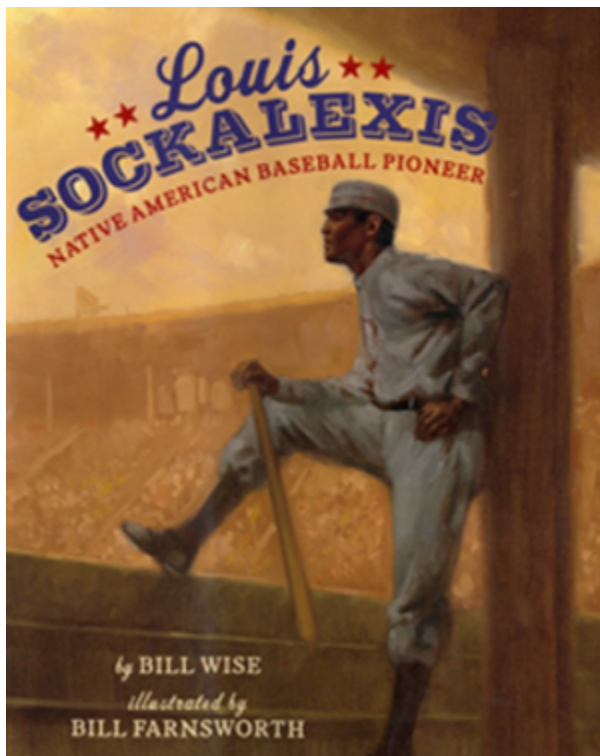




A bilingual site for educators and families of English language learners

Baseball: Diverse Books for Kids

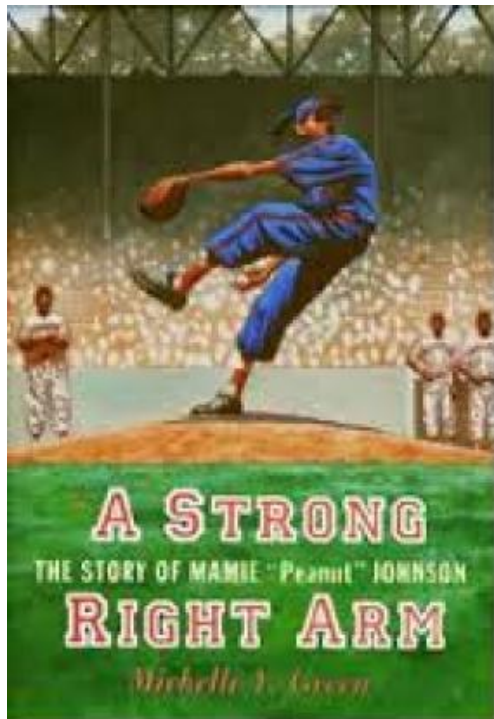


Baseball is an all-American game, and yet it wasn't always easy for people from diverse backgrounds to play the beloved sport professionally. These books, some of which are bilingual, celebrate some of baseball's unforgettable historic and modern pioneers, as well as the ways in which the game brought people together during tough times.

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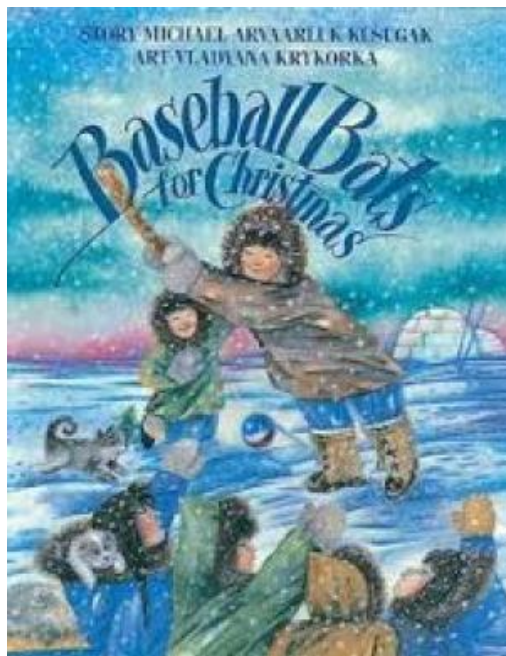


A Strong Right Arm: The Story of Mamie "Peanut" Johnson

By: **Michelle Green**

Age Level: 9-12

In the 1950's, current Marylander Mamie Johnson became one of only a handful of women to play professional baseball when she signed for the Indianapolis Clowns of the Negro Leagues. Sports fans and those who like stories about strong young women will find this equally appealing.



Baseball Bats for Christmas

By: **Michael Kusugak**

Illustrated by: **Vladyana Krykorka**

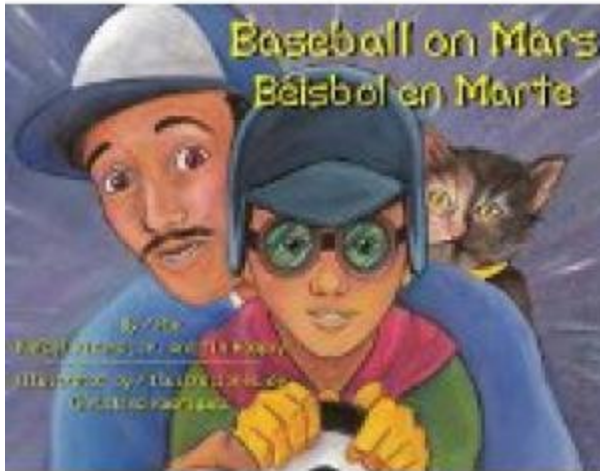
Age Level: 6-9

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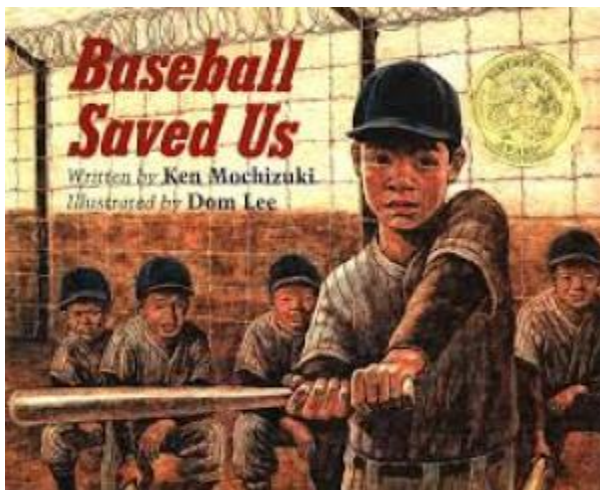
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In this photo essay, Henry Horenstein introduces us to Hubaldo, a boy in Caracas who lives and breathes baseball. We get to see the sport and the country of Venezuela through his eyes, from his league team to attending games with his father to collecting baseball cards to all of the different ways and places people play baseball throughout the country. Young baseball fans will recognize the same love for the game they share in Hubaldo!



