



“Diamante”

Children will use terms and descriptive words about baseball-related themes (such as fans, food, stadium, players, officials, vendors, or events such as double plays, steals, or strike-outs) to compose a cinquain or diamante’ poem.

Reference to Tennessee Language Arts Standards:

- ✓ Writing: Write in various modes and genres, including narration, literary response, personal experience, and subject matter content. (GLE 0301.3.2)
- ✓ Experience various literary genres. (GLE 0301.8.2)

Reference to Common Core State Standards:

RL K.5 Recognize common types of texts (e.g., storybooks, poems).

Materials:

Paper and pencil, poster board, and markers, corresponding video: <http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=46007>

Before the Game:

The children will practice composing poems in the structure of cinquains or diamante’, both of which are shaped like baseball diamonds.

CINQUAIN:

- Line 1: Title (noun), 2 syllables
- Line 2: Description, 4 syllables
- Line 3: Action, 6 syllables
- Line 4: Feeling (phrase), 8 syllables
- Line 5: Title (synonym for Line 1), 2 syllables

DIAMONTE’:

- Line 1: Noun or subject
- Line 2: two adjectives
- Line 3: three ____’ing words
- Line 4: four words about the subject
- Line 5: three ____’ing words
- Line 6: 2 adjectives
- Line 7: synonym for the subject

Practice should consist of describing through poetry some things the children are very familiar with such as a TV show, an event/ritual at school or a person in their life.

At the Game:

Use all senses to observe closely the game, stadium, players, fans, field, food, advertisements, plays, vendors or the umpire. Begin to generate descriptive words to use in composition. Work together in pairs to find and think of words.

Beyond the Game:

Have students select a baseball-themed topic for their cinquain or diamante’ poem. They can then call on their experience of the game to compose their poem. Final drafts of poems can be printed on poster board with decorative borders and illustrations and then showcase them.



“My Life as a Bat (Batter, Umpire...)”

The children will take on the perspective of people or objects related to baseball.

Reference to Tennessee Language Arts Standards:

- ✓ Writing: Write for a variety of purposes to different audiences (GLE 0301.3.1); Write in a variety of modes and genres, including narration, literary response, personal experience, and subject matter content (GLE 0301.3.2); Know and apply the steps of the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing (GLE 0301.3.3)

Reference to Common Core State Standards:

RL K.5 Recognize common types of texts (e.g., storybooks, poems).

Objectives:

The child will write an essay from the perspective of an object or person related to baseball.

Materials:

Baseball Books and Internet Web Sites, paper and pencil, corresponding video:

<http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=21625>

Before the Game:

Use *Baseball Books and Internet Web Sites* to locate a variety of baseball oriented literature to share with students. Children will choose to become a bat, ball, pitcher, umpire, hot dog vendor, Rocky Redbird, etc. and begin a preliminary draft of a composition written from the perspective of that object or person. Discuss an author’s need to research their topics and to take from authentic experiences. Then have each student make a list of what to look for and pay attention to at the game in order to contribute detail and interest to their composition. Review examples of some of the sights, sounds, etc., students might experience at the game. Discuss senses and descriptive words.

At the Game:

Gather sensory experiences for the story. Think of descriptive words to represent the sights, sounds, smells and feelings surrounding your “character” in the composition. Write these experiences, words and feelings on paper. To create more focus; students may limit one sense to each inning. For example, inning 1 - sounds, inning 2 - sights, inning 7 - smells.

Beyond the Game:

Complete the composition incorporating the information, experiences and words gleaned from the game. Explore some of the likes/dislikes, best/worst of the game. How does the perception of the character differ after the experience of the game and the character’s participation in the game? Students can draw a picture of what they chose to be and write a sentence about their experience.



