



Lesson 5 - Post-Visit Honoring Women Who Played

Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Reflect on the information gained from their learning experience with the Baseball Hall of Fame.
- Compare and contrast the experiences of female baseball players and all-women's baseball teams during different eras of American history.
- Design and create ways to honor the contributions of female baseball players.

Time Required: One class period

Advance Preparation:

- Cut out the photos Women in Baseball photo page (included).

Materials Needed:

- Photos from the Women in Baseball photo page
- Pencils
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Paint
- Drawing paper
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Modeling clay
- Stencils

Vocabulary:

Extraordinary - Going beyond what is usual, regular, or customary

Opportunity - A chance for progress or advancement

Recognition - Special notice or attention

Resistance - The opposition offered by one thing (or person) to another



Applicable Common Core State Standards:

W.6.1., W.7.1., W.8.1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

W.6.4., W.7.4., W.8.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

W.6.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.

W.7.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and link to and cite sources as well as to interact and collaborate with others, including linking to and citing sources.

W.8.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

SL.6.1., SL.7.1., SL.8.1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade-appropriate topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.



Lesson & Activity

1. Start the lesson by asking students to name some of the female baseball players or female baseball teams they learned about during their experience with the Baseball Hall of Fame. Use photos from the Women in Baseball photo page to help prompt student responses. Write down students' suggestions on the board or on a piece of chart paper.
2. Discuss that today's girls have the **opportunity** to play almost any sport they choose, including baseball. Throughout American history, this has not always been true. Many girls and women had to fight for their right to play different sports. Those girls and women helped pave the way for girls of today to play ball.
3. Review the list of players created in step 1. Briefly discuss the experiences of each player or team listed. Use the following questions to help prompt the discussion:
 - During what time period did this player/team play?
 - At what level did the player/team play?
 - Semi-Professional? Professional? Just for fun?
 - Was she the only female player on her team?
 - Did the player/team experience any **resistance** from people who did not want girls to play baseball?
 - Did the player/team contribute to the ability of other girls to play baseball?
 - If so, how?
4. After reviewing the list, ask students to point out which, if any, of the players/teams deserve special **recognition** for their role in baseball history.
5. Explain that ballparks from the major leagues to high school fields often have statues, plaques, or retired numbers to honor players that made outstanding contributions to the team and to baseball. Share some of the following examples:
 - PNC Park in Pittsburgh has a statue honoring Roberto Clemente.
 - Citi Field in New York has a sculpture of Jackie Robinson's number 42.
 - AT&T Park in San Francisco has plaques honoring Orlando Cepeda and Juan Marichal.



6. Tell students that they will now have the opportunity to design special honors for the girls and women who have made **extraordinary** contributions to the game of baseball.
7. Divide students into groups of three or four. Allow each group to choose from the list the player or team that they would like to honor. Try to have each group select someone different.
8. Give students about five minutes to brainstorm what type of honor they would like to design. Students are not required to make a statue or plaque! They should be encouraged to be creative with their honors.
9. Once groups have decided on their designs, provide each group with the appropriate art materials necessary to create their honors. Allow students to work on their honors for the remainder of the class period.

Conclusion:

To conclude this lesson, have each group share their designs with the class. Display the finished honors on a bulletin board or inside your classroom if they are three-dimensional.

To check for understanding, ask students to write letters to an imaginary stadium owner explaining why he or she should consider putting up a special honor for women in baseball history. Students' letters should explain why the honor is important, and could also persuade the owner to choose the honor they designed. If possible, have students type the final drafts of their letters.

Optional:

The Education Department at the Baseball Hall of Fame loves student work! If you would like to send some of your students' honors for female ballplayers to be considered for display in our Learning Center, please contact us via e-mail at education@baseballhalloffame.org.



Women's History: Dirt on Their Skirts – Level 2

Women in Baseball



Grand Rapids Chicks - All-American Girls Professional Baseball League



Ila Borders



New York Bloomer Girls



Vassar College Resolutes



Alta Weiss



Toni Stone



Colorado Silver Bullets



Jackie Mitchell with Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig