

CHRIS ARCHER

ROCCO BALDELLI



presented by



**READ YOUR WAY
TO THE BALLPARK**

RAYSBASEBALL.COM/READING

- Ada Twist, Scientist** by Andrea Beaty
The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend
 by Dan Santat
Alfie by Thyra Heder
All Around Us by Xelena Gonzalez
All the Way to Havana by Margarita Engle
Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale
 by Gerald McDermott
Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke
The Bad Guys by Aaron Blabey
Beep! Beep! Go to Sleep! by Todd Tarpley
Big Cat, Little Cat by Elisha Cooper
Blue Sky, White Stars by Sarvinder Naberhaus
The Book of Mistakes by Corinna Luyken
The Boy and the Whale by Mordicai Gerstein
Charlie & Mouse by Laurel Snyder
Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut by Derrick D. Barnes
A Different Pond by Bao Phi
Don't Throw It to Mo! by David A. Adler
Douglas, You Need Glasses by Ged Adamson
Ferocious Fluffity by Erica Perl
Finders Keepers by Will Lipkind
Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos by Monica Brown
Good Night, Planet by Liniers
A Greyhound, A Groundhog by Emily Jenkins
Home in the Rain by Bob Graham
The House in the Night by Susan Marie Swanson
I See a Cat by Paul Meisel
Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall
King and Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats
 by Dori Hillestad Butler
Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes
Let Me Finish by Minh Le
Life on Mars by Jon Agee
March of the Mini Beasts by Ada Hopper
My Life in Pictures by Deborah Zemke
My Pet Human by Yasmine Surovec
Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea by Ben Clanton
The Only Fish in the Sea by Philip C. Stead
A Perfect Day by Lane Smith
Professional Crocodile by Giovanna Zoboli
The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet! by Carmen Deedy
Snail & Worm Again by Tina Kugler
The Storybook Knight by Helen Docherty
There's a Bear on My Chair by Ross Collins
This Is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen
Thunder Boy Jr. by Sherman Alexie
Town Is by the Sea by Joanne Schwartz
Triangle by Mac Barnett
Tuesday by David Wiesner
Walk with Me by Jairo Buitrago
We Forgot Brock by Carter Goodrich
Windows by Julia Denos
Wolf in the Snow by Matthew Cordell
Woodpecker Wants a Waffle by Steve Breen

For more book titles, go to
tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.



In the beginning

Chapter one opens on March 31, 1998, in St. Petersburg, Florida. It is 72 degrees inside Tropicana Field when Baseball Hall-of-Famers Ted Williams, Stan Musial, Al Lopez and Monte Irvin throw out ceremonial first pitches. Tampa jazz singer Belinda Womack sings the National Anthem for a sellout crowd of 45,369. Wilson Alvarez throws the first pitch ever in Devil Rays history.

The Devil Rays franchise was awarded in 1995. The first game was played in March 1998. On June 21, Raymond, the team's beloved mascot, debuted.

Ten years after making their Major League debut,

the team dropped the word "Devil" from the team name

and logo. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Celebrating our 11th annual *Reading with the Rays* publication, the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program is proud to be a part of the Tampa Bay Rays history.



Healthy, active minds

The Tampa Bay Rays baseball players know the importance of staying healthy and strong and keeping their minds active. That is why the Rays, Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education, Tampa Bay area libraries and Suncoast Credit Union again have teamed up to create a lineup of free summer reading fun to encourage and reward students for reading. Everyone's commitment to education in our community makes this an exciting matchup.

Our goals are to encourage you to read more this summer and to visit the library regularly before you return to school this fall. If we succeed in our efforts, then you, too, will succeed as part of our 11th annual Read Your Way to the Ballpark program.

By reading books and newspaper articles this summer, all students in grades kindergarten through 12 in Charlotte, Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties can circle the bases – first, second, third and home – and collect prizes as they go. Make it all the way around to home and the ultimate reward is two tickets to a Rays game at Tropicana Field this season to see the Rays in action.

Check out this insert, celebrate the Rays 20th anniversary season, and get some great book suggestions to entertain you through summer vacation. You can get your game cards and prizes at your local library. Summer is baseball season, and it's also a great time to be in the library reading books and stories that interest you.

Discovering new worlds

On the pages of this Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education publication, you will see suggested reading for students in grades kindergarten through 12. There are more reading suggestions for students, broken down by grade level and subject matter, at tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.

Whether you are reading a printed book or the digital version, between the covers of these books are action, adventure, comedy, history and new worlds for you to explore and learn about. The characters make important decisions and learn new things in each story.

You can find these exciting stories and more on the shelves of your local library. Throughout the summer, you can choose to read any books that interest you. The book lists provided are just suggestions.

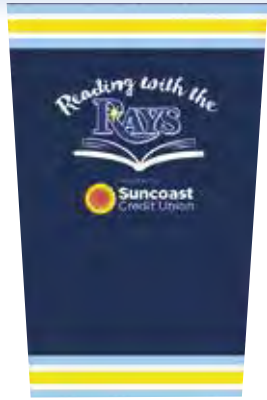
Want to learn more about the world around you? You can read the *Tampa Bay Times* as part of this summer reading challenge. Reading the *Times* can help you earn hours to read your way to the ballpark! Within the pages of your daily newspaper, you will find news, sports, adventures, comics, classifieds and a lot of fun things to do and read about. Of course, you also can read all of the news about your Tampa Bay Rays!



Pick up your Game Card at your *Local Library.*

Read to Earn These *Great Prizes.* Visit raysbaseball.com/reading to find a participating library.

