

BASEBALL GUYS™

INSTRUCTIONS AND PLAYBOOK

STRIKES & BALLS

A "strike" happens when the batter either tries to hit a pitch but misses, hits the pitch into foul territory or chooses not to swing at a pitch in the "strike zone." 3 strikes and the batter is "out." This is a "strike out" and it means his turn batting is over. A ball happens when the pitch is thrown out of the "strike zone" and the batter does not swing at it. 4 balls and the batter "walks." This means he is allowed to go first base without having to hit the ball.

OUTS:

The batting team is allowed three outs every inning. There are many ways a player can be called out in addition to a strike out. The batter is "out" when a fielder catches a hit ball (fair OR foul) before it reaches the ground. A very high hit is a "fly ball." A batter is also out if a fielder tags him or throws the ball to first base before he gets there. If the batter reaches base safely, however, he becomes a "base runner."

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RULES:

Baseball Guys™ doesn't come with a set of rules. Play as you wish and make the rules as you go. If you need help creating a game, visit our website at www.KasKeyKids.com for some suggestions or to share your ideas of how to play.

A VERY SIMPLIFIED EXPLANATION OF HOW TO PLAY REAL BASEBALL:

Known as "America's game," baseball is enjoyed by Kids all over the world. Here are a few basic guidelines that can help get you started.

A baseball field has an infield (diamond) with 3 bases (1st 2nd, 3rd) & home plate at each of the corners. Beyond the infield is the outfield and on the far edge of the outfield is the home run fence. A batters box surrounds home plate and a pitchers mound is in the middle of the diamond - 60 feet from home plate.

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Once the next batter hits the ball, the base runner must safely advance to the next base because his teammate is heading to the base that he is on (only one player can occupy a base at one time.) The base runner is out if he is tagged by a fielder with the ball while he is heading to the next base or if the fielder tags the base before he gets there. Once a base runner or batter is out, he heads to the bench. All 9 batters in the lineup have their turn at bat, in order.

THE UMPIRE (UMP):

There are usually 4 umps to call the game - one at each base and one behind home plate. All balls and strikes are called by the home plate umpire.

HITTING & SCORING:

If the batter hits the ball in play and reaches 1st without being thrown out, it is a single or base hit. If he hits the ball and reaches second base without being tagged out its a double and if he reaches 3rd

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A baseball game involves 2 teams. One team is "batting" and the other is "in the field", and each team has 9 players at one time. The team in the "field" has a "pitcher" throw the ball to the batter who, in turn, tries to hit it. The batting team tries to score runs by hitting the ball and running around all the bases from home plate to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and home again. The team in the field tries to stop them from scoring. This happens all game long.

INNINGS:

Unlike most sports, baseball has no clock. The length of a game is measured in "innings." In a single inning each team has one chance to be the batting team and score runs. Once their turn is over, the next team bats. At least 9 innings must be played. If one team is wining at the end of 9 innings the game is over. If the score is tied after the 9th inning, "extra innings" are played until one team is winning at the end of an inning.

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its a triple. The batter can hit it deep over the fence for a home run. Anytime a base runner crosses the plate safely his team scores 1 run.

BASE STEALING:

A base runner can try to "steal" a base anytime. It happens when he reaches a base safely without the batter hitting the ball. Usually, a base runner will steal a base while the pitcher is pitching to the batter. The catcher will then try to throw him out.

BUNTING, TAGGING UP, & THE SAC FLY:

A batter "bunts" the ball by sticking his bat out and tapping the ball instead of swinging at it. Sometimes this allows for a teammate to run to the next base safely. When a fly ball is caught in the field a base runner can "tag up." This means he waits until the ball is caught, then he runs to the next base - the fielder will try to throw him out. Its like stealing but its called a "sacrifice fly."

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