

Name _____

4. Henry "Hank" Aaron's Birthday – February 5, 1934



Swing That Hammer Hank

Bobby stood at the plate with a bead of sweat running down his cheek and a look of fierce determination in his eye. It was his turn to bat in the final inning of the championship game. The score was tied, and Bobby's team needed this point to win. Both of his proud parents were in the stands watching the game with tense excitement.

Suddenly, his father called out, "Swing that hammer, Hank!"

He said this because he and Bobby had recently read together a wonderful autobiography called *I Had a Hammer*, written by the great Hall of Fame professional baseball player Henry "Hank" Aaron. Bobby understood exactly what his father meant, and the shout out gave him confidence. He swung hard at the next pitch. With a mighty crack, the ball sailed easily over the home run fence. His ecstatic teammates engulfed him. Bobby looked up into the stands to see the beaming smiles of his mom and dad. He wondered if Hank Aaron felt this way each time he hit one of his 755 career home runs.

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

1. _____ stood at the plate ready to bat.
2. It was the _____ inning of the championship game.
3. Bobby's team needed this point to _____ the game.
4. Bobby's parents were in the _____ watching the game.
5. Bobby's _____ called out, "Swing that hammer, Hank!"
6. Bobby and his dad had recently read a book about _____.
7. Bobby hit a _____ and his team won the game.
8. Hank Aaron hit _____ home runs during his career.

WORD BANK

win
final
father
Bobby
755
home run
Hank Aaron
stands