



LUCY TRIES BASEBALL

written by
**Lisa
Bowes**

illustrated by
**James
Hearne**



Lucy's ready to play ball!

LUCY IS PLAYING CATCH with her family at the park when she is invited to join her friends' baseball team. Their friendly coach teaches them the basics of defense and offense as they practice catching, fielding and hitting. Then they use these skills in a real game, where Lucy must overcome her fear of getting hit by the ball. With encouragement from Coach Al, Lucy steps up to the plate and gives her best swing. Playing a big part in the game's exciting finish, Lucy realizes what makes baseball such a fun sport to play with family and friends.

Lucy Tries Baseball is the sixth title in the Lucy Tries Sports series, following books about basketball, hockey, soccer, short track and luge. The series encourages children to get active and participate in sports and recreation.

Lisa Bowes is a sports journalist and media consultant who was nominated for a Gemini Award for Best Writing in an Information Program or Series.

James Hearne is an internationally recognized illustrator and graphic designer. He lives in Calgary.

For more information, contact Kennedy Cullen
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PICTURE BOOK

AGES 6-8

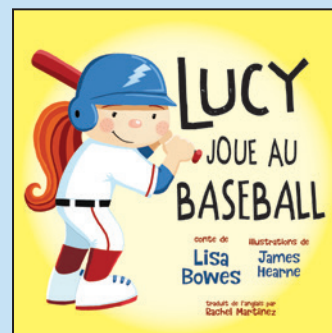
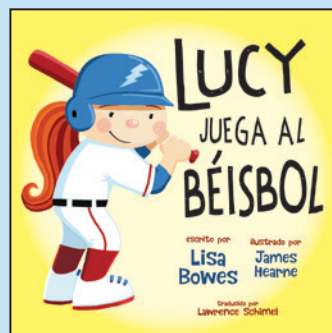
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Lucy Tries Baseball

Author: Lisa Bowes

Illustrator: James Hearne

April 11, 2023

In this picture book Lucy and her friends learn the basics of baseball, including catching, hitting and fielding, then try their new skills in a real game.

FORMAT

9 x 9"

32 pages

Paperback

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KEY SELLING POINTS

- Features a diverse group of friends who are learning to play baseball together with a focus on fun and sportsmanship.
- Includes a page of “fast facts” about baseball, perfect for budding fans.
- Depicts a female base coach and a teen umpire to celebrate and promote gender equity and youth participation in sports. Also dispels the misconception that girls can only play softball—baseball is for everyone!
- Part of the Lucy Tries Sports series, which promotes a growth mindset, physical literacy and active play as Lucy and her friends also try basketball, hockey, soccer, short track and luge.
- Author Lisa Bowes is a sports journalist and an avid advocate for getting young people involved in sports.
- Also available in French and Spanish.



PHOTO CREDIT: COLIN WAY

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

James Hearne is an internationally recognized illustrator and graphic designer. He lives in Calgary.

PRAISE FOR THE LUCY TRIES SPORTS SERIES

“The Lucy Tries Sports series is terrific for children! It inspires them to be physically active and reinforces so many aspects of their social skill development. A really positive assistance to parenting children.” —Dave King, CM, Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame and IIHF Hall of Fame inductee

“The peppy, supportive approach and general overview may pique interest and encourage learning about and playing the sport.”—*Booklist for Lucy Tries Basketball*

“Lucy continues to be a character with a zest for discovery and a love of being active.”
—*CM Reviews for Lucy Tries Hockey*

PROMOTIONAL PLANS INCLUDE

- Print and online advertising campaigns
- Promotion at national and regional school, library and trade conferences
- Extensive ARC distribution, including NetGalley
- Blog and social media promotion
- Outreach in Orca newsletters

BISACS

JUV032010 JUVENILE FICTION / Sports & Recreation / Baseball & Softball

JUV039090 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / New Experience

JUV057000 JUVENILE FICTION / Stories in Verse

RIGHTS

Worldwide

AGES

6–8

PUBLICITY

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It's a day at the park.
Let's be **active** today.



Playing catch is a game
our whole family can play!



“We’ll **toss** nice and close.
I’ll get down on one knee.