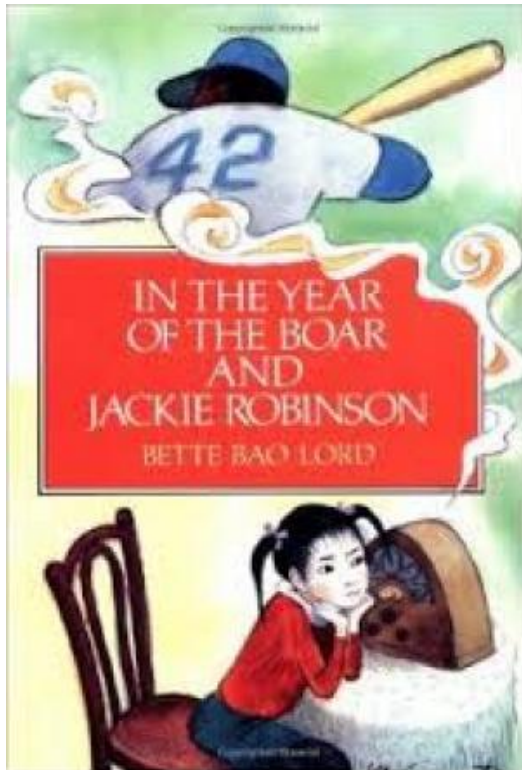
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What do you get when put together an old barrel, a few boards, a steering wheel, and a lucky chair? A rocket to Mars, of course! Join a young boy and his father as they take an exciting journey to the stars and get ready to play the first game of baseball in outer space. Bilingual text.



Baseball Saved Us

During World War II, Japanese Americans were placed in internment camps. Isolated and bored, baseball became a life and soul-saving pastime which successfully brought very different people together. Darkly hued illustrations evoke the difficulty of the time, based on the author's family story. Spanish version available.



In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson

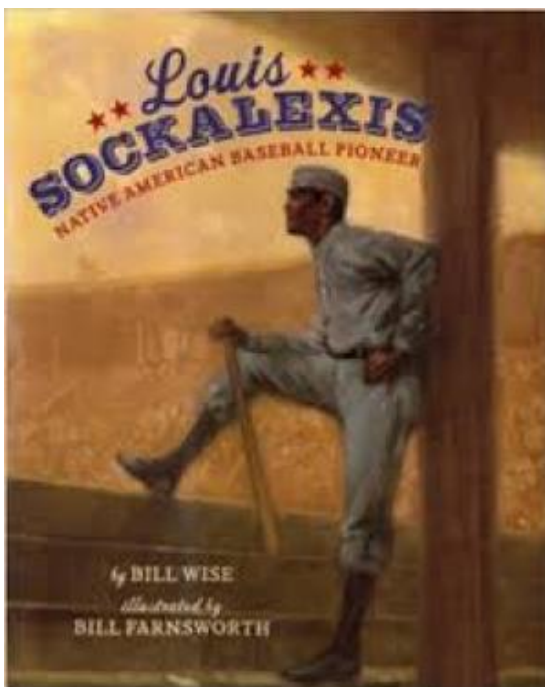
By: **Bette Bao Lord**

Illustrated by: **Marc Simont**

Age Level: 9-12

Language: English

Meet Shirley Temple Wong, a delightful heroine who has come from China and arrived in Brooklyn in 1947 — the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson. Based on the author's own experiences, the story captures the highs and lows of coming to live in a new country, learning English, and falling in love with the Brooklyn Dodgers during moments that are both heartbreaking and hilarious. A must-read for teachers working with ELLs and newcomer students.



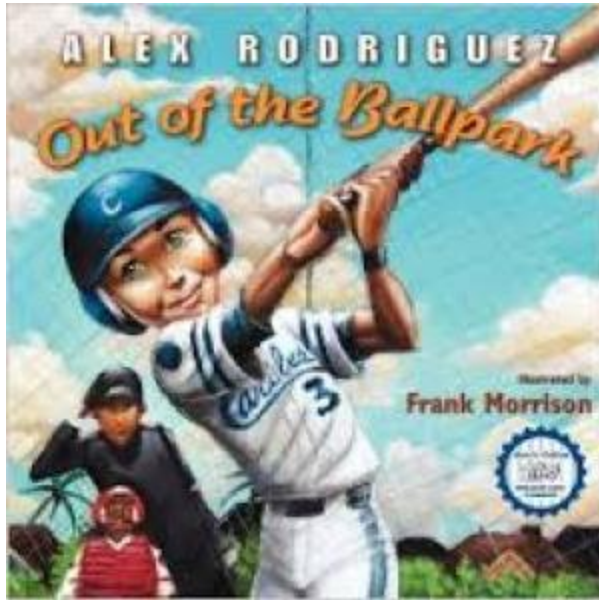
Louis Sockalexis: Native American Baseball Pioneer