Read your way around the ballpark



For every hour you read, you will swing the bat to advance around the bases on the game card as pictured below. First you need to pick up your game card at your local library. Next, grab a book or the *Tampa Bay Times* and start reading. Keep track of each hour you read.

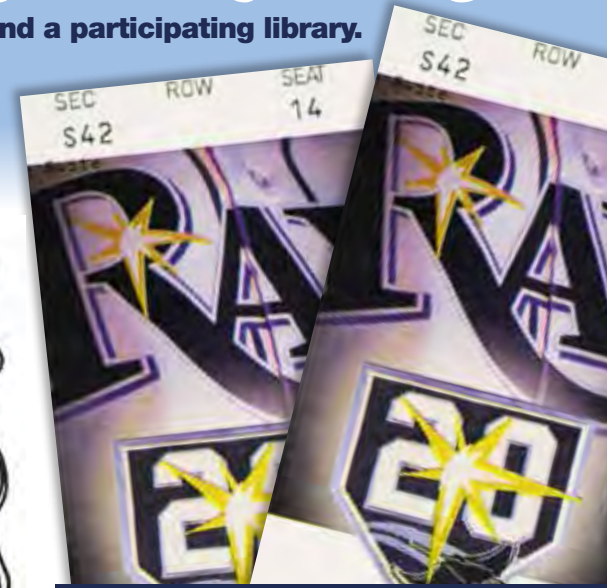
Every time you arrive at a base, you can pick up a reward at your local library. When you reach home plate, you will receive a voucher for two tickets to see your Tampa Bay Rays in action!



READ 5 HOURS MORE and receive **RAYS SUNGLASSES.**



READ 7 HOURS MORE and receive a **RAYS DRAWSTRING BAG.**



READ 9 HOURS MORE and receive a **READING WITH THE RAYS VOUCHER FOR TWO TICKETS TO A RAYS HOME GAME.**

Reading with the **RAYS**

presented by  **Suncoast Credit Union**

The rules of the game are simple.

- Students in grades K-12 in Charlotte, Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties can participate.
- Go to your local library and pick up your Reading with the Rays: Read Your Way to the Ballpark game card.
- Choose some interesting books and sections of the *Tampa Bay Times* to read this summer.
- As you read, track your hours and ask your grown-up to initial your card.
- When you reach a new base, bring the card to your local library to collect Rays prizes and have the librarian note your progress.
- When you reach home plate by reading 24 hours, you get a voucher for two tickets to a Rays game!
- On the back of the card, you can write down the titles of your favorite books and articles from the summer.

For more information about the Reading with the Rays program and additional book lists, go to tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.

READ AROUND THE BASES 24 HOURS TOTAL

- ★ **READ 3 HOURS** to get from Home Plate to First Base and receive a **RAYS ARM SLEEVE.**
- ★ **READ 5 HOURS MORE** to get from First Base to Second Base and receive **RAYS SUNGLASSES.**
- ★ **READ 7 HOURS MORE** to get from Second Base to Third Base and receive a **RAYS DRAWSTRING BAG.**
- ★ **READ 9 HOURS MORE** to get from Third Base to Home Plate and receive a **READING WITH THE RAYS VOUCHER FOR TWO TICKETS TO A RAYS HOME GAME.**



Reading with the Rays information can be found at:
RAYSBASEBALL.COM/READING

- Allie, First at Last** by Angela Cervantes
All's Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson
Always Room for One by Sorche Nic Leodhas
The Big Snow by Berta & Elmer Hader
The Biggest Bear by Lynd Ward
Black and White by David Macaulay
Blackbird Fly by Erin Entrada Kelly
Bronze and Sunflower by Cao Wenxuan
Castle Hangnail by Ursula Vernon
Chanticleer and the Fox by Barbara Cooney
Clayton Byrd Goes Underground by Rita Williams-Garcia
A Different Pond by Bao Phi
A Dragon's Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans
 by Laurence Yep and Joanna Ryder
Drummer Hoff by Barbara Emberley
The Egg Tree by Katherine Milhous
Fables by Arnold Lobel
Framed! by James Ponti
Full Cicada Moon by Marilyn Hilton
Full of Beans by Jennifer L. Holm
The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill
Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly
The Hero Two Doors Down by Sharon Robinson
How to Be an Elephant by Katherine Roy
I Am Not a Number by Jenny Kay Dupuis and Kathy Kacer
I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark
 by Debbie Levy
Impact! Asteroids and the Science of Saving the World
 by Elizabeth Rusch
Invasion of the Gym Class Zombies by Scott Nickel
Lost in the Sun by Lisa Graff
Malala: Activist for Girls' Education by Rphaele Frier
Maxi's Secrets: or, What You Can Learn from a Dog
 by Lynn Plourde
My Brother Is a Superhero by David Solomons
Night of the Living Worms by Dave Coverly
Older Than Dirt: A Wild But True History of Earth
 by Don Brown and Michael Perfit
President of the Whole Fifth Grade by Sherri Winston
The Princess and the Warrior by Duncan Tonatiuh
Princess Cora and the Crocodile by Laura Amy Schlitz
Pugs of the Frozen North by Philip Reeve and
 Sarah McIntyre
Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of R.B.G. vs. Inequality
 by Jonah Winter
Sea Otter Heroes: The Predators That Saved an Ecosystem
 by Patricia Newman
Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan
The Secret Keepers by Trenton Lee Stewart
The Sound of Silence by Katrina Goldsaito
Steamboat School by Deborah Hopkinson
The Storyteller by Evan Turk
Teddy Mars: Almost a World Record Breaker
 by Molly Burnham
The Vanishing Coin by Kate Egan with Mike Lane
When Mischief Came to Town by Katrina Nannestad
When the Sea Turned to Silver by Grace Lin
A Whole New Ballgame by Phil Bildner
The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
Willy Maykit in Space by Greg Trine
Wishtree by Katherine Applegate

For more book titles, go to
tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.



