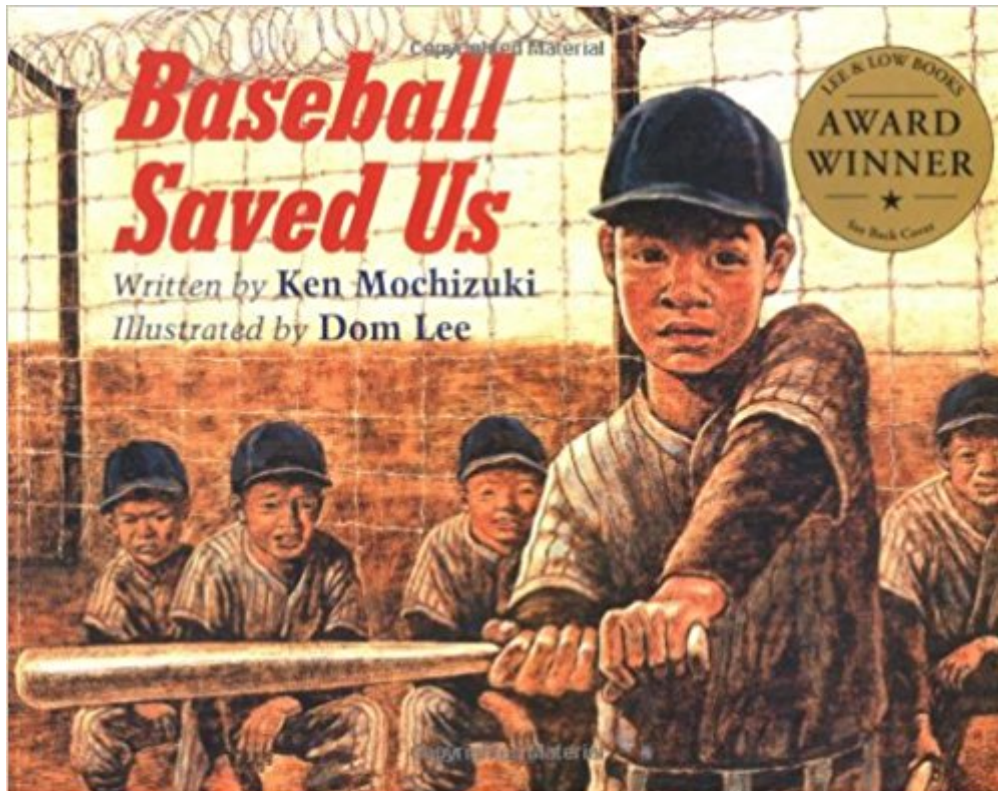




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Baseball Saved Us



Synopsis

Shorty and his family, along with thousands of Japanese Americans, are sent to an internment camp after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Fighting the heat and dust of the desert, Shorty and his father decide to build a baseball diamond and form a league in order to boost the spirits of the internees. Shorty quickly learns that he is playing not only to win, but to gain dignity and self-respect as well. *Baseball Saved Us* is the ultimate rite of passage story. It will appeal again and again to readers who enjoy cheering for the underdog.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD550L (What's this?)

Paperback: 30 pages

Publisher: Lee & Low Books; Reprint edition (March 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1880000199

ISBN-13: 978-1880000199

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.2 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 55 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #23,451 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Asian & Asian American Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Multiculturalism](#) #15 in [Asian & Asian American Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American](#) #32 in [Asian & Asian American Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

PW praised the "stylish prose" and "stirring illustrations" in this tale of a Japanese American boy's confinement in a WWII internment camp. Ages 4-up. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 2-4-- After briefly describing the way his family was removed from their home and sent to an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II, the narrator, "Shorty," tells how baseball was used as a diversion from the dire situation in which the camp's inhabitants found themselves. After improvising a baseball diamond, uniforms, and equipment, they played games. In

one of these contests, the usually weak-hitting Shorty catches a glimpse of one of the ever-present guards and channels his anger toward the man into his swing, resulting in a winning home run. After the war and his return home, he continues to play ball while at the same time being subjected to racial taunts, again refocusing his anger to produce positive results on the diamond. The sport plays a secondary role to the blatant racism depicted in this somber book. The paintings, scratchboard overlaid with oils, effectively reflect the tone of the story. Pair this powerful title with Hamanaka's *The Journey* (Orchard, 1990). --Tom S. Hurlburt, La Crosse Public Library, WI Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Beautifully written story about a sad chapter of American history. I was eager to read this book because in my early years of teaching I worked with a wonderful man who, as a child, was in one of these interment camps with his family. He was one of the best teachers I've ever known. He treated his students with the greatest of respect and many of those children would come back to visit him year after year. This story sounded so much like the ones he told of his time in the camps that I felt he could have written it. The illustrations are very well done and will show young children that it was definitely not summer camp.

My son really loved this book.

I teach 1-3 grade. Years ago I had read this book with third graders and just repurchased it for my classroom. I'll probably leave it in our class library but won't be using it as a read aloud for the 1st and 2 grades (due to content). This is a fantastic book.

As a literacy teacher, this book is a wonderful mentor text to show examples of struggles some races have had to endure. This is a great book that leads to insightful classroom discussions from my 5th graders.

Although my almost 7 year old can read this book alone, we enjoyed reading this book together as a family. It provoked a lot of discussion about tolerance, about people with different color skin, and about how even a country as great as ours has made and can mistakes. It led us to talk about Jackie Robinson, about slavery, about tolerance and diversity. We loved it.

son enjoyed the book

Very nice book, exactly what I wanted, perfect transaction! Fast delivery.

This was great to share with my students!

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