By: **Bill Wise**

Illustrated by: **Bill Farnsworth**

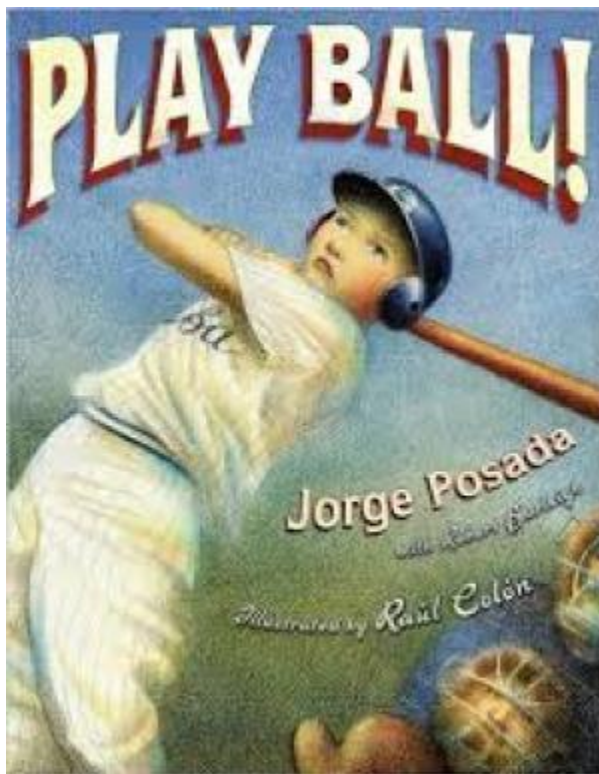
Age Level: 6-9

On a Maine summer day in 1884, twelve-year-old Penobscot Indian Louis Sockalexis first fell in love with baseball. As he grew up, Louis honed his skills and dreamed of one day joining a major league team. Louis encountered opposition at every turn, from the jeers of teammates and the taunts of spectators to the disapproval of his father. With determination, courage, and quiet dignity, Louis Sockalexis smashed racial barriers and home runs, leaving an indelible mark on America's favorite sport.



Out of the Ballpark

This story, written by baseball superstar Alex Rodriguez, is inspired by his childhood passion for baseball — which included getting up at 5 a.m. to practice! Find out how Alex decides to fix his mistakes on the field as a big championship game approaches. Warm, vivid pastel illustrations bring Alex, his home baseball diamond, and the tropical background to life. Spanish version available.



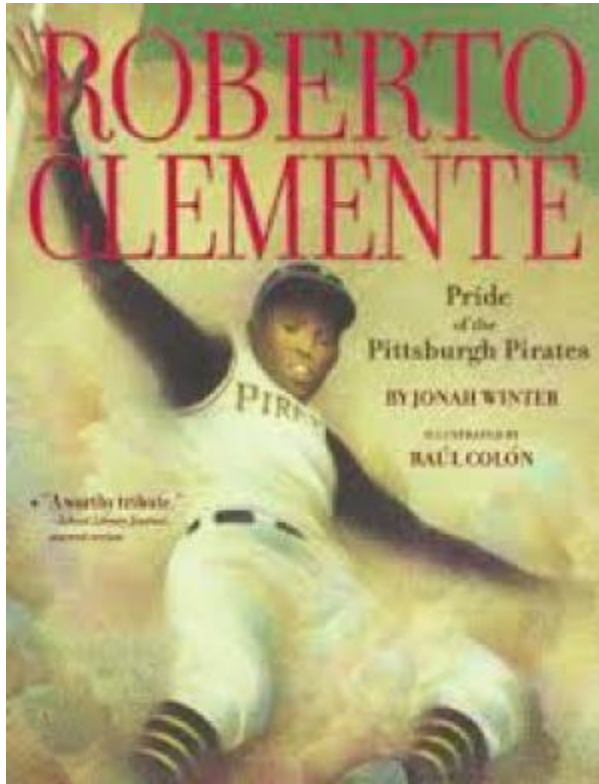
Play Ball!

By: **Jorge Posada** **Robert Burleigh**

Illustrated by: **Raúl Colón**

Age Level: 6-9

Product Description: Jorge loved the feel of the ball in his glove, the bat in his hand, and the game of baseball. Day and night he would play with his sister, his father, and his friends. At night he dreamed of baseball. When he and his mother visit New York and he sees Yankee Stadium for the first time, he knows there is only one way to get there: work hard and play ball. Based on the childhood of New York Yankees catcher Jorge Posada, this is the story of a boy from Puerto Rico who grew up to be a champion.



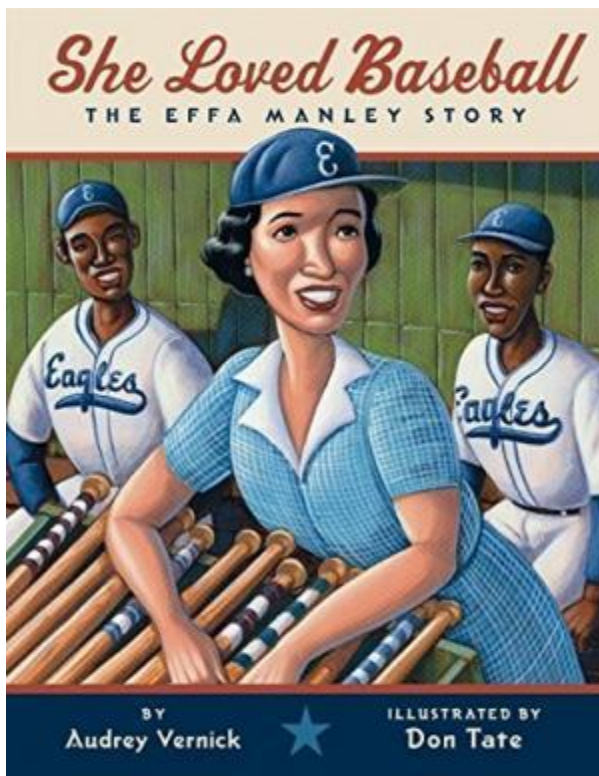
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By: [Jonah Winter](#)

Illustrated by: [Raúl Colón](#)

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This moving tribute is the perfect introduction to Roberto Clemente. Readers will learn of his humble beginnings, the challenges he faced in a new country, and his unprecedented accomplishments as one of the greatest baseball players in history. Even more importantly, readers will come to understand the way that Clemente's generosity shaped so much of his life — and his untimely death. Raúl Colón's impressionistic yet evocative illustrations enhance the emotional impact of the text.