America's favorite pastime



Abner Doubleday

More than a century ago, poet Walt Whitman said that baseball “has the snap, go, fling of the American atmosphere—it belongs as much to our institutions, fits into them as significantly, as our constitutions, laws: is just as important in the sum total of our historic life. It is the place where memory gathers.”

Although the story goes that baseball had been invented by Abner Doubleday in Cooperstown, N. Y., in 1839, the truth is the term “base-ball” dates back to 1744. The term and game can be traced back to England, but the American game we know and love has evolved into a truly American pastime.

In 1854, a revision of the rules set the weight and size of the ball used in the game and specified the dimensions of the infield. Neither of these specifications has been significantly changed since that time. In 1857, the National Association of Base Ball Players was organized. The American Association was organized in 1881.

Source: *Encyclopedia Britannica*

Baseball trivia



Chris Archer

A pitcher is credited with a save when he meets all three of the following conditions:

1. He is the finishing pitcher in a game won by his club; and
2. He is not the winning pitcher; and
3. He qualified under one of the following conditions:
 - a. He enters the game with a lead of no more than three runs and pitches for at least one inning.
 - b. He enters the game, regardless of the count, with the potential tying run either on base, or at-bat, or on deck (that is, the potential tying run is either already on base or is one of the first two batsmen he faces), or
 - c. He pitches effectively for at least three innings.

Going beyond the text

Keeping a journal

Keeping a reading journal is a great way to keep track of what you have read and learn more about yourself. While you are reading books and newspaper articles this summer, write down questions, thoughts and your opinions about what you have read. Through your reading, you can explore new concepts and ideas. While you are keeping your journal, read the *Tampa Bay Times* at least twice a week, along with your books. You can read news, sports, comic strips or even advertisements. What are your thoughts about the things you read in the newspaper? To begin your journal, write about something that you have read in the *Times* that directly affects your life. Share some of your journal entries and thoughts with your peers and family.

Meet the 2018 **RAYS**

If there is one thing we have learned from history, it is that change happens, and the Tampa Bay Rays team has gone through many changes in the past 20 years. It was on March 9, 1995, that baseball owners officially welcomed the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Arizona Diamondbacks as the 13th and 14th expansion teams in major league history by a vote of 28-0. From that moment to Opening Day on March 31, 1998 and Opening Day on March 29, 2018, there have been many players and coaches to grace Tropicana Field.

This year's lineup brings some new names and faces to the field to join some of the veterans.

Serving up fastballs, curves, sliders, sinkers and more are

pitchers

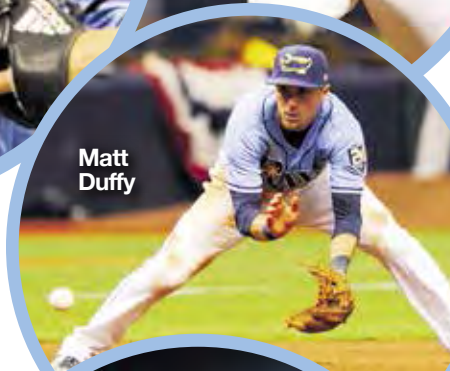
- ▶ José Alvarado
- ▶ Matt Andriese
- ▶ Chris Archer
- ▶ Anthony Banda
- ▶ Diego Castillo
- ▶ Yonny Chirinos
- ▶ Alex Colomé
- ▶ José De León
- ▶ Nathan Eovaldi
- ▶ Jake Faria
- ▶ Brent Honeywell
- ▶ Chih-Wei Hu
- ▶ Andrew Kittredge
- ▶ José Mujica
- ▶ Austin Pruitt
- ▶ Chaz Roe
- ▶ Sergio Romo
- ▶ Jaime Schultz
- ▶ Blake Snell
- ▶ Ryne Stanek
- ▶ Hunter Wood
- ▶ Ryan Yarbrough



Jake Faria



Blake Snell



Matt Duffy

The men behind the masks guarding home plate are

catchers

- ▶ Wilson Ramos
- ▶ Jesús Sucre



Chris Archer



Mallex Smith



Kevin Kiermaier

Guarding the *infield*

- ▶ Willy Adames
- ▶ Christian Arroyo
- ▶ Jake Bauers
- ▶ C.J. Cron
- ▶ Matt Duffy
- ▶ Adeiny Hechavarria
- ▶ Brad Miller
- ▶ Daniel Robertson
- ▶ Joey Wendle

Protecting the *outfield*

- ▶ Johnny Field
- ▶ Carlos Gómez
- ▶ Jeremy Hazelbaker
- ▶ Kevin Kiermaier
- ▶ Rob Refsnyder
- ▶ Mallex Smith
- ▶ Denard Span
- ▶ Justin Williams

book *spotlights*

▶ BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Mama Played Baseball by David A. Adler

Amy's dad is away, fighting in World War II, and her mama must take a job. But it's no ordinary job—Amy's mother becomes a baseball player in the first professional women's league! Amy cheers louder than anyone at all of the home games. And while Mama's team travels, Amy works on a secret project—a surprise for her dad when he is finally back home. With warmhearted, historically based text and lush illustrations, award-winning author David A. Adler and talented new artist Chris O'Leary bring to life the soaring spirit of the 1940s. Featured in the major motion picture *A League of Their Own*, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League helped women prove that no war could stop the great game of baseball.

