

**Sports Shorts: An Anthology of Short Stories** by Joseph Bruchac

A collection of eight semi-autobiographical stories about the authors' experiences with sports while growing up.

**Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time** by Lisa Lee  
Stanford Wong, star basketball player, must deal with the consequences of failing 6th grade English.

**String Music** by Rick Telander  
An unlikely friendship develops between a lonely eleven-year-old boy and the professional basketball star that he idolizes.



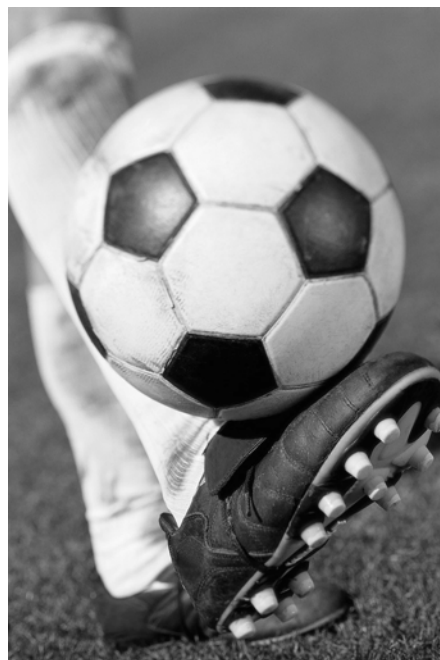
Printed and distributed by the Nassau Library System

Developed by the Children's Booklist Committee: Barbara Buckley, Oceanside Public Library; Genie Craner, Bryant Library; Faye Lieberman, Franklin Square Public Library; Joni Simon, Port Washington Public Library.

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# Sports Fiction



## For Children Preschool - 6th Grade

### PRESCHOOL

**The Best Figure Skater in the Whole Wide World** by Linda Bailey  
Lizzie discovers that skating on ice is a lot harder than she thought.

**Big Daddy Frog Wrestler** by Maribeth Boelts  
Curtis, a young frog, encourages Big Daddy to return to his wrestling career.

**Soccer Beat** by Sandra Gilbert Brug  
A rhyming text and illustrations describe the action at an animal soccer game.

**Field Day Friday** by Judith Caseley  
Mickey is upset when he loses a race to his best friend Longjohn.

**Eight Animals Play Ball**  
by Susan Middleton Elya  
When eight animals head to the park, each wants to play something different. *Includes some Spanish words.*

**Luke Goes to Bat** by Rachel Isadora  
Luke is not very good at baseball, but his grandmother and Jackie Robinson encourage him to keep trying.

**Tacky and the Winter Games**  
by Helen Lester  
Let the games and antics begin as Tacky and his fellow penguins train and compete as Team Nice Icy Land in the competitions.

**Rhinos Who Play Soccer** by Julie Mammano  
Team Rhino hooks up with the All Stars for a friendly game of footie.

**Karate Hour** by Carol Nevius  
An hour of karate class is portrayed in rhyme. *The origin of karate and the meaning of the colored belts is included.*

*\*Indicates the title is part of a series*

**Mount Olympus Basketball**  
by Kevin O'Malley  
The mightiest of Mortals take on the greatest of Gods in a basketball showdown.

**Dunk Skunk** by Michael Rex  
Sport actions rhyme with the names of animals who love to play - such as Goal Mole and Hurdle Turtle.

**Katie Catz Makes a Splash**  
by Anne F. Rockwell  
Fraidy Katie learns to swim just in time to make a big splash at the Parker twins' birthday pool party.



**Let's Play Basketball** by Charles R. Smith, Jr.  
A basketball asks to be taken outside to play.

### Grades 1 & 2

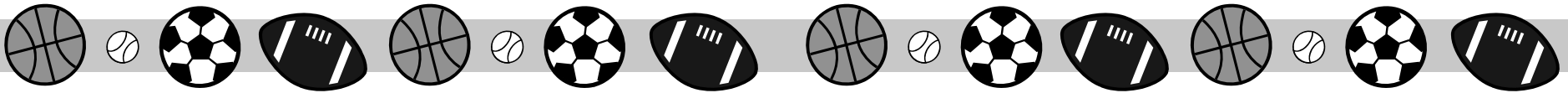
**Players in Pigtails** by Shana Corey  
Katie helps start the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League during WWII.

