

Name _____

4. National Baseball Hall of Fame Opened on June 21, 1939

Not an Easy Out



Bethany overheard her older brother James and some neighborhood boys planning to play a game of baseball. She asked if she could play. One of the boys named Jared complained that she was too young and too small. James looked into the pleading face of his little sister, ignored the whining of his friend, and agreed that Bethany could join them.

Bethany's first turn at bat finally came. She stood firmly planted at home plate with a determined look on her face. James was the pitcher. Jared was in catching position.

"This will be an easy out," Jared said with a sneer. "Move in, guys, she can't hit!" he called to his fellow teammates in the outfield.

Bethany lifted her bat and looked at James. He winked and tossed the ball directly over home plate. Crack! It was a beauty of a hit, and the ball easily sailed deep into center field. Completely shocked, the boys fumbled the ball several times, and when they finally threw it to Jared, it was too late. Bethany sprinted triumphantly across home plate.

She turned back to look Jared squarely in the eyes. "I am not an easy out," she said. Then she walked to the pitcher's mound and gave her big brother a happy high five.

Directions: Use the words in the Word Bank to complete the sentences below.

1. Bethany's brother James was planning a _____ game.
2. When Bethany asked to play, _____ complained.
3. Jared thought Bethany was too _____ to play.
4. James was the _____ during the baseball game.
5. Jared played in the position of _____.
6. Bethany hit the ball deep into _____.
7. She scored because the boys kept _____ the ball.
8. After that, Bethany gave _____ a happy high five.

WORD BANK

James
catcher
baseball
Jared
fumbling
young
pitcher
center field