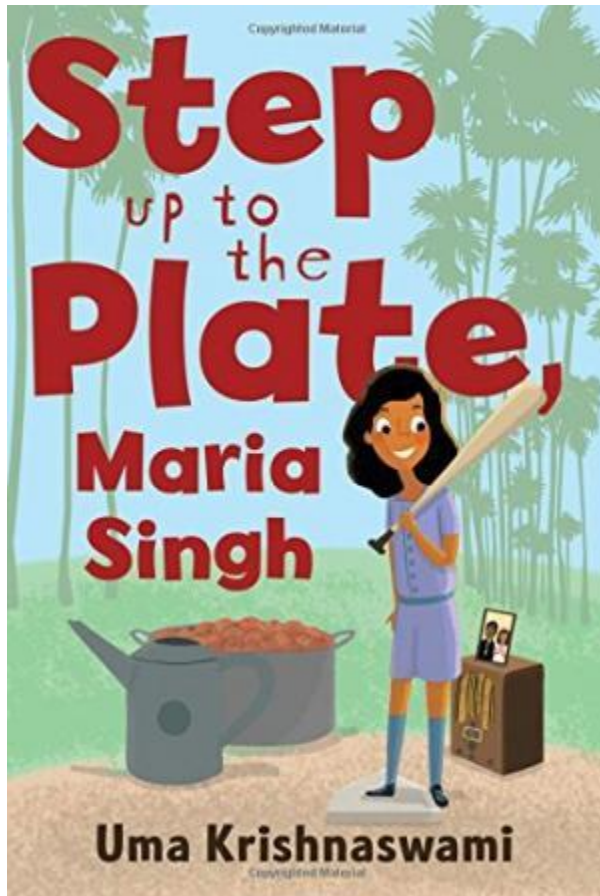
She Loved Baseball: The Effa Manley Story

By: [Audrey Vernick](#)

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Effa Manley, born when jazz was new and sports were segregated, was passionate about fairness and baseball. She was to become the first woman inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame along with players from the Negro Baseball League. Her life is presented in stylized illustration and clear text, for an intriguing portrait of a person and a time.



Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh

By: [Uma Krishnaswami](#)

Age Level: 9-12

Language: English

Nine-year-old Maria Singh longs to play softball in the first-ever girls' team forming in Yuba City, California. It's the spring of 1945, and World War II is dragging on. Miss Newman, Maria's teacher, is inspired by Babe Ruth and the All-American Girls' League to start a girls' softball team at their school. Meanwhile, Maria's parents - Papi from India and Mama from Mexico - can no longer protect their children from prejudice and from the discriminatory laws of the land.



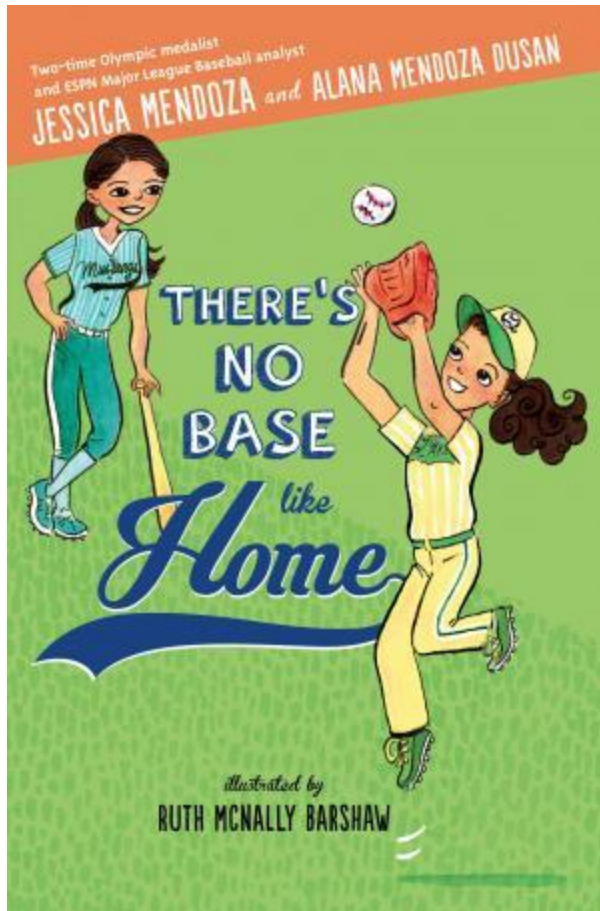
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Age Level: 6-9

Language: English

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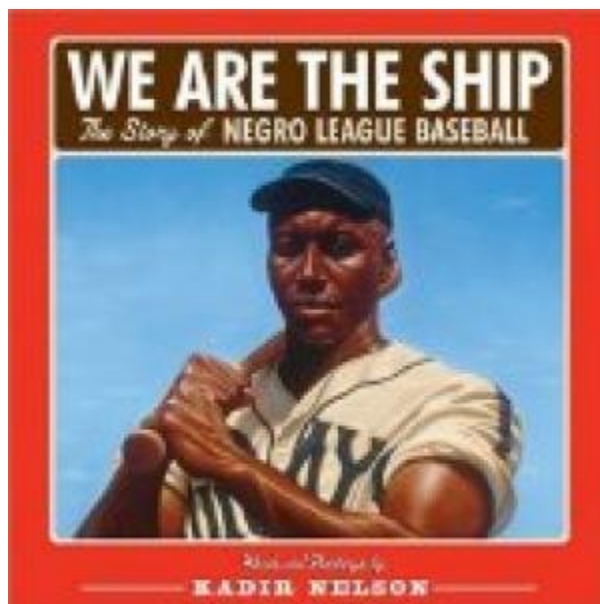
There's No Base Like Home

