

# Kindergarten Sight Word Activity Kit: Baseball!

**A Unit for Program Leaders** 



#### Baseball!

#### Introduction

"Sight words" are words that are immediately recognized by readers without having to break them down into parts, or "sound them out". It is approximated that 50-75% of the words used in school textbooks, newspapers, magazines, and library books are found on the Dolch Basic Sight Vocabulary list. Students are exposed to the words through repetition and practice. These words are mainly made up of service words (adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, pronouns, some verbs and prepositions) that are either difficult to "sound out" or difficult to represent in picture format.

Practicing sight words used to bring on the inevitable groans of disappointment and the grumbled "boring..." The thought of flipping through those flashcards one more time was not pleasant. With this sight word activity unit using the Kindergarten Dolch sight word list, practicing sight words can be fun and engaging! In fact, your students will be asking *you* to play these games!

#### **Unit Description**

- This unit is the Kindergarten Sight Word Activity Unit: Baseball! The 5 activities in this unit reinforce 24/52 of the Kindergarten list. The remaining 28 words are used in the Kindergarten Sight Word Activity Unit: Beach Fun!.
- Each activity in this unit is baseball themed and can be printed out and played immediately. Directions
  for each game, most playing pieces and game boards are included.
- Materials are very minimal. You will find that you have most of them already!
- Most activities can be played either competitively or noncompetitively. Directions will first be written in the competitive format, and you will find the noncompetitive adaptation at the end of the activity directions.
- In the Baseball Unit, you will find:
  - Introduction
  - Unit Description
  - Baseball sight words cards
  - Activity #1: Paper Plate Relay
  - Activity #2: Swack It!
  - Activity #3: Dominoes (Sight Word Dominoes template included)
  - Activity #4: Homerun Derby (game board included)
  - Activity #5: Let's Play Ball! (game board included)

#### Tip

Print cards and game boards on cardstock for repeated use. Laminate both, if possible, to prevent tearing that can occur with multiple uses.



#### Baseball!

#### Paper Plate Relay - Activity # 1

**Objective:** Students will use physical engagement to recognize Kindergarten sight words.

#### **Materials Needed**

- 28 paper plates (Plastic or heavy duty paper plates work best for long term use, but Styrofoam plates work just as well. Any size plate will do.)
- 1 black marker
- 1 set of Baseball Sight Words Cards

#### Preparation

Write one sight word on the front or back of each plate with a black marker. Write large enough to see from a distance in lower case letters, using capital letters as needed (example: I).

#### **Directions**

- 1. In a large, open area scatter plates around within your boundary limitations.
- 2. Split your group into teams. Depending on the size of your group, you may want to create teams of just 5-6 to ensure that each player has multiple opportunities to search.
- 3. The "caller", yourself or a student, calls out one of the sight words using the Baseball sight words cards.
- 4. One student from each team will run around the playing area searching for the correct paper plate. When a player finds the correct word, all players will return to their teams and add the paper plate to their team's collection pile.
- 5. Repeat until all words have been called.
- 6. The team with the most paper plates wins!

#### **Noncompetitive Alternative**

Taking turns, students can work together as a team to complete the activity while being timed. Repeat play and challenge the group to beat their previous times!

#### Tips

- Before beginning give clear concise instructions regarding boundaries of playing field.
- Explain playing instructions to the entire group before breaking participants into teams.
- Remind students not to step on the plates! Spread your plates far enough apart to provide for adequate pathways.

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#### Baseball!

#### Swack It! - Activity # 2

**Objective:** Students will use physical engagement to recognize Kindergarten sight words.

#### **Materials Needed**

- 1 fly swatter per team
- Large dry-erase board, chalk board or chart paper
- 1 set of Baseball Sight Words Cards

#### Preparation

Write all sight words in random order across the entire board. Clear enough space 10-12 feet in front of the board for teams to form lines. Mark the starting line on the floor with tape, yarn or a physical landmark. You want students to have to run to the board for a short distance, so placing your starting line between 10-15 feet away is usually an adequate distance.

#### **Directions**

- 1. Split your group into teams. Depending on the size of your group, you may want to create teams of just 5-6 to ensure that each player has multiple opportunities to play.
- 2. Teams should create lines behind the starting line.
- 3. Give the first player on each team a fly swatter.
- 4. The "caller", yourself or a student, calls out one of the sight words using the Baseball sight words cards.
- 5. One player from each team will run up to the board and search for the sight word called. Once a player finds the word, they will "swack" it with the fly swatter.
- 6. The first player to correctly locate and swack the sight word wins a point for their team.
- 7. Establish a time limit (example: 10 minutes)
- 8. The team with the most points when the time is up wins!

#### Noncompetitive Alternative

Taking turns, students can work together as a team to complete the activity while being timed. Repeat play and challenge the group to beat their previous times! Erase words as they are found, or leave them up and play until students lose interest.