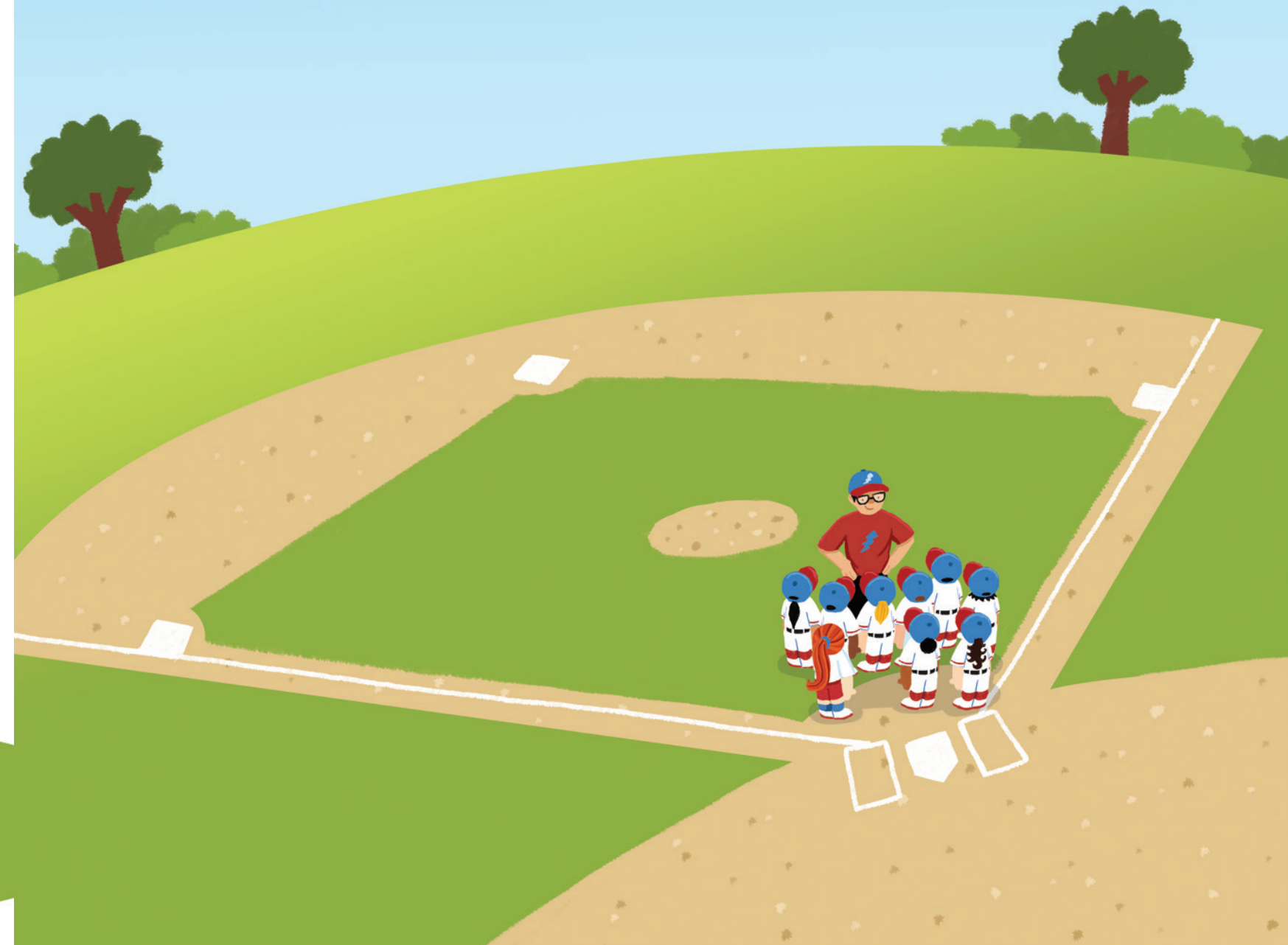
Squeeze your hand 'round the ball—
concentration is key.”



“Lucy, come join our **team!**
Coach Al is my name.



