



**ROBYN REPORTS:
THE NUTTY NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY**

By Stacy Tornio

Illustrations by Roel Wielinga

A Story From Hot Topics Hot Serials

Teacher's Guide

Chapter Eight: Take Me out to the Ball Game

Summary:

Robyn announces that Sarah is the winner of the seed-spitting contest because the seed that went the farthest had no teeth marks and Henry had chewed his seed. Then there is chaos at the baseball game when someone keeps disrupting the game by shouting things.

Getting Ready to Read/Predicting:

This chapter is about the baseball game. Baseball has been called the “National Pastime.” What do your students think that means?

Vocabulary Words or Phrases:

Have the students find each word in the chapter and define it in context. They should look up any unfamiliar word in a dictionary and use it in a sentence.

proclaim
champion
emergency

Bonus:

This chapter includes several compound words – watermelon, baseball, ponytail, outfield, anything. Introduce the concept of compound words (two words joined together to form a new word). Ask students to find and identify and compound words in this chapter.

Comprehension Check:

1. How did Robyn identify the winner of the seed-spitting contest?
She knew one seed had been chewed. She also knew Henry had chewed on his seed. Putting the two observations together, she concluded Sarah was the winner.
2. Why does Roxanne say that Robyn must come to the baseball field?
There’s an emergency at the baseball field.
3. What went wrong at the baseball game?
During the second inning, a practical joker started mocking the umpire.
4. Why does Robyn let J.P. be in charge of the baseball story?
Robyn’s mom says that a good reporter doesn’t always have to be in charge.

Newspaper Activity:

Robyn spotted the teeth marks on the seed when no one else did. That may be because she is a reporter and reporters must be very observant. What other attributes might a good reporter have? Find a news story in your newspaper that was written by a local reporter whom you think is a good writer. See if you can figure out what questions he or she might have asked in researching the story.

Writing Prompt:

Write a journal entry about a time you played a sport or watched a sport. Explain what it is about that sport that you enjoyed.

Daily Edit:

Here is a paragraph from this story that is not punctuated or punctuated incorrectly. There may also be spelling errors. Have your students copy it and correct it as needed. They can self-check by looking at the printed copy in the newspaper.

The crowd does not seem happy. The ump holds his hands up to quiat the audience. I'm sorry," he says "But this has been going on for three innings. We can't continue the game under these condisions.

Learning standards:

journal writing, identifying attributes, generating questions