By: **Jessica Mendoza**

Illustrated by: **Ruth McNally Barshaw**

Age Level: 9-12

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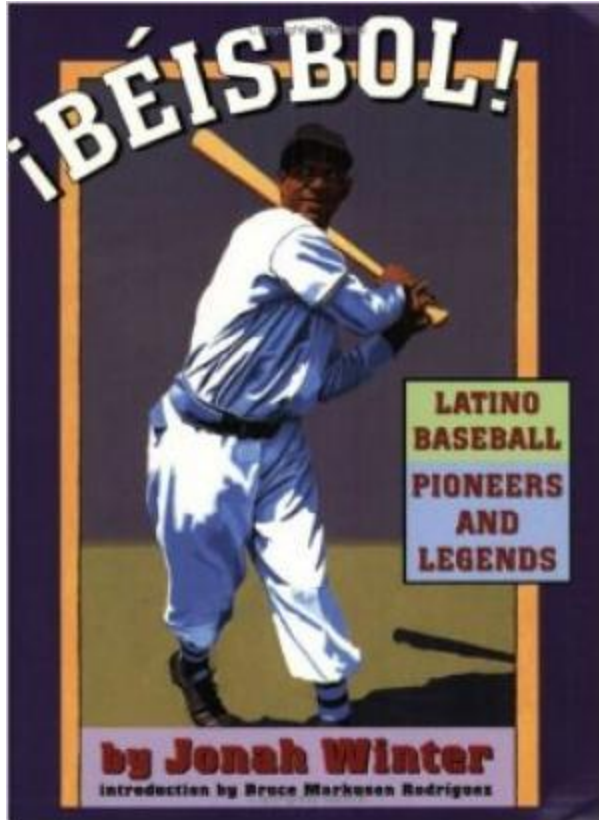


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Colorín Colorado is a national multimedia project that offers a wealth of bilingual, research-based information, activities, and advice for educators and families of English language learners (ELLs). Colorín Colorado is an educational service of WETA, the flagship public broadcasting station in the nation's capital, and receives major funding from the American Federation of Teachers and National Education Association. © Copyright 2019 WETA Public Broadcasting.

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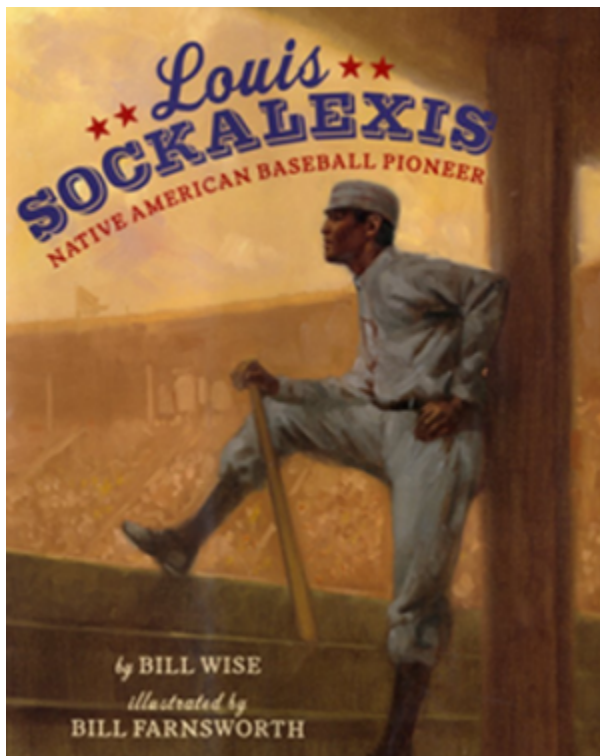
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[Baseball: Diverse Books for Kids](#)

[En español](#)

Baseball: Diverse Books for Kids

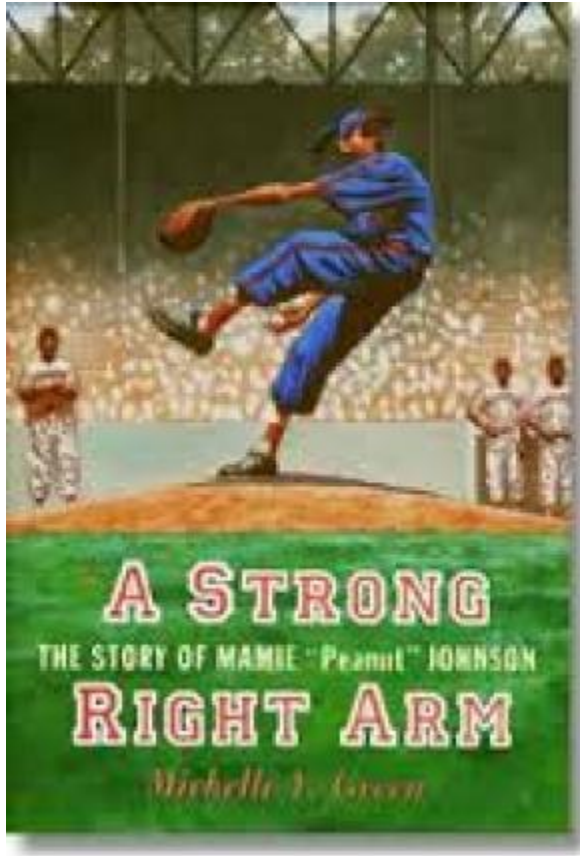


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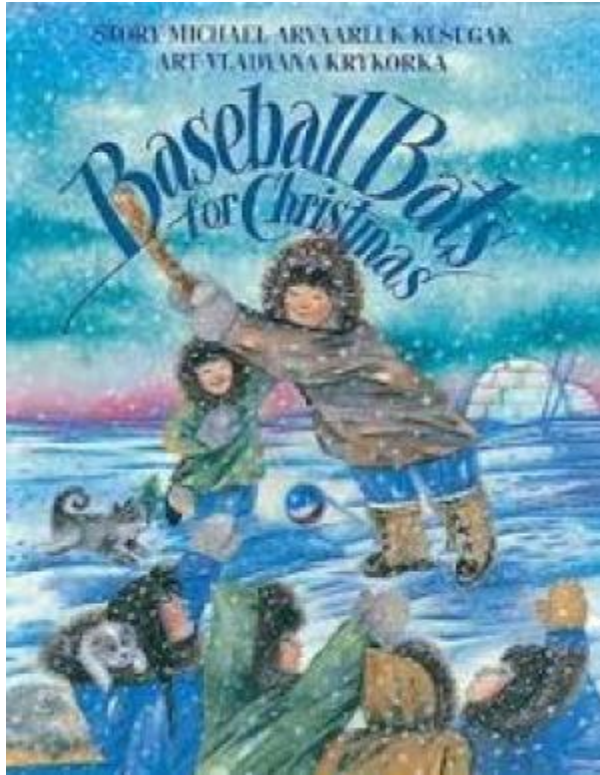