Baseball Books & Internet Web Sites

A Girl Named Dan

By Dandi Daley Mackall

Abner Doubleday, Boy Baseball Pioneer

By Montrew Dunham

Alex Rodriquez

By Jeffery Zuehlke

**All-Star: Honus Wagner and the Most Famous
Baseball Card Ever**

By Jane Yolen

Babe Ruth and the Ice Cream Mess

By Dan Gutman

Babe Ruth: Legendary Slugger

By David Fischer

**Baseball for Everyone: Stories from the Great
Game**

By Janet Wyman Coleman

Baseball for Fun

By Sandra Will

Baseball Great

By Tim Green

Baseball Signs and Signals

By Tom Petroff

Baseball Skills

By Dave McMahon

Baseball Treasures

By Stephen Wong

Baseball

By Rennay Craats

Baseball: How it Works

By David Louis Dreier

Baseball's Bad Hops and Lucky Bounces

By Mike Blake

Bats at the Ballgame

By Brian Lies

Bleachers: A Summer in Wrigley Field

By Lonnie Wheeler

Breaking into the Big Leagues

By Al Goldis

Campy: The Story of Roy Campanella

By David A. Adler

**Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young
Girl's Baseball Dream**

By Crystal Hubbard

Change-Up: Baseball Poems

By Gene Fehler

Clearing the Bases: Baseball Then & Now

By Bill Starr

Clemente!

By Willie Perdomo

Comeback of the Home Run Kid

By Stephanie True Peters

Curious George at the Baseball Game

By Margret & H.A. Rey

Dad, Jackie, and Me

By Myron Uhlberg

**David Wright: A Gifted and Giving Baseball
Star**

By Marty Gitlin

**Diamond Life: Baseball Sights, Sounds and
Swings**

By Charles R. Smith



Farm Team

By Will Weaver

Gameday

By Cari Meister

Heat

By Mike Lupica

Henry Aaron's Dream

By Matt Tavares

**Heroes of Baseball:
The Men Who Make it America's Favorite
Game**

By Robert Lipsyte

Home Run Heroes

By James Buckley Jr.

How Baseball Works

By Keltie Thomas

Jackie Robinson Plays Ball

By Robyn O'Sullivan

Josh Hamilton

By Jeff Savage

Keeping Score

By Linda Sue Park

Last Man Out

By Donald Honig

Let them Play

By Margot Theis Raven

Let's go to the BallPark

By James Buckley

**Long Ball: The Legend and the Lore of the
Home Run**

By Mark Stewart

Meet Albert Pujols: Baseball's Power Hitter

By Ethan Edwards

**Meet Derek Jeter: Baseball's Superstar
Shortstop**

By Ethan Edwards

Mickey Mantle

By John Marlin

Mighty Casey

By James Preller

Mighty Jackie: The Strike out Queen

By Marissa Moss

Mudball

By Matt Tavares

My Favorite Summer

By Mickey Mantle

No Easy Way:

**The Story of Ted Williams and the last .400
Season**

By Fred Bowen

**Out of Left Field: Over 1,134 Newly
Discovered Amazing Baseball Records,
connections, coincidences, and more**

By Jeffrey Lyons

Out Standing in my Field

By Patrick Jennings

**Play Ball like the Pros: Tips for Kids from 20
Big League Stars**

By Steven Krasner

Power Pitchers

By Jim Gigliotti

Raymond and Graham: Bases Loaded

By Mike Knudson

Red Foley's Cartoon History of Baseball

By Red Foley

Rivals: A Baseball Great Novel

By Tim Green

Roasted Peanuts

By Tim Egan



Roberto & Me: A Baseball Card Adventure

By Dan Gutman

Roy Morelli Steps Up to the Plate

By Thatcher Heldring

Safe at Second

By Scott Johnson

She Loved Baseball: The Effa Manley Story

By Audrey Vernick

Southpaw

By Rich Wallace

Sports Illustrated Pitching: The Keys to Excellence

By Pat Jordan

Stealing Home

By Todd Hafer

Strikeout Kings

By James Buckley Jr.

Stumptown Kid

By Carol Gorman

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

By Jack Norworth

Team Picture

By Dean Hughes

The Aurora County All-Stars

By Deborah Wiles

The Baseball Card Kid

By Adam Osterweil

The Batboy

By Mike Lupica

The Big Field

By Mike Lupica

The Brooklyn Nine: A Novel in Nine Innings

By Alan Gratz

The Composite Guide to Baseball

By Norman Lee Macht

The History of the St. Louis Cardinals

By Michael E. Goodman

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers

By Matt Christopher

The Kids' Baseball Workout: A Fun Way to Get in Shape and Improve Your Game

By Jeffrey B. Fuerst

The Longest Season: The Story of the Orioles' 1988 Losing Streak

By Cal Ripkin

The Unwilling Umpire

By Ron Roy

The Way Baseball Works

By Dan Gutman

Thowing Smoke

By Bruce Brooks

Top of the Order

By John Coy

We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball

By Kadir Nelson

Who is Baseball's Greatest Pitcher?

By Jeff Kesseloff

Willie and the All-Stars

By Floyd Cooper

List compiled using Memphis Public Library Advanced Catalog Search



Baseball Related Websites

Official Site of Major League Baseball

<http://www.mlb.com>

Official Site of the Memphis Redbirds

<http://www.memphisredbirds.com>

Official Site of Minor League Baseball

<http://www.milb.com>

Official Site of the St. Louis Cardinals

<http://stlouis.cardinals.mlb.com>

Exploratorium: Science of Baseball (Scientific research and interactive experiments (Requires Shockwave))

<http://www.exploratorium.edu/baseball>

The Baseball Archive

<http://baseball1.com>

Baseball Think Factory (News outlet for baseball analysts, fans and writers)

<http://www.baseballthinkfactory.org>

Society of American Baseball Research (SABR) (Formed in August 1971 in Cooperstown, NY)

<http://sabr.org>

Supervision – (A pitch tracking system that produces an immediate, real time animation of the pitch)

<http://www.questec.com/>

Rules of the Game - Official Baseball Rules (Baseball lingo definitions, as well as, official major league rules)

http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/official_rules/foreword.jsp

National Baseball Hall of Fame

<http://www.baseballhalloffame.org>

Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

<http://www.nlbm.com>

Negro Baseball Leagues

<http://www.blackbaseball.com>

John Skilton's Baseball Links

<http://www.baseball-links.com/>

Physics and Acoustics of Baseball and Softball Bats

<http://paws.kettering.edu/~drussell/bats.html>

Casey at the Bat by Ernest Lawrence Thayer (1888)

http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Casey_at_the_Bat

Who's on First by Abbott and Costello (1938)

<http://www.baseball-almanac.com/humor4.shtml>



“WDTM? (What Does This Mean?)”

Children explore language by playing with the letters that make up the titles of baseball statistics.

Reference to Tennessee Language Arts Standards:

- ✓ Logic: Refine logic skills to facilitate learning and to enhance thoughtful reasoning. (GLE 0501.5.1) Use logic to make inferences and to draw conclusions in a variety of oral and written contexts. (GLE 0501.5.2)

Reference to Common Core State Standards

RL K.9 With prompting and support, compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.

Objectives:

The child will compose phrases from baseball acronyms to describe events at baseball games and in day-to-day occurrences.

Materials:

Memphis Redbirds Box Score, Box Score Glossary, newspaper sports pages; paper and pencil, corresponding video:

<http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=12748>

Before the Game:

Search newspaper sports pages, *Memphis Redbirds Box Score* or *Box Score Glossary*, for acronyms that describe baseball statistics and compile a list (e.g., RBI, CS, HR, ERA, GDP, etc.). Have each child generate a list of phrases that the acronyms could stand for (e.g. RBI = Robinson’s Best Inning or Red Birds Ice Cream; ERA = Extra Runs Allowed or Everyone Rhymes Always; HR = Hit Runner or Hums Randomly).

At the Game:

Ask children to be on the lookout for other events and behaviors that they might wish to keep statistics on: BDOOM (balls dropped out of mitts), SOG (spit on ground), MM (mound meetings), etc. Keep a tally of those events as they occur. Some children may keep a tally of the “real” statistics for the game to use to calculate averages and other scorer’s data later.