Grades: K-2
Publisher: Gulliver Books
Book Summary: Amazon



▶ BOOK SPOTLIGHT

The Hero Two Doors Down by Sharon Robinson

Stephen Satlow is an 8-year-old boy living in Brooklyn, NY in 1948, which means he only cares about one thing: the Dodgers. Steve and his father spend hours reading the sports pages and listening to games on the radio. Aside from an occasional run-in with his teacher, life is pretty simple for Steve. But then Steve hears a rumor that an African American family is moving to his all-Jewish neighborhood. It's 1948 and some of his neighbors are against it. Steve knows this is wrong. His hero, Jackie Robinson, broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball the year before. Then it happens—Steve's new neighbor is none other than Jackie Robinson! Steve is beyond excited about living two doors down from the Robinson family. He can't wait to meet Jackie. This is going to be the best baseball season yet! How many kids ever get to become friends with their hero?

Grades: 3-7
Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks
Book Summary: Amazon



- Amina's Voice** by Hena Khan
Armstrong and Charlie by Steven B. Frank
Ashes to Asheville by Sarah Dooley
Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk
Courage for Beginners by Karen Harrington
Dazzle Ships: World War I and the Art of Confusion by Chris Barton
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya
A Face Like Glass by Frances Hardinge
The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Perez
Flying Lessons & Other Stories by Ellen Oh, editor
Forever, or a Long, Long Time by Caela Carter
Framed! by James Ponti
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
The Girl in the Well Is Me by Karen Rivers
The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill
Grand Canyon by Jason Chin
Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly
How to (Almost) Ruin Your Summer by Taryn Souders
Isaac the Alchemist: Secrets of Isaac Newton, Reveal'd by Mary Losure
It Ain't So Awful, Falafel by Firoozeh Dumas
Life on Surtsey: Iceland's Upstart Island by Loree Griffin Burns
The List by Patricia Forde
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
Louis Undercover by Fanny Britt
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar
The Mark of the Dragonfly by Jaleigh Johnson
Midnight without a Moon by Linda Williams Jackson
Moving Target by Christina Diaz Gonzalez
The Murderer's Ape by Jakob Wegelius
The Nerdy Dozen by Jeff Miller
The Nest by Kenneth Oppel
Omega City by Diana Peterfreund
Orphan Island by Laurel Snyder
Patina by Jason Reynolds
Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson
Posted by John David Anderson
Quicksand Pond by Janet Taylor-Lisle
Randoms by David Liss
Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library by Carole Boston Weatherford
Shadows of Sherwood by Kekla Magoon
Side Tracked by Diana Harmon Asher
Silent Days, Silent Dreams by Allen Say
The Stars Beneath Our Feet by David Barclay Moore
Strange Fruit: Billie Holiday and the Power of a Protest Song by Gary Golio
Terror at Bottle Creek by Watt Key
Thornhill by Pam Smy
Twelve Days in May: Freedom Ride 1961 by Larry Dane Brimner
The War I Finally Won by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
The Whydah: A Pirate Ship Feared, Wrecked & Found by Martin W. Sandler
The Whiz Mob and the Grenadine Kid by Colin Meloy
Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

For more book titles, go to tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.



February 15, 1998
 The Devil Rays first major league spring training camp opens. Fifty-one players, including 41 pitchers, take the field at 9:35 a.m. for a three-hour workout at the Devil Rays Spring Training Complex in St. Petersburg.



June 21, 1998
 Raymond, the team's mascot, debuts prior to the Devil Rays-Red Sox game at Tropicana Field.

February 26, 1998
 The first spring training game involving Devil Rays major-leaguers takes place. The Devil Rays beat Florida State University at Al Lang Stadium.

March 27, 1998
 In the first game at Tropicana Field, the Devil Rays beat Atlanta, 5-0, in an exhibition game that draws 26,519 fans.

March 31, 1998
 It all begins with Tampa Bay's first official major league game before what remains the largest home crowd in the team's history – 45,369.



November 8, 2007
 The organization launches new uniforms, new colors and a new icon and a new name—the Rays.

October 19, 2008
 The Rays win Game 7 of the ALCS, 3-1, to clinch the AL pennant in front of 40,473 at Tropicana Field.



September 26, 2008
 The Rays clinch the AL East title when the Red Sox lose to Yankees, 19-8.

October 22, 2008
 The Rays host the Phillies in their first World Series game, becoming just the second team in major league history to compete in the World Series a year after having the worst record in the majors.

February 25, 2009
 The Rays play the Reds in their first spring training game at Charlotte Sports Park after training in St. Petersburg for 11 years.

July 26, 2010
 Matt Garza throws the first no-hitter in franchise history in a 5-0 win over the Tigers at Tropicana Field.



Baseball trivia

On May 7, 1996, the Rays announced they would become the first team in the modern era to host spring training in their home city in 1998. The National League's St. Louis Cardinals left after training in St. Petersburg since 1946. The first Devil Rays game was played on June 19, 1996. A Gulf Coast League record crowd of 7,582 was on hand at Al Lang Stadium as the GCL Devil Rays hosted their Yankee counterparts. Eighteen-year-old righthander Pablo Ortega threw the first Rays pitch.

