



Thinksheet

Rising 3rd Grade

Little Rhino: Dugout Hero By Ryan Howard and Krystle Howard Classroom Activities

- **Classroom Collaboration: Timeline and Elements of the Story:**
 - **As a class:** Review and record the timeline of events that happened to Little Rhino in the story.
 - **Breakout groups:** Assign small teams of students (or number off) to collaborate to create a visual timeline of events, being sure to include information on the elements of the story: character(s), setting(s), problem, solution, and theme. Each team receives a piece of chart paper/ bulletin board paper/poster board on which they work together to record and illustrate the timeline, elements of the story, and their chosen team name.
 - **Group Presentations:** Groups display their posters around the classroom or in the hallway and participate in a gallery walk.
- **Story Elements Writing Prompt:**
 - **As a class:** Brainstorm all of the problems or challenges that happened in the text. Record on a class chart for display. Discuss the characters' responses and how the challenges were solved.
 - **Students reflect and write:** Have students write 3-5 sentences responding to the writing prompt, "What was one challenge in Little Rhino: Dugout Hero, and how did the character(s) respond to the challenge?"
 - *As needed, provide the answer prompts, "One challenge for the characters in Little Rhino: Dugout Hero was..." and "The character(s) _____ responded to that challenge by..."
- **Who are our community heroes?**
 - **As a class:** Brainstorm about those in the community who have been heroes. Discuss and prompt with questions such as, "Who are our community helpers? How do they serve others and help the community?"
 - Record on a class chart.
 - **Students reflect and write:** Have students write a thank you letter to a chosen hero for their kindness and service to the community. *As needed, provide students with a personal letter template or an exemplar letter.



These resources were prepared by GELF's Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.

Access more resources at BookersBookClub.org/Activities





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- **Research Project: Who is Your Sports Hero?** Have each student research their favorite athlete to learn and record important facts about the player's life: what team the player played for, position they played, number of years played, important achievements, adversity, etc.
 - **Individual Presentations:** Offer a variety of ways students may share their research project with the class: orally, in the form of a powerpoint slide or blog page, or written and illustrated for display in the classroom.
 - Be sure to have each student include information on why or how the special heroic athlete was chosen.
- **Meet the Authors:** Watch a Scholastic Book Clubs–exclusive interview video with Ryan Howard and Krystle Howard, the authors of *Little Rhino: My New Team*, to discover what inspired them to write the *Little Rhino* series, how their backgrounds shaped what they brought to the story, and what they hope readers learn from the books.
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_EJhOPAHfpA
- **Watch highlights of Ryan Howard in action as a professional baseball player:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yX-Q42hY28>
- **Watch and Learn: How Baseballs, Bats, and Gloves are Made:**
 - Baseballs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddWRAcbg7Fk>
 - Baseball bats: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDkGWl66a5s&t=8s>
 - Baseball gloves: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2875MaK264>



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