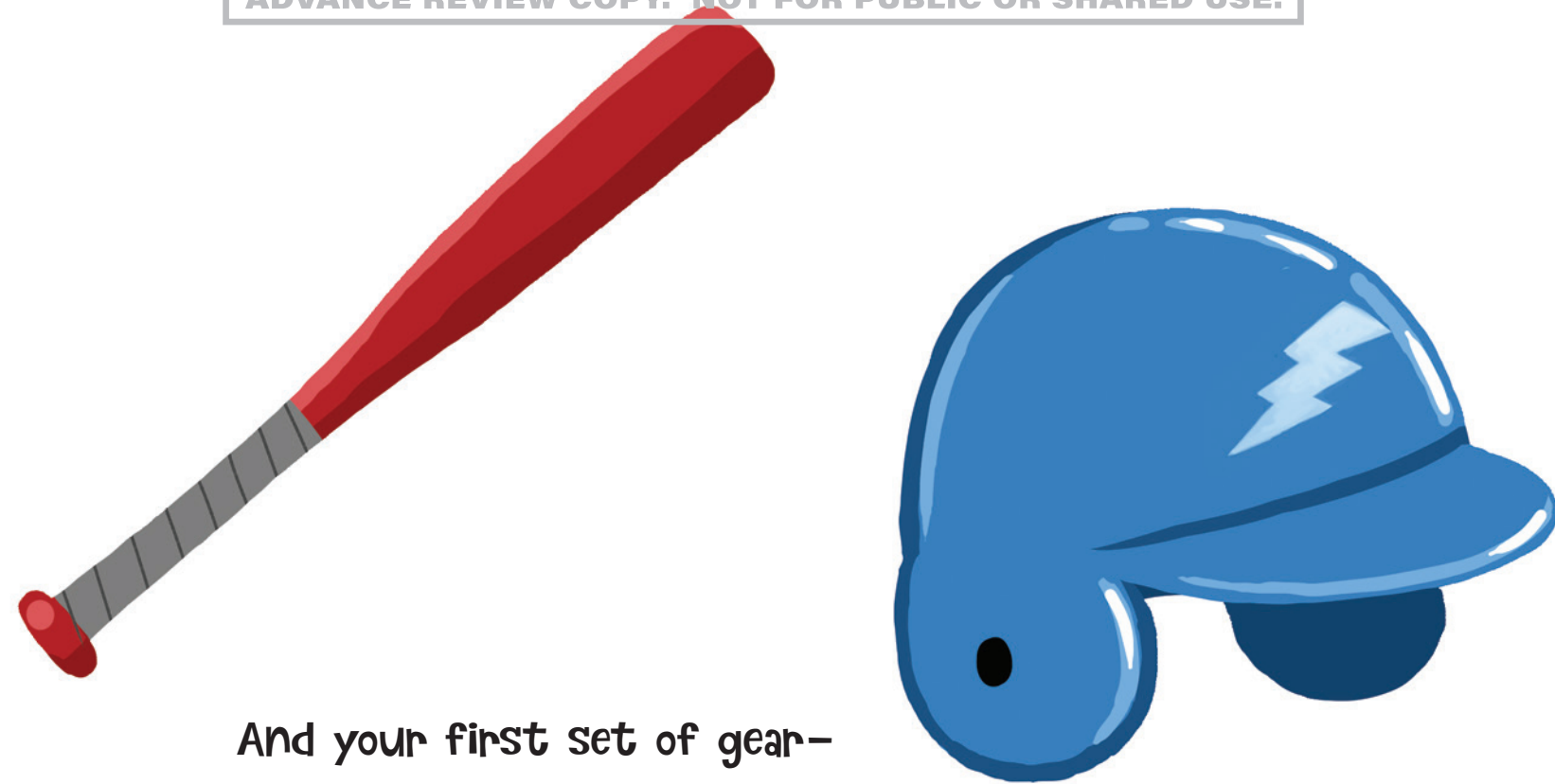
I'll teach you the basics
and a love of the game!”