March 30, 2004
The Devil Rays open the major league season at the Tokyo Dome in Japan with an 8-3 win over the Yankees in front of 55,000 and a national TV audience.



December 2005
The Devil Rays begin a \$10 million refurbishment of Tropicana Field.



August 7, 1999
At Tropicana Field, Wade Boggs gets his 3,000th career hit.

June 26, 2004
The Devil Rays beat the Marlins, 6-4, and become the first team in history to climb over .500 after being 18 or more games below .500 in the same season.

September 20, 2006
The Devil Rays and the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County, Fla., formally sign a 20-year agreement for the team to conduct spring training at a renovated Charlotte Sports Park beginning in February 2009.

Timeline



October 3, 2010
The Rays clinch their second AL East title on the last day of the regular season, breaking a tie with the Yankees.



November 14, 2012
The Baseball Writers' Association of America announces left-handed pitcher David Price as the winner of the 2012 AL Cy Young Award.



March 20-22, 2016
The Rays travel to Havana, Cuba, to play the Cuban National Team in an exhibition at Estadio Latinoamericano, joining the 1999 Orioles as the only major league clubs to play a game in the last 57 years.



September 28-29, 2011
It's been called the greatest day of the regular season in major league history. The Red Sox lose at 12:02 a.m. and the Rays beat the Yankees 8-7 on a walk-off home run by Evan Longoria at 12:05 a.m. As a result, the Rays win the AL Wild Card, completing the greatest September comeback ever.

September 30, 2013
The Rays win the 14th tiebreaker game in major league history, 5-2 over the Rangers, punching a postseason ticket for the fourth time in six years. David Price becomes the fifth pitcher in MLB history to earn a complete-game victory in a one-game playoff.

Going beyond the text

Dealing with conflict

Alex Frankovitch has his share of conflicts. Conflicts are common in literature and everyday life. Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for an article and a cartoon or photo that show a conflict. In your journal, write down the main points of the article and describe the photo or cartoon. What are the main conflicts being presented in each? Compare the two styles of presenting informational text: with words and with images. Write down how the conflict is depicted differently in article form than it is in visual form. Share what you have learned with your family and friends.

book spotlights

BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Skinny Bones by Barbara Park



Play ball? Alex Frankovitch is the smallest, second-worst kid on his team. But he has a major-league-sized mouth, and it gets him into major-league trouble! Even Alex knows he's gone too far when he brags his way into a pitching contest with T.J. Stoner, the best player—and biggest jerk—in the whole school (and maybe the whole world!). Can Alex talk his way out of this mess? Or is he in for the grand slam of all humiliations? Find out in the award-winning, laugh-out-loud novel from the *New York Times* best-selling author of *Junie B. Jones!*

Grades: 3-7
Publisher: Yearling
Book Summary: Amazon

BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team by Audrey Vernick Christopher



The Acerra family had 16 children, including 12 ball-playing boys. It was the 1930s, and many families had lots of kids. But only one had enough to field a baseball team . . . with three on the bench! The Acerras were the longest-playing all-brother team in baseball history. They loved the game, but more important, they cared for and supported each other and stayed together as a team. Nothing life threw their way could stop them.

Grades: K-3
Publisher: Clarion Books
Book Summary: Amazon



book spotlights

BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl's Baseball Dream by Crystal Hubbard



This is the true story of Marcenia Lyle, an African American girl who grew up to become Toni Stone, the first woman to play for a professional baseball team. One day in the 1930s, Marcenia and the boys she plays ball with learn that Gabby Street, a famous baseball manager, is scouting children for a baseball summer camp sponsored by the St. Louis Cardinals. Eager to earn a spot, Marcenia plays her best, but is discouraged when Mr. Street tells her there are no girls in his camp. Convinced that baseball is her destiny, Marcenia won't give up, ultimately proving her skill and passion to Mr. Street and her dubious parents.

Grades: K-2

Publisher: Lee & Low Books
Book Summary: Amazon

BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Baseball Fever by Johanna Hurwitz



Ezra Feldman, almost 10, likes baseball more than anything else in the world. But his father cannot understand why his son would rather rot his brains watching men swinging big wooden sticks than read a book or play chess. Can an unwanted car trip, a grumpy old professor and a surprising chess victory help father and son find a little common ground—and convince Ezra's dad that cheering for the national pastime isn't completely off base?

Grades: 3-7

Publisher: HarperCollins
Book Summary: Amazon



A rich history: **Baseball in St. Petersburg**

Baseball in St. Petersburg dates back to 1914, when the St. Louis Browns opened their spring training workouts. This season marks the 104th year Major League Baseball has had a presence in St. Petersburg.

Nine teams have trained in St. Petersburg: the St. Louis Browns (1914), Philadelphia Phillies (1915-18), Boston Braves (1922-37), New York Yankees (1925-42; 1946-50; 1952-61), St. Louis Cardinals (1938-42; 1946-97), New York Giants (1951), New York Mets (1962-87), Baltimore Orioles (1993-95) and the Devil Rays/Rays (1998-2008).

It was in 1910 when former Pittsburgh laundry owner and die-hard baseball fan Al Lang moved to St. Petersburg to benefit his health. He soon became interested in the local economy and focused on trying to help the sagging tourism industry.

Lang convinced the St. Louis Browns, under manager Branch Rickey, to move to St. Petersburg in 1914. A baseball committee, formed to attract a major league team to the city,

raised \$20,000 to buy a large tract of land for a ballpark. The site chosen for the field was Coffee Pot Bayou in St. Petersburg, where a 2,000-seat grandstand was built.