**Cori Plays Football** by Christine Florie  
Cori scores a touchdown when she tries out for the football team.

**The Big Game** by Louise Gikow  
José cannot kick the soccer ball, but there is something else he can do.

**Field Day** by Melanie Davis Jones  
Children have a terrific time participating in the activities of their school's field day.

**Game Day (Rookie Reader)** by Carl Meister  
Simple two word sentences and illustrations describe a baseball game.



**Bats In My Attic**

by Kleinhenz Meltzer

When a group of friends go to the attic to get baseball bats, they discover two kinds of bats!

**\*Gus & Grandpa Go Fishing**

by Claudia Mills

Gus goes fishing for the first time and receives expert guidance from his grandpa.

**Babe Ruth Saves Baseball** (Step Into Reading—Step 3) by Frank Murphy

One of the best things about Babe Ruth is how he saved baseball.

**Dad, Jackie and Me** by Myron Uhlberg

In 1947, a boy and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodgers' first baseman, Jackie Robinson.

**Mudball** by Matt Tavares

During a rainy baseball game in 1903, little Andy Oyler has the chance to become a hero by hitting the shortest and muddiest home run in history.

**Sports Stories You'll Have a Ball With**

Compiled by Leonard Kessler

A selection of short stories by such authors as Leonard Kessler, Barbara Ann Porte and many others.

**Grades 3 & 4**

**Snowboard Champ** by Matt Christopher

Matt isn't sure if he will like living with his uncle, but as long as he can snowboard, it will be okay.



**My Grandma, Major League Slugger**

by Dan Greenburg

Magic helps Zack's grandmother play for the Chicago White Sox.

**\*Million Dollar Strike** by Dan Gutman

Ouchie and Squishy try to save the Bowl-A-Rama.

**I Smell Like Ham** by Betty Hicks

Nick has to work hard to stay on the basketball team.

**Out Standing in My Field**

by Patrick Jennings

Even though Ty is named after a baseball great, he is the worst player on his team.

**Molly Gets Mad** by Suzy Kline

Molly learns about sportsmanship when she joins the hockey team.

**Morgy Coast To Coast**

by Maggy Lewis

When Morgy moves to Massachusetts, he discovers hockey.

**Willy the Scrub**

by James McEwan

Willy wants to find a sport at which he plays really well.

**Moon Runner**

by Carolyn Marsden

When Mina discovers that she can run faster than her athlete friend, Ruth, she thinks she must choose between running and friendship.

*\*Indicates the title is part of a series*

**Joe Louis My Champion**

by William Miller

A young boy decides that if he is as persistent as the boxer Joe Louis, he can do anything.

**Real Slam Dunk**

by Charisse

Richardson

When Marcus meets a basketball star, he finds that there is more to life than the sport.



**Surfer Dog** by

Elizabeth Spurr

When Pete moves to a new town, nobody wants to surf with him.

**Fast Company** by Rich Wallace

Manny Ramos hopes he can compete as well in track as he did in football.

**Grades 5 & 6**

**Airball: My Life in Briefs**

by Lisa Harkrader

Coach has a plan for Kirby and the supremely untalented 7th-grade team. It involves the guys playing nearly naked, wearing only in their briefs.

**Chief Sunrise, John McGraw and Me**

By Timothy Tocher

In 1919, fifteen-year-old Hank runs away from an abusive father and goes looking for a chance to become a baseball player.

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**Girls Got Game: Sports Stories and Poems** edited by Sue Macy

A collection of short stories and poems written by and about young women in sports.

**Haunting at Home Plate**

by David Patneau

Is a ghost writing the mysterious messages in the dirt of the team's baseball field?

**Heartbeat** by Sharon Creech

Twelve-year-old Annie loves running and finds that it helps her understand the many changes and rhythms in her life.

**Hoop Girlz** by Lucy Jane Bledsoe

An eleven-year-old girl who loves to play basketball creates her own team when she is not chosen to be on the town's A-list squad.

**MadCat** by Kathy Mackel

Competing at a national level strains the relationship between softball catcher Madcat and her best friend Jess.

**\*Satch & Me** by Dan

Gutman

Traveling back in time through the magic of baseball cards, Joe finds out if Satchel Paige really was the fastest pitcher ever.