“Here is your **uniform,**



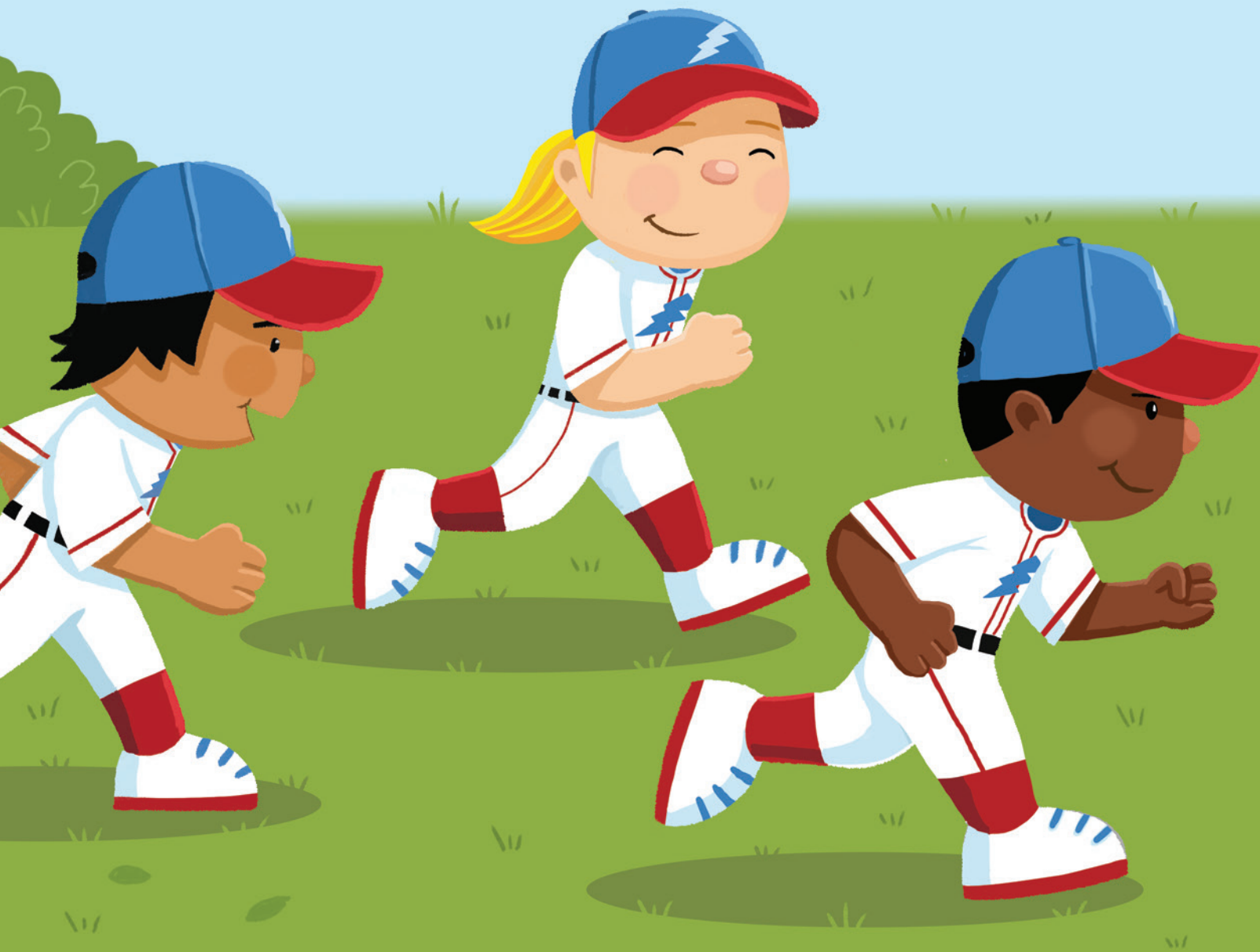
in the colors
you love.



And your first set of gear—
bat, helmet and **glove.”**



“Now stack them in a pile.
We’ll go for a run.



It’s called Catch the Coach.
Warm-ups can be fun!”





“Let’s try some hitting.
Get a grip on your bat.
Keep your eye on the ball.
Step and swing, that’s it—”
crack!



“Fielding is next,
a key skill in our sport.”



Catching fly balls and
grounders



gives
defensive support.”



“OKAY, LET’S PLAY BALL!

I’ll pitch from the hill.”

Tom hits a chopper.

He’s on base—

what a thrill!



Now Lucy's up to bat,
but there's a small hitch!



She's afraid to stand in
and get **hit** by a **pitch**.

The ball comes in fast—
it's a **swing** and a **miss!**



“That’s okay,”
says Coach Al.



**“We know
you’ve got this!”**

Lucy takes a deep breath
and counts 1...2...3.

She's **calm** and **relaxed**,
the best way to be.



She takes a **strong** stance.
The crowd starts to clap.



Lucy makes contact—
line drive to the gap!



He looks to
the base coach
who signals
to go!

Lucy **sprints**
around first.
Can Tom beat
the **throw**?



He's heading for
home.

It's a
play at
the plate!



The catcher is ready...
Here it comes—**“Heeee’s SAFE!”**



“I’m going to love **baseball!**”
Lucy knows right away.



With family or teammates,
it's so fun to play!



FAST FACTS!



Defensive support—The players positioned out in the field are referred to as the defense. Their goal is to prevent the offense (the players at bat) from getting on base and scoring runs.



Chopper—A ball hit into the dirt directly in front of home plate, causing it to bounce high into the air. It can also be a ball that bounces many times before being picked up.



The Gap—The area in the outfield between the outfielders. The two main gaps are between the left fielder and center fielder and the right fielder and center fielder.



Challenger Baseball—An adaptive program that creates opportunities for people with cognitive and /or physical disabilities to play organized baseball.



Little League Baseball—Founded in 1939 by Carl Stotz, Little League is for kids age 4 to 16. It also includes softball and Challenger divisions. The Little League World Series takes place every summer in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

For every child who is trying so hard to learn new things. —L.B.

For Paula and Vicky. —J.H.

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Also available as *Lucy joue au baseball*,
a French-language picture book (ISBN 9781459834972),
and *Lucy juega al béisbol*,
a Spanish-language picture book (ISBN 9781459835009).

Summary: In this picture book Lucy and her friends learn the basics of baseball, including catching, hitting and fielding, then try their new skills in a real game.

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