On March 27, 1914, the first game between two major league teams in St. Petersburg took place, and the Grapefruit League was established. The Browns hosted the Chicago Cubs, who were training in Tampa and made the trip by steamboat across Tampa Bay.

The resourceful Lang helped engineer a new ballpark, Waterfront Park—located at the approximate site where the parking lot for Al Lang Field is today—and a new arrival, the Boston Braves, christened the new park in 1922. The Yankees joined the Braves in St. Pete in 1925. They would remain for all but four years until 1962, when Casey Stengel and the expansion New York Mets moved in and the Yankees went to Fort Lauderdale.

When the Boston Braves left for Bradenton in 1937, the St. Louis Cardinals came to St. Petersburg the following year and would stay 57 of the next 60 years, missing only the war years. Minor League Baseball in the city began in 1920 as the St. Pete Saints entered the Florida State League.



Babe Ruth in St. Petersburg, circa 1930

Tampa Bay-area *natives*

Did you know 15 Tampa Bay-area natives have either played or coached for the Rays?

- ▶ Kevin Cash is the second Tampa native to manage the club, joining Lou Piniella.
- ▶ A Bradenton native, right-handed pitcher Lance Carter played from 2002 through 2005.
- ▶ Clearwater natives, right-handed pitchers Ryan Webb played in 2016 and Ryan Garton played from 2016-2017.
- ▶ A Lakeland native, infielder Steve Pearce played in 2016.
- ▶ A Plant City native, outfielder Kenny Kelly played in 2000.
- ▶ St. Petersburg natives, first baseman Casey Kotchman played in 2011 and right-handed pitcher Doug Waechter played from 2003 through 2006.
- ▶ A Seminole native, catcher Bobby Wilson played in 2015 and 2016.
- ▶ Tampa natives right-handed pitcher Dwight Gooden played in 2000, catcher Kevin Cash played in 2005, outfielder Matt Joyce played from 2009 through 2014; first basemen Tino Martinez played in 2004 and Fred McGriff played from 1998 through 2001 and in 2004.



wordSearch

BOBBY WILSON
CASEY KOTCHMAN
DOUG WAECHTER
DWIGHT GOODEN
FRED MCGRIFF
KENNY KELLY
KEVIN CASH
LANCE CARTER
LOU PINIELLA
MATT JOYCE
RYAN GARTON
RYAN WEBB
STEVE PEARCE
TINO MARTINEZ

R R A Y S T W E N T Y R I R R F S B O P K C Q N D
H Y Q N R N C P A U T N U H F D T O W R G U R C W
R P A E W L A X F K Q T T I S C E B R H K D J H I
O U I N B D B C B M G T R P B T V B R N F T R W G
I A C D W I B K K D Y G Z D T X E Y C C F S F M H
E P K N K E H I Z T C K Y I E L P W Y C U H F U T
X Y S A B B B T W M R W V S O F E I D L S U A I G
Q R V Q T M E B D O H E K U F U A L R D P Z K K O
J A R J I S F E J C N S P H D C R S D Z G E C C O
N Z E N I T R A M O N I T F R A C O E R N K T M D
Q A A S K F O J J O N D W N D H E N V N L K Y B E
Q J M J U M A L X I M I R C L X R V Y G W Z X K N
O V V H L C M E E W V Q B F X F G K J O C E D F P
R H H Z C C T L A N C E C A R T E R W K V B S V R
J E S M O T L P G W L Z I L Y L F W K M T B S B L
W S T A A A O A T K G W E R L P H Y S B C E C S W
Y V M H C Y V K V Z L P F Y X L M W E F U O S Z M
U J K K C N S W Y E J J M A S T E K L I K V X E N
Y M Y A L E I F J E C D T N T X C F Y R N Z T K D
P O G C S O A V M W S D I G M A T T J O Y C E G T
I Q W H W T R W E A O A J A A J J P Q X Y N Y S G
L B G J A O D T G K B A C R K O F F Z G B G L O M
G V O G U Y E U K U U R G T I I Q Z L G D X S K Z
O N D O X P Y N Y U O O D O C S A L C V G D D P R
H B E C M A Y F I H V D Q N A K D Z G I S N I G W

See if you can find the hidden anniversary message in the puzzle above.

Spring Training scramble

A tradition since the 1890s, Spring Training in Florida's Grapefruit League offers a multitude of treats for baseball fans. In addition to our Tampa Bay Rays, 14 other Major League teams train in Florida. Unscramble the 15 Grapefruit League teams.

- snayeeek
- asry
- esylubja
- lratpse
- losrioe
- rosedx
- tnswi
- criladnas
- rlmans
- besvra
- etms
- tsaannoli
- soatsr
- gsiter
- hilplies

Exploring words and images

Did you know Kevin Kiermaier likes to read nonfiction books? What kind of books do you like to read? Do you like fiction or nonfiction, or do you prefer informational texts such as newspaper and magazine articles? What can you learn from reading different types of books? What can be learned from reading the *Tampa Bay Times*? Look through the articles, cartoons, advertisements and photos in the *Times*. Cut out headlines, words, photos and images that unlock some secrets. Create a collage with the words and images you have collected. On the back of the collage, explain, in a fully developed paragraph, what the items shown represent and what you have learned. Use specific examples to highlight your points. Share your collage with your family and friends.