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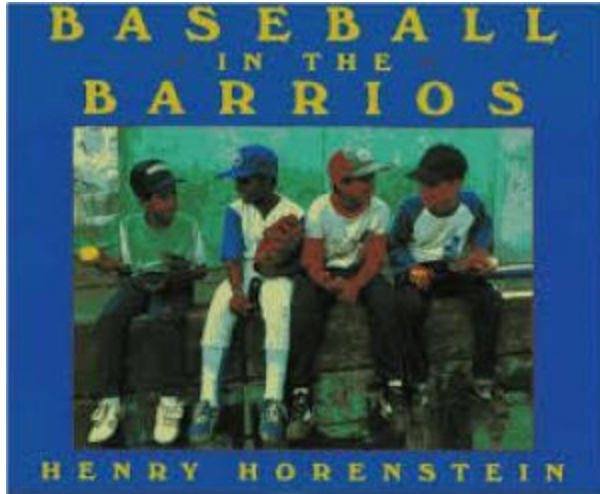
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Age Level: 6-9

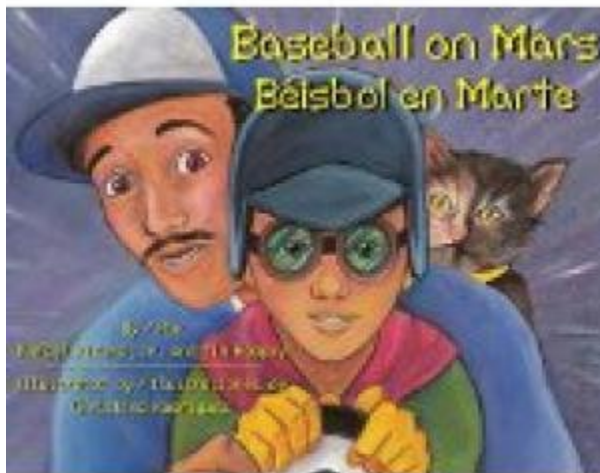
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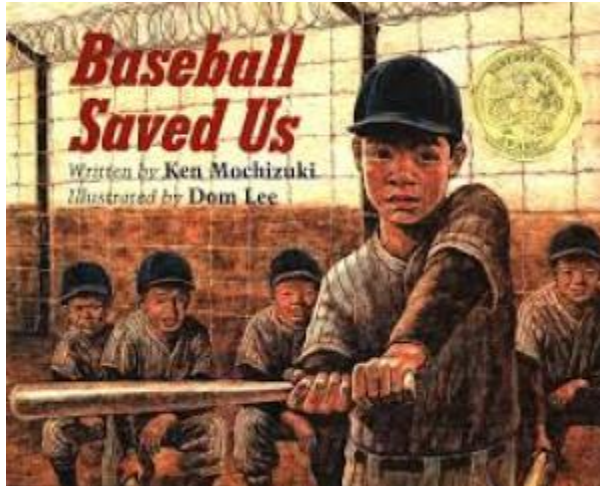
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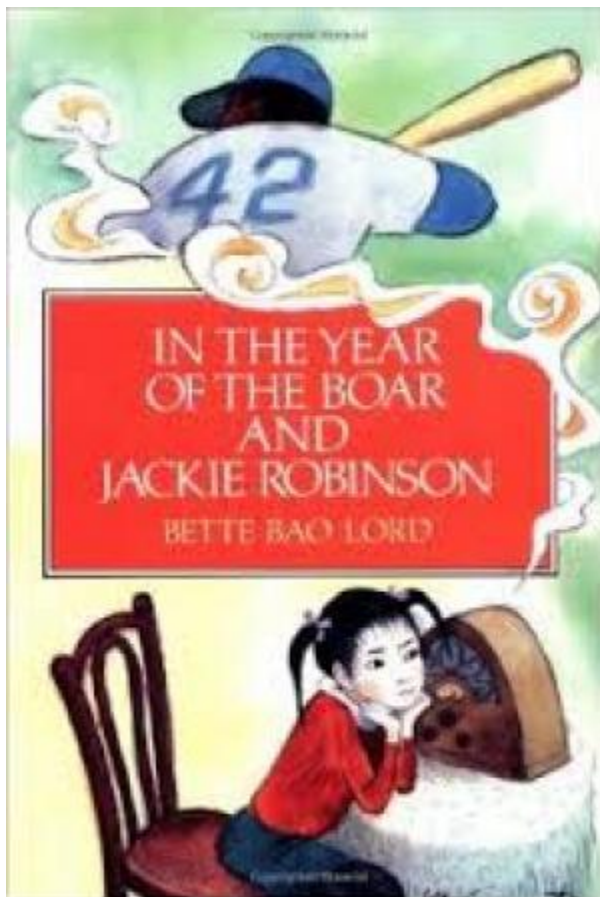
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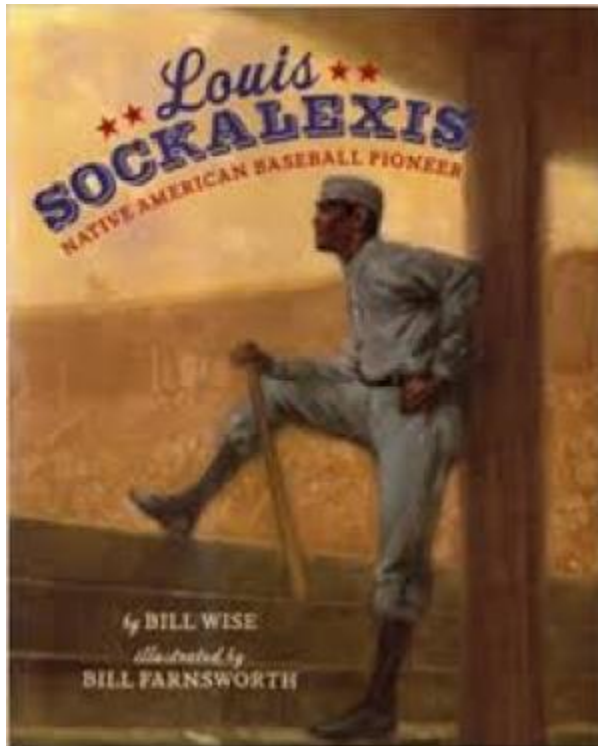
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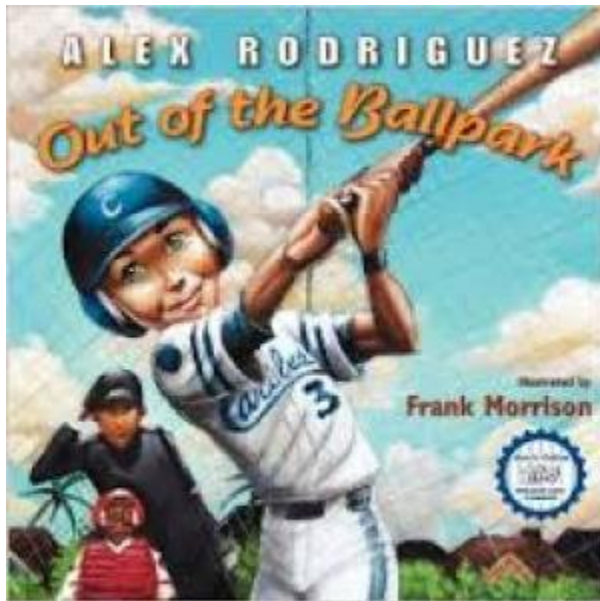
By: **Bill Wise**