Beyond the Game:

Determine the kinds of events that can be documented on an ongoing basis at school such as TCT (Times Crystal is Tardy) or BR (Bells Ringing). Create methods for tallying, organizing and representing the data that is collected.



Memphis Redbirds Box Score

	First 2010 Playoff Game September 08, 2010											
	Final											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	
Okla. City	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	5	9	1
Memphis	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	x	7	11	1
W: Dickson (1-0, 6.75) L: Moscoso (0-1, 11.57)												

Oklahoma City RedHawks

Player	Pos	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	AVG
Taveras	CF	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Iribarren	LF	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	.200
Boggs, B	RF	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	.000
Davis, C	3B	4	3	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	.750
Ramirez, M	C	4	1	2	1	0	1	2	0	2	.500
Frostad, E	1B	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Garko	DH	4	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	.500
Petit, G	SS	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Stoneburner	2B	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
a- Brown, M	PH	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.000

a-Struck out for Stoneburner in the 9th.

BATTING

2B: Davis, C (1, Dickson), Garko (1, Dickson), Ramirez, M (1, Dickson), Petit, G (1, Kinney).
HR: Davis, C (1, 4th inning off Dickson, 0 on, 1 out), Ramirez, M (1, 6th inning off Dickson, 1 on, 0 out).
TB: Iribarren; Davis, C 7; Ramirez, M 6; Garko 3; Petit, G 2.
RBI: Garko (1), Davis, C (1), Iribarren (1), Ramirez, M 2 (2).
2-out RBI: Garko; Iribarren.
Runners left in scoring position, 2 out: Petit, G; Garko; Iribarren.
S: Stoneburner.
Team RISP: 3-for-12.
Team LOB: 6.

FIELDING

E: Stoneburner (1, throw).
PB: Ramirez, M (1).
DP: 2 (Petit, G-Stoneburner-Frostad, E, Stoneburner-Petit, G-Frostad, E).

Memphis Redbirds

Player	Pos	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	AVG
Rapoport	CF	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	.500
Descalso	2B	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	.250
Craig, A	LF	4	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	.250
Hamilton	1B	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	.333
Mather	RF	4	2	2	0	0	2	3	0	0	.500
Cazana	DH	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	.250
Gotay	3B	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	.667
Cruz, T	C	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Solano, D	SS	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	.333

BATTING

2B: Cazana (1, Moscoso), Gotay (1, Moscoso).
HR: Mather 2 (2, 2nd inning off Moscoso, 0 on, 0 out; 5th inning off Moscoso, 1 on, 1 out), Craig, A (1, 5th inning off Moscoso, 1 on, 1 out).
TB: Rapoport 2; Descalso; Craig, A 4; Hamilton; Mather 8; Cazana 2; Gotay 3; Solano, D.
RBI: Mather 3 (3), Solano, D 2 (2), Craig, A 2 (2).
Runners left in scoring position, 2 out: Hamilton; Craig, A 2; Cruz, T; Gotay.
GDP: Cruz, T; Descalso.
Team RISP: 1-for-10.
Team LOB: 8.

FIELDING

E: Gotay (1, throw).

Memphis Redbirds

Player	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	ERA
Dickson (W, 1-0)	5.1	8	5	4	0	5	2	6.75
Scherer (H, 1)	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Sanchez, E (H, 1)	2.0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.00
Kinney (S, 1)	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.00

Oklahoma City RedHawks

Player	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	ERA
Moscoso (L, 0-1)	4.2	9	7	6	3	5	3	11.57
Eyre, W	1.1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0.00
Scheppers	2.0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.00

Eyre, W pitched to 2 batters in the 7th

WP: Dickson. **HBP:** Solano, D (by Scheppers). **Pitches-strikes:** Moscoso 102-61, Eyre, W 24-12, Scheppers 33-22, Dickson 100-65, Scherer 6-5, Sanchez, E 25-14, Kinney 12-9. **Groundouts-flyouts:** Moscoso 5-4, Eyre, W 3-1, Scheppers 1-3, Dickson 6-5, Scherer 1-1, Sanchez, E 4-0, Kinney 0-2. **Batters faced:** Moscoso 25, Eyre, W 6, Scheppers 8, Dickson 25, Scherer 2, Sanchez, E 7, Kinney 4.