Going
beyond
the text

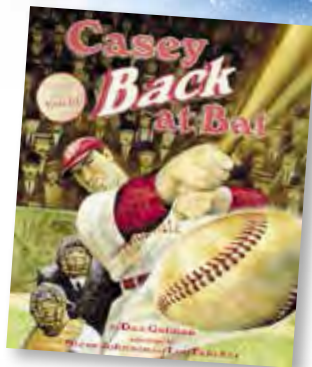
Summer SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULTS READING

- Alex, Approximately* by Jenn Bennett
All We Have Left by Wendy Mills
The Arsonist by Stephanie Oakes
Bad Romance by Heather Demetrios
Bang by Barry Lyga
Beast by Brie Spangler
Bull by David Elliott
City of Saints & Thieves by Natalie C. Anderson
The Closest I've Come by Fred Aceves
Crossing Ebenezer Creek by Tonya Bolden
The Darkest Corners by Kara Thomas
Defy the Stars by Claudia Gray
Devils Within by S.F. Henson
Disappeared by Francisco Stork
Exo by Lee Fonda
A Face Like Glass by Frances Hardinge
Far From the Tree from Robin Benway
The Fashion Committee: A Novel of Art, Crime, and Applied Design by Susan Juby
Field of Fantasies: Baseball Tales of the Supernatural by Rick Wilber
The Geek's Guide to Unrequited Love by Sarvenaz Tash
Highly Illogical Behavior by John Corey Whaley
Holding up the Universe by Jennifer Niven
How to Make a Wish by Ashley Blake
Invictus by Ryan Gaudin
Jane, Unlimited by Kristin Cashore
Kids of Appetite by David Arnold
Landscape with Invisible Hand by M.T. Anderson
The Language of Thorns: Midnight Tales and Dangerous Magic by Leigh Bardugo
Learning to Swear in America by Katie Kennedy
Little & Lion by Brandy Colbert
The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline
Midnight at the Electric by Jodi Lynn Anderson
My Lady Jane by Cynthia Hand, Brodi Ashton and Jodi Meadows
Neighborhood Girls by Jessie Ann Foley
Rebel of the Sands by Alwyn Hamilton
Refugee by Alan Gratz
Saints and Misfits by S.K. Ali
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys
Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune by Pamela S. Turner
Scythe by Neal Shusterman
The Serpent King by Jeff Zentner
The Shadow Cipher by Laura Ruby
Slider by Pete Hautman
Tell Me Three Things by Julie Buxbaum
Three Dark Crowns by Kendare Blake
Turtles All the Way Down by John Green
An Uninterrupted View of the Sky by Melanie Crowder
The Upside of Unrequited by Becky Albertalli
Warcross by Marie Lu
We Are Okay by Nina LaCour
What Girls Are Made Of by Elana Arnold
The Wicker King by K. Ancrum
Words in Deep Blue by Cath Crowley

For more book titles, go to tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.



book spotlights



BOOK SPOTLIGHT

Casey Back at Bat By Dan Gutman

The mighty Casey is getting what any failed sports hero most desires: a second chance. He's got to prove himself after his last, disastrous game. All eyes are on Casey as he steps up to the plate. Will he finally bring joy to Mudville? It's a hilarious sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's famous poem, *Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic*.

Grades: K-3

Publisher: HarperCollins

Book Summary: Amazon



BOOK SPOTLIGHT

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers By Matt Christopher

Sylvester loved baseball, but he wasn't what you'd call a good hitter. He had decided against joining the team when he met George Baruth. George promised Sylvester he would help him become one of the best players ever. Before long, Sylvester was hitting homers.

Grades: 3-7

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Book Summary: Amazon



Home field facts

▶ Tropicana Field's 1.1 million square feet has a current capacity of 31,042, with a portion of the upper deck tarped.

▶ Originally named the Florida Suncoast Dome, then the Thunderdome three years later, Tropicana Field opened to the public on March 3, 1990.

▶ The Rays Touch Tank opened in 2006. Through a partnership with the Florida Aquarium, there are more than 20 cownose rays. Six home runs have been hit into the water. Only two of those were hit by Rays players: José Lobatón and Brad Miller.

▶ Tropicana Field features an artificial surface and all-dirt base paths.

▶ Tropicana Field features the world's largest cable-supported domed roof. It's made of six acres of translucent, Teflon-coated fiberglass and it virtually supports itself with 180 miles of cables connected by struts. Opposing forces of tension and compression keep the roof in an arc. Tropicana Field's roof is slanted at a 6.5-degree angle, dropping from 225 feet above second base to 85 feet at the center field wall. It is built to withstand winds of up to 115 miles per hour.

Did you know?

More than 500,000 fans have visited the Ted Williams Museum and Hitters Hall of Fame since it opened its doors at Tropicana Field in 2006. The museum features more than 125 inductees representing every major league team. There are special exhibits honoring the Negro Leagues, Japanese baseball, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, Jewish major leaguers, Roberto Clemente and Jackie Robinson.



Ted Williams

Exploring new worlds

Reading books and exploring new worlds can be a lot of fun. Did you know both Rays mascots, DJ Kitty and Raymond, love reading books? They, also like reading about people in their community, especially when those people are doing good things in the community. Choose one of your favorite book characters and place that character in your community. Find an article in the *Tampa Bay Times* and put your character into the situation described in the article. Write a brief paragraph about what the character does in the situation presented in the article. Illustrate your story and share it with your classmates and family. You also can share the paragraph and artwork with the Reading with the Rays program coordinators. Email your paragraph and scan your artwork to us at ordernie@tampabay.com.