#### Tips

- Words written in rows or columns will be easier to find, so write words in random patterns. Tilt some to
  the left, to the right! Make sure to use clear and accurate printing in lower case letters, unless capital
  letters are required.
- Explain playing instructions to the entire group before breaking participants into teams.
- Before playing, discuss the safety rules while using the fly swatters.



#### Baseball!

#### Sight Word Dominoes! - Activity #3

**Objective:** Students will use reasoning and matching skills to recognize Kindergarten sight words.

#### **Materials Needed**

• 1 set of Sight Word dominoes per team, 2-4 players per team (included)

#### Preparation

Copy and cut out 1 set of dominoes for each team of players. Sets can be stored in snack or sandwich sized plastic baggies with ziplock tops.

#### **Directions**

- 1. Split your group into teams. 2-4 players per team.
- 2. Place dominoes facedown and mix up.
- 3. Each player chooses 5 dominoes. Leftover dominoes will become the "draw pile" dominoes. Set this pile to the side.
- 4. The first player chooses one domino to lay face up in the middle of the playing area. The player needs to say the sight words on both ends of the domino.
- The next player must choose one of his dominoes that has a matching sight word. Place the dominoes on the playing area with the two matching word touching. The player should say both of the sight words on his domino.
- 6. Play continues.
- 7. If a player does not have a matching sight word on either end of the domino "train" he will draw a domino from the draw pile.
- 8. The player who plays all of his dominoes first is the winner.

#### Noncompetitive Alternative

Challenge teams to play until all players have played all of their dominoes using teamwork to help each other.

#### Tips

- Beginning students can play with their dominoes face up. Expert players may want to hide their dominoes. Cut a file folder, beginning at the fold and cutting straight up towards the top, cutting the folder into 3-4 pieces. These can be turned on their sides, opened at the fold, placed in front of dominoes, hiding them from other players.
- To teach or introduce the game for the first time, you may consider playing with small groups of students first rather than teaching the entire group at once.



#### Baseball!

#### Homerun Derby - Activity # 4

**Objective:** Students will practice the recognition of Kindergarten sight words while playing a board game.

#### **Materials Needed**

- 1 Homerun Derby game board per team, 1-4 players per team (included)
- 1 game marker for each player (coins, beans, etc)
- 1 set of Baseball Sight Words Cards
- 1 brad fastener per game board
- 1 large paperclip per game board

#### Preparation

Prepare the spinners on the game boards by putting one end of the paper clip on the arms on the brad fastener while it is still closed. Push the fastener through the game board at the center of the spinner circle. Turn game board over and open the arms of the brad, laying them flush against the board. You now have made the spinner for your spinner! Just use your finger to flick the paperclip!

#### **Directions**

- 1. Place the Baseball Sight Words Cards face down on or to the side of the game board.
- 2. The first player will draw a Baseball Sight Word Card.
- 3. If the player correctly says the word, he/she will spin the spinner to determine how many bases he/she will run. The numbers on the spinner do not represent the base numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd), but the number bases places a player can move. Each time a player crosses home plate, he/she earns a point which can be tallied on a piece of scratch paper.
- 4. If the player gets a word wrong, his/her turn is over and play moves on.
- 5. Sometimes you may spin more bases than you need to get home. In this case, move only the amount of bases you need to move home. (For example, you spun a "3" and are on 3<sup>rd</sup> base. On your next turn, you spin a "2". Move only one base to home. You turn is over).
- 6. Players repeat, taking turns and scoring.
- 7. When all cards have been used, shuffle and reuse.
- 8. The first player to reach 10 homeruns wins.

#### **Noncompetitive Alternative**

Challenge individuals or groups to see how many homeruns they can get within a set time limit.

#### Tips

• To teach or introduce the game for the first time, you may consider playing with small groups of students first rather than teaching the entire group at once.



#### Baseball!

#### Let's Play Ball! - Activity # 5

**Objective:** Students will practice the recognition of Kindergarten sight words while playing a board game.

#### **Materials Needed**

- 1 Let's Play Ball! game board per team, 1-4 players per team (included)
- 1 game marker for each player (coins, beans, etc)
- 1 set of Baseball Sight Words Cards
- 1 six-sided die per game board

#### **Directions**

- 1. Place the Baseball Sight Words Cards face down on or to the side of the game board.
- 2. The first player will draw roll the die and move the appropriate number of spaces. Follow directions located in the square landed on. Possible directions include:
  - Choose A Card: Choose a Baseball Sight Words Card. Read aloud. If the word is read correctly the player keeps the card.
  - Stop To Eat A Hotdog. Lose one turn: The lost turn is on the players *next* turn.
  - Homerun!: Move forward 1 space.
  - You Are Out: Move backwards one space.
- 3. Players repeat, taking turns.
- 4. When all cards are gone, the player with the most cards is the winner.