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Age Level: 6-9

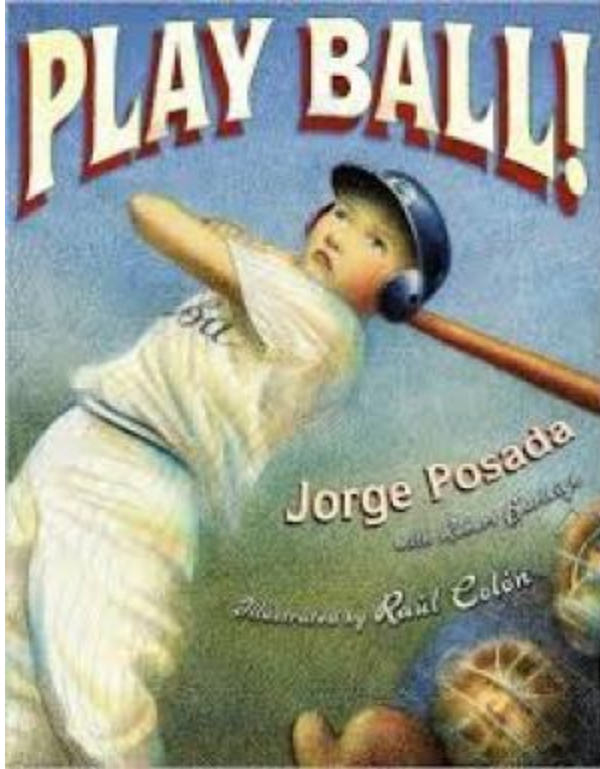
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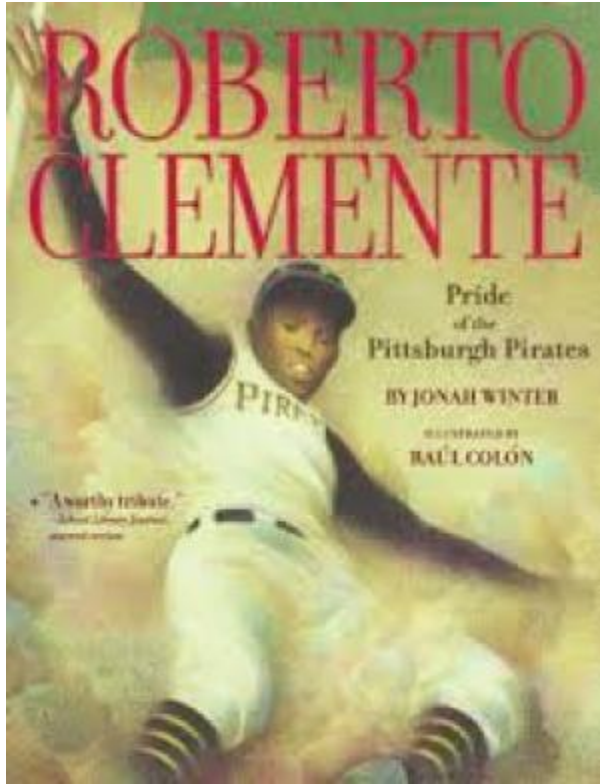
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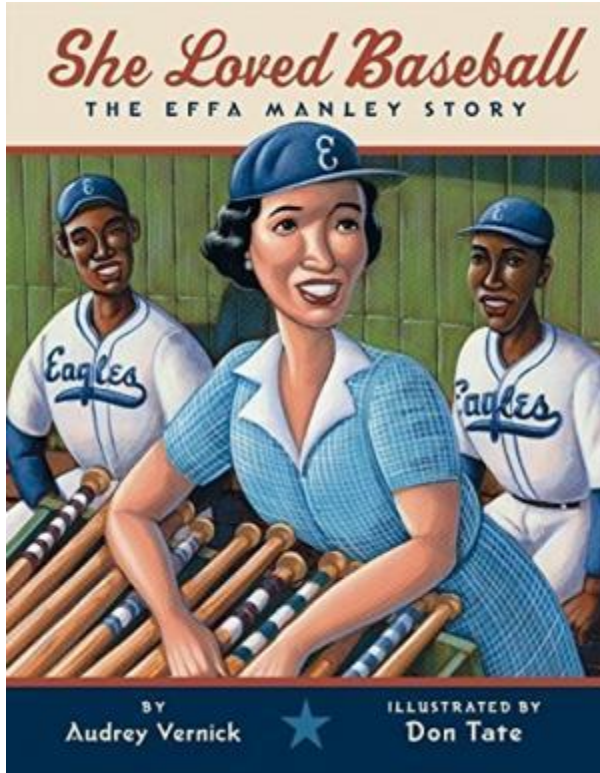
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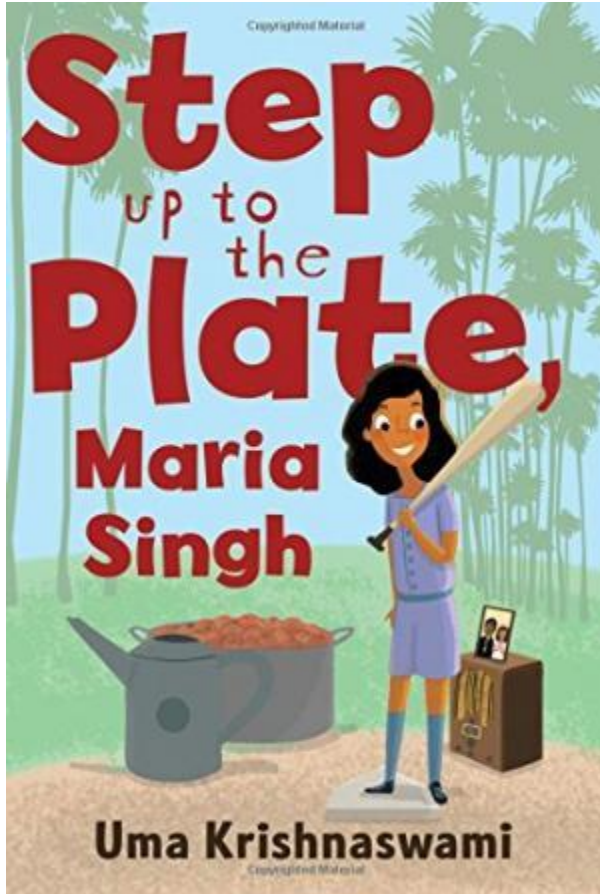
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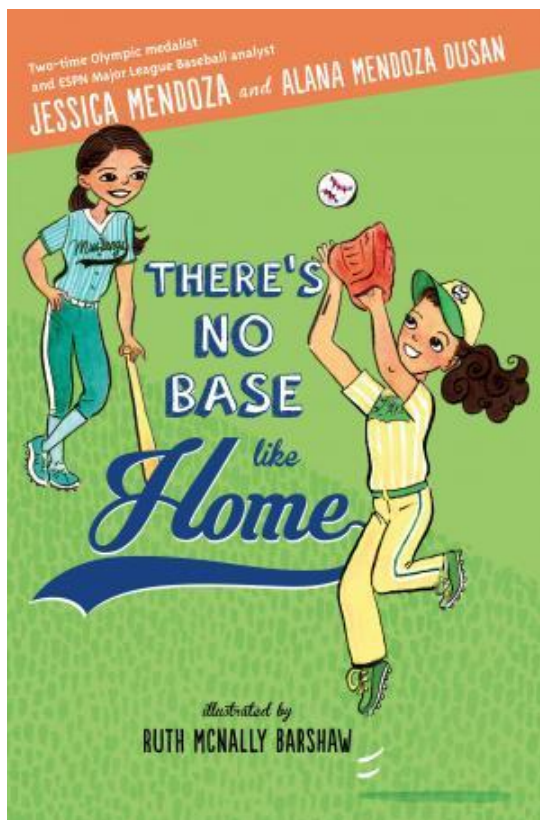