Going beyond the text

Baseball *and* St. Petersburg



St. Louis Browns, 1914

This season marks the 104th year Major League Baseball has had a presence in St. Petersburg, dating back to 1914, when the St. Louis Browns opened spring training workouts. Major League Baseball has had a presence in St. Petersburg every year since travel restrictions during World War II prohibited teams from traveling south for spring training from 1943 through 45. It was not until 1995, though, that St. Petersburg had its own official Major League Baseball team.

St. Louis Browns, 1914



Read. Read. Read.

Parents, you can encourage your children to participate in the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education Reading with the Rays program this summer. There are suggested book titles for students on the pages of this Newspaper in Education publication.

Visit tampabay.com/nie/raysreading for more reading suggestions. All students in grades kindergarten through 12 are eligible to participate in the Reading with the Rays program. Check out the details on page 2 of this publication. Get your game card at your local library!

Don't forget, you and your children can keep up with the Rays games and chart your favorite players' statistics by reading the *Tampa Bay Times* every day.

Your local libraries also have some great book lists and suggestions. The following library systems are proud partners of the Reading with the Rays program. You can find out more about your library's summer programs online by going to the main library web page.

Charlotte County Library System

Website: charlottecountyfl.com
Phone: 941-625-6470

Citrus County Library System

Website: citruslibraries.org
Phone: 352-795-3716

Hernando County Public Library System

Website: hernandocountylibrary.us
Phone: 352-754-4043

Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative

Website: hcplc.org
Phone: 813-273-3652

Manatee County Library System

Website: mymanatee.org/library
Phone: 941-748-5555

New Port Richey Public Library

Website: nprlibrary.org
Phone: 727-853-1267

Pasco County Library Cooperative

Website: pascolibraries.org
Phone: 727-861-3040

Pinellas Public Library Cooperative

Website: pplc.us
Phone: 727-441-8408

Polk County Library Cooperative

Website: mypclc.org
Phone: 863-834-4280

Sarasota County Library System

Website: scgov.net/library/system
Phone: 941-861-5000



Your Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education Team



The Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Co. to promote the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources. Our educational resources fall into the category of informational text.

Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the *Times*, plus our award-winning original curriculum, at no cost to teachers or schools. With ever-shrinking school budgets, the newspaper has become an invaluable tool to teachers. *The Times* and our NIE curriculum are rich educational resources, offering teachers an up-to-the-minute, living text and source for countless projects in virtually every content area.

NIE serves teachers in private, public, alternative and homeschools. Email ordernie@tampabay.com to become an NIE teacher. For information about how you can donate to NIE, call 727-893-8138 or visit tampabay.com/nie.

Keep in the know about the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program by following us on Twitter: twitter.com/TBTimesNIE.

Teachers, you can order copies of the *Tampa Bay Times* or additional copies of this publication for your summer school classroom by emailing ordernie@tampabay.com.

© Tampa Bay Times 2018

Newspaper in Education Staff

Jodi Pushkin, manager, jpushman@tampabay.com
Sue Bedry, development specialist, sbedry@tampabay.com

Credits

Written by Jodi Pushkin, *Tampa Bay Times*
Designed by Lisa Schillinger, *Tampa Bay Times*
Cover design by Tampa Bay Rays

Reading with the Rays website: tampabay.com/nie/raysreading

Florida Standards

The materials in this publication correlate to the following Florida Standards for elementary school students.

Language Arts: LAFS.K12.L.1.1; LAFS.K12.L.1.2; LAFS.K12.L.2.3; LAFS.K12.L.3.4; LAFS.K12.L.3.5; LAFS.K12.L.3.6; LAFS.K12.R.1.1; LAFS.K12.R.1.2; LAFS.K12.R.1.3; LAFS.K12.R.2.4; LAFS.K12.R.2.5; LAFS.K12.R.2.6; LAFS.K12.R.3.7; LAFS.K12.R.3.8; LAFS.K12.R.3.9; LAFS.K12.R.4.10; LAFS.K12.SL.1.1; LAFS.K12.SL.1.2; LAFS.K12.SL.1.3; LAFS.K12.SL.2.4; LAFS.K12.SL.2.5; LAFS.K12.SL.2.6; LAFS.K12.W.1.1; LAFS.K12.W.1.2; LAFS.K12.W.1.3; LAFS.K12.W.2.4; LAFS.K12.W.3.9; LAFS.K12.W.4.10

Answers to Word Scramble on Page 9
1. Yankees 2. Rays 3. Blue Jays 4. Pirates 5. Orioles
6. Red Sox 7. Twins 8. Cardinals 9. Marlins 10. Braves
11. Mets 12. Nationals 13. Astros 14. Tigers 15. Phillies

READING WITH THE RAYS MAKES SUMMER READING A HIT!



Suncoast
Credit Union

PROUD PARTNER OF THE TAMPA BAY RAYS

Attention, kids! Suncoast Credit Union and the Tampa Bay Rays are ready to make reading fun all summer long. Check out our Reading with the Rays program where you can earn prizes just for doing what you love to do – read! It's as easy as A-B-C!

WIN PRIZES!

Use your game card to track hours and collect prizes. If you read 24 hours during the program you earn two free tickets to a Rays game!

HOW IT WORKS:

- A-** Pick up a game card at your local library
- B-** Check out your favorite books
- C-** Start reading!

YOU KNOCKED IT OUT OF THE PARK LAST YEAR!

Last year, more than 40,000 students participated. That's more than 400,000 total hours of reading in one summer! Nearly 12,000 fans experienced a Rays game for free thanks to the reading program.

LET'S MAKE 2018 EVEN BETTER!

For more information, go to suncoastcreditunion.com.