskets were used.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Look at the diagram. Think about the details from the article. Add something you know about the history of baseball. Then write a conclusion.



Practicing Vocabulary

Write the word from the box that matches each clue.

animal	baskets	centuries	invented	leather	modern	nations

_____ 7. dog, bird, or snake

_____ 8. containers

_____ 9. made for the first time

_____ 10. material made from skins

_____ 11. Canada, England, and India

_____ 12. hundreds of years

_____ 13. opposite of *old*

MAKING THE Reading AND Writing CONNECTION

Writing Sentences About a Sport

On another piece of paper, write sentences that tell about a sport. Give clues about the sport, but don't tell what sport it is. Then let a friend read your sentences and draw a conclusion to decide what sport you wrote about.

LIVEWORKSHEETS