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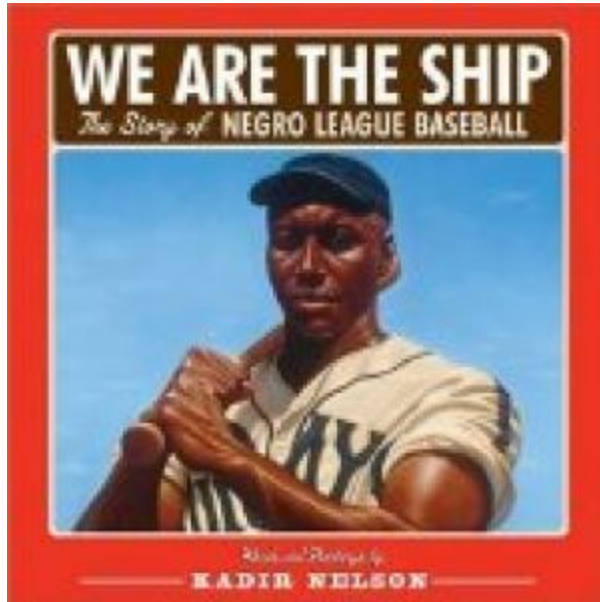
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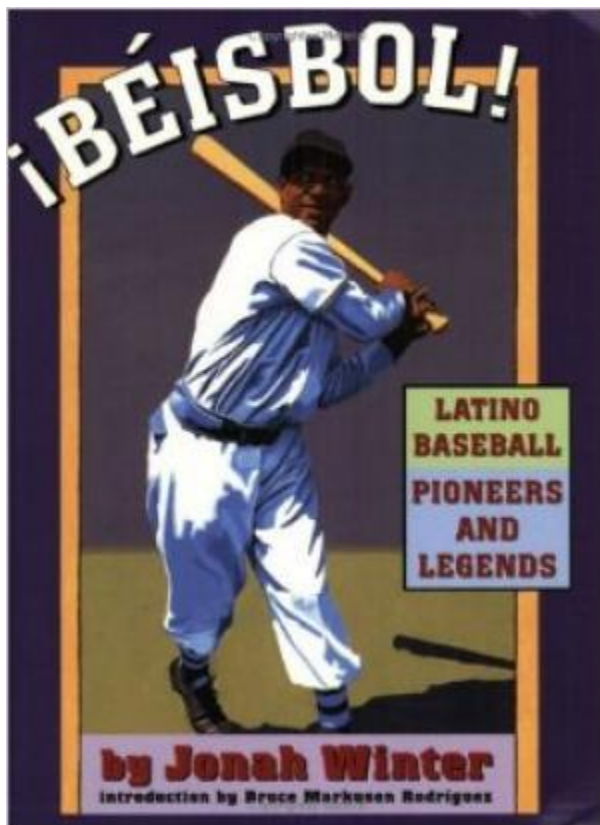


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