Inherited runners-scored: Eyre, W 1-0, Scheppers 2-0, Scherer 1-0.

Umpires: HP: Will Robinson. 1B: John Brammer. 2B: Tyler Funneman. 3B: Jason Millsap.

Weather: 80 degrees, cloudy.

Wind: 4 mph, In from CF.

T: 3:09

Att: 3,195.



Box Score Glossary

- AVG** The number represents the player's **batting average**. This average is the decimal equivalent of the ratio of hits to at-bats.
- AB** This represents the number of official **at-bats** the player had during a game. Official at bats (AB) do not include walks (BB) or sacrifice hits (bunts, sacrifice flies). Sacrifice hits do not count as at bats because the player makes an expected out in order to advance the runner(s).
- R** The number of **runs** the player scored (times he crossed home plate).
- H** The number of **hits** a player got during a game or season. This number represents the total singles, doubles, triples and home runs the player accumulated during the game or season.
- E** The number of **errors** committed by a team during a game or season. This number represents miscues by the defensive team which allows the offensive team additional outs during an inning.
- DP** The number of **double plays** or times that the defensive team made two outs during one play.
- LOB** The total number of offensive players that were **left on base** for an entire game when the inning ended.
- 2B** The number of **doubles** or times the player reached second base safely due to a hit.
- 3B** The number of **triples** or times the player reached third base safely due to a hit.
- HR** The number of **home runs** the player hits during the season.
- RBI** The number of **runs batted in** that the player was credited with during a game. This means that other players scored runs due to the player's hitting or batting performance.
- BB** The number of **walks** (also known as **bases on balls**) the player received during a game.
- SO** The number of **strikeouts** the player had during a game.
- SB** The number of **stolen bases** the player had during the game.
- CS** The number of times the player has been caught trying to **steal** a base.
- S** The number of **sacrifice** hits a player had during a game or season. This represents the number of times a player deliberately made an out to advance the position of another offensive player.
- SF** The number of **sacrifice flies** that a player had during a game or season. This represents the number of times a player advanced the position of an offensive player to score while recording a fly ball out.
- SLG** This number represents the player's **slugging percentage**. This is the decimal equivalent of the ratio of total bases to official at-bats.



OBP This number represents the percentage (also known as **on-base percentage**) of time a player can be expected to reach base safely. This percentage is the decimal equivalent of the ratio of the number of times a player reached base safely ($H+HBP+BB$) to their total at bats ($AB+BB+HBP+SAC$).

Pitching

ERA This number represents the **earned run average**. This average is the decimal equivalent of the ratio of earned runs times the number of innings to the number of innings pitched.

SV The number of games the pitcher has **saved**.

IP The number of **innings** the pitcher has pitched.

H The number of **hits** the pitcher has allowed.

R The number of **runs** the pitcher has allowed.

ER The number of **earned runs**.

HR The number of **home runs** given up by the pitcher.

HB The number of batters the pitcher has **hit** while pitching the ball.

BB The number of **walks** (also known as **bases on balls**) the pitcher pitched during the game.

SO or K The number of **strikeouts** the pitcher pitched during the game.

WP The number of **wild pitches** the pitcher has during the game.

BK The number of times a pitcher **balks** or advances an opposing player due to his error while pitching.

IBB The number of batters that the pitcher offered an **intentional walk**.

AB The number of "official" **at-bats** by opposing batters against a pitcher. This figure would not include walks, intentional walks, sacrifices, and sacrifice flies.

BF The total number of opposing **batters faced** by a pitcher.

Fly The total number of outs recorded by a pitcher by fly ball.

Gnd The total number of outs recorded by a pitcher by ground ball.

HBP Representing **hit by pitch**, the number of times a pitcher hits an opposing player while batting.