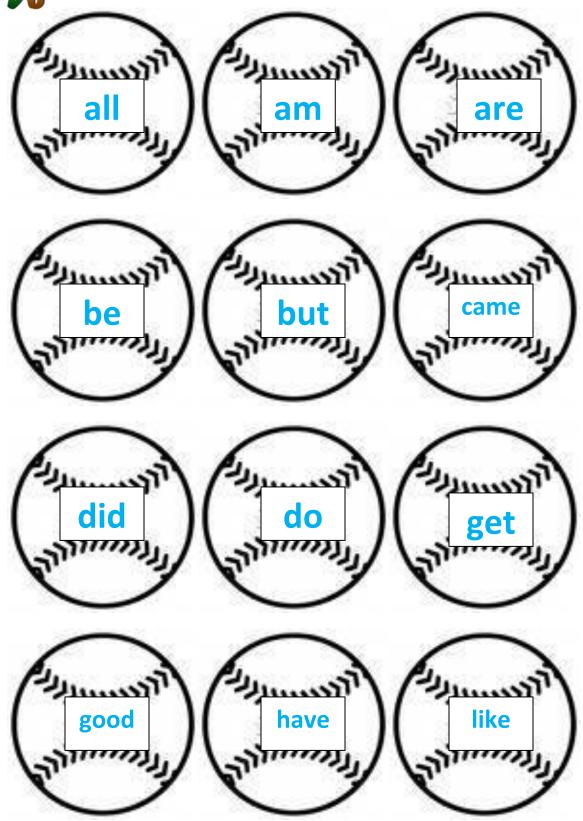
#### Noncompetitive Alternative

Challenge each player to go around the game board twice or in a certain amount of time. Do not allow students to keep cards they've read. Those cards go back in the pile to be reused.

#### **Tips**

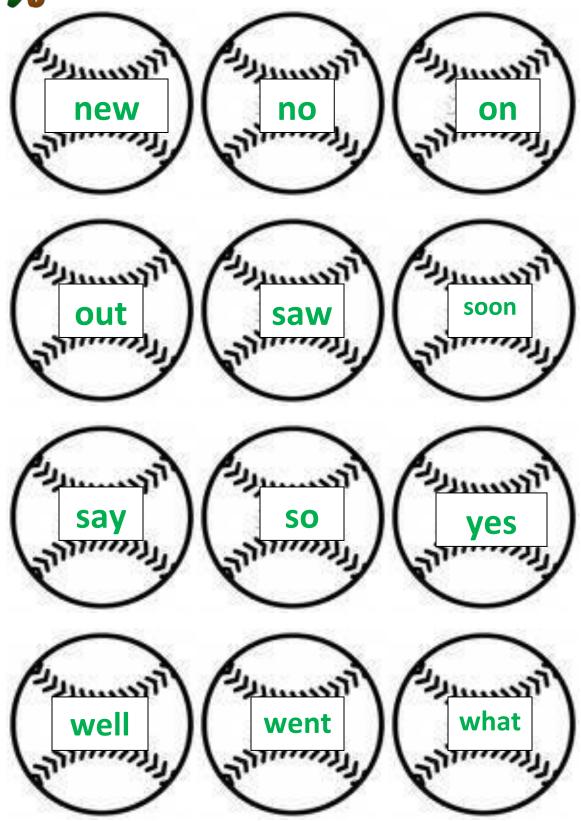
• To teach or introduce the game for the first time, you may consider playing with small groups of students first rather than teaching the entire group at once.

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# Baseball!

