

World Book® Online:

The trusted, student-friendly online reference tool.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Baseball History: The Negro League

Today, African American players are among the biggest stars in major league baseball. But less than 70 years ago, African Americans were not allowed to play major league baseball with white players in the United States because of *racial segregation*. The major leagues were reserved for whites only. African Americans organized their own all-black teams during the late 1800's and early 1900's, playing each other and also against teams of white all-stars. Beginning in 1920, several black teams organized into the first Negro league. Negro league baseball lasted until about 1950. During their existence, the leagues featured some of the greatest players in baseball history.

Let's learn some basic history about the Negro leagues.

First, go to **www.worldbookonline.com**

Then, click on "Kids." If prompted, log on with your ID and Password.

Find it!

Use the World Book search tool to find the answers to the questions below. Since this activity is about the Negro leagues, it is recommended you start by searching for articles about the *Negro leagues*, *Ernie Banks*, *Cool Papa Bell*, *Oscar Charleston*, *Larry Doby*, *Rube Foster*, *Judy Johnson*, *Buck Leonard*, *Pop Lloyd*, *Jackie Robinson*, *Satchel Paige*, and *Charley Pride*. Write the answer below each question.



1. Who became the first black player in major league baseball?
2. An all-black baseball team existed as early as _____.
3. The Negro National League was founded in _____.
4. After 1931, what were the two main Negro leagues?
5. Name three players from the Negro leagues who succeeded in the major leagues.
6. What country music star played in the Negro leagues in 1955 and 1956?
7. Who was the first Negro league player elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame?

8. True or False. Ernie Banks played in both the Negro leagues and the major leagues.
9. The first African American to play in the American League was_____.
10. Name three players who were voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame though they spent their entire career in the Negro leagues.
11. What two Negro league players formed one of the greatest hitting combinations in baseball history?
12. Name the Negro team that had six future Hall of Fame players on its roster?
13. What was the birth name of the Negro league hitting star known by the nickname “Cool Papa”?
14. Who earned the title of “the father of black baseball”?
15. What Negro league veteran was the first African American to serve in an official coaching position in the major leagues?
16. African American players were first admitted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in_____.
17. Which Negro league veteran pitched in major league games when he was almost 60 years old?
18. What Negro league slugger began his career playing for the Indianapolis ABCs?
19. What team won nine consecutive Negro National League championships from 1937 to 1945?
20. True or False. Jackie Robinson’s success in the major leagues led to the end of the Negro leagues.
21. A community ballpark in Atlantic City, New Jersey, was named after the Negro league star?

Read more about Jackie Robinson in World Book’s eBook collection:

Jackie Robinson: with profiles of Satchel Paige and Branch Rickey. Chicago: World Book, 2013.

Biographical Connections. *World eBook.* Web. 19 Oct. 2015.

<<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/ebooks/mall/instt/catalog/urn:ISBN:978-0-7166-1884-3/detail.do>>.

Teacher Page

Answers:

1. Jackie Robinson
2. 1885
3. 1920
4. The Negro National League and the Negro American League
5. Roy Campanella, Larry Doby, Satchel Paige
6. Charley Pride
7. Satchel Paige
8. True
9. Larry Doby
10. Buck Leonard, Oscar Charleston, Judy Johnson, Cool Papa Bell, Josh Gibson
11. Buck Leonard and Josh Gibson
12. Pittsburgh Crawfords
13. James Thomas Bell, also known as Cool Papa Bell
14. Rube Foster
15. Judy Johnson
16. 1971
17. Satchel Paige
18. Oscar Charleston
19. Homestead Grays
20. True
21. Pop Lloyd