# **Domino Tiles**

SAW	SAW
SAW	SO
SAW	YES
SAW	WENT
SOON	SOON
SOON	YES
SOON	WELL

# Baseball!

SOON	WHAT
SAY	YES
SAY	WELL
SAY	WHAT
SO	WELL
SO	WENT
YES	YES
YES	WENT

# Baseball!

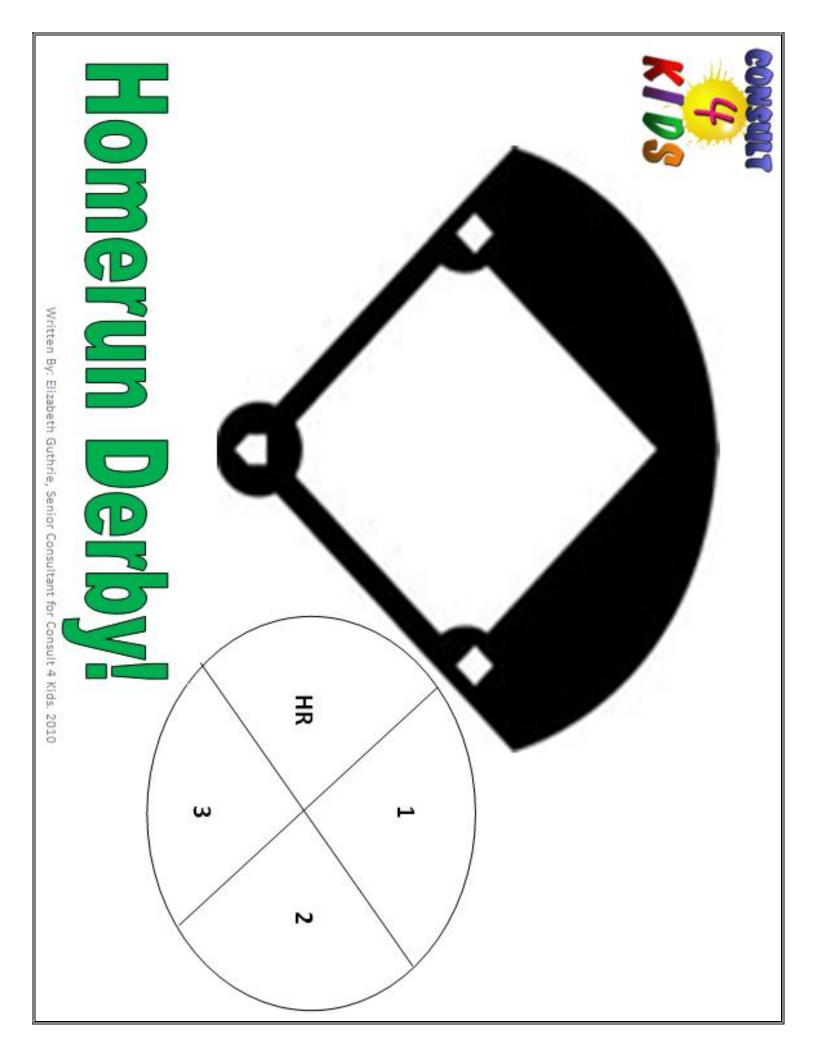
WELL	WELL
WELL	WHAT
WHAT	WHAT
SAW	SOON
SAW	SAY
SAW	WELL
SAW	WHAT
SOON	SAY

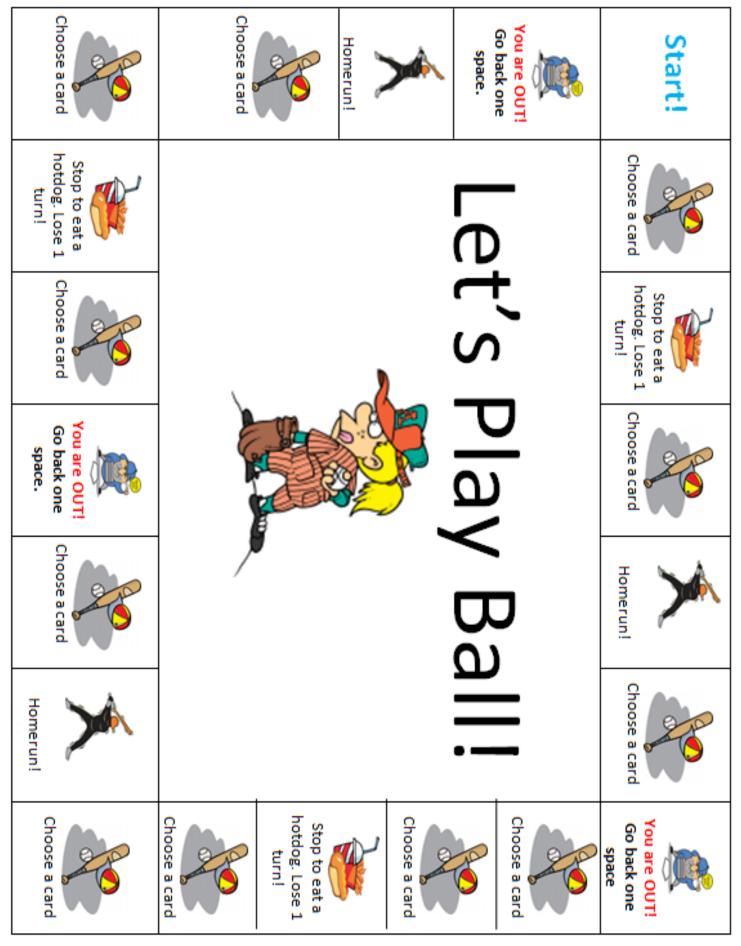
# Baseball!

SOON	SO
SOON	WENT
SAY	SAY
SAY	SO
SAY	WENT
SO	SO
SO	YES
SO	WHAT

# Baseball!

YES	WELL
YES	WHAT
WELL	WENT
WENT	WENT
WENT	WHAT





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For more information, contact Consult 4 Kids at www.consultfourkids.com