

EVAN LONGORIA

*Evan Longoria*

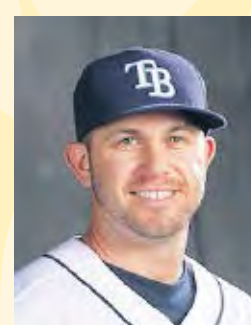
READING  
WITH THE  
**RAY**<sup>TM</sup>



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 **Suncoast**  
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Tampa Bay  
**Times**  
**NIE**  
newspaper in education  
[tampabay.com/nie](http://tampabay.com/nie)





I want you to hit a home run with  
Reading with the Rays this summer!

Our goals are to encourage you to read more this summer and to visit the library regularly before you return to school this fall. If we succeed in our efforts, then you, too, will succeed as part of our Read Your Way to the Ballpark program.

Check out this insert and you'll see what my new manager, my teammates and I have to say about reading. Kevin Cash, Chris Archer, Matt Moore, Rene Rivera and I all enjoyed reading while growing up and understand how it's helped us to become the people we are today.

Kids, you can get your game cards and prizes at public libraries in Charlotte, Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties. Summer is baseball season, and it's also a great time to be in the library reading books and stories that interest you. Now get started reading, because I want to see you at the Trop soon!

Go Rays!

W. B. E. B.

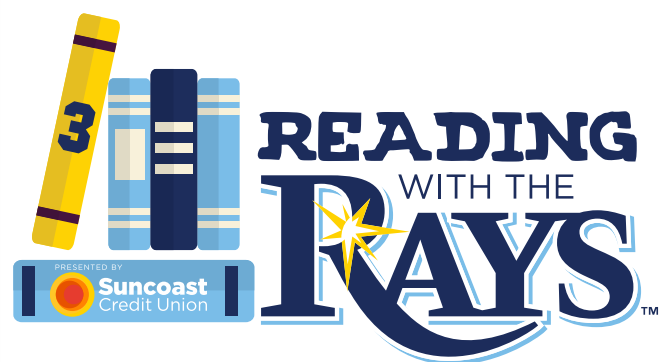
Evan Longoria, Tampa Bay Rays



## LEARNING WITH THE *TIMES*

## Learning new words

Fiction, nonfiction, plot, personification ... Oh my! When you study new things, you often come up against some tough vocabulary words! Most vocabulary words are learned from context clues or good old-fashioned dictionary work. While you read this publication and the *Tampa Bay Times*, be sure to highlight or circle words you don't know. Try to figure out the words' meanings by looking for clues in the sentences around them. Write down your best guess, and then look the words up in a dictionary. As a group activity, make a list of the words your classmates identified and see which ones stumped the class. Next, use these words for a news scavenger hunt. See if you can find these words in the *Tampa Bay Times*. The group that finds the most words wins the game.



# Read around the bases

Stop the presses! Summer vacation has arrived, and it is time to stretch. Playing games and sports is a great way to exercise your body during the summer so you can be strong and healthy for the next school year. Keeping your mind strong and healthy is important, too. The best way to exercise your brain is by reading.

Tampa Bay Rays baseball players know the importance of staying healthy and strong and keeping their minds active. That is why the Rays have partnered with the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program, the Tampa Bay-area library systems and Suncoast Credit Union to encourage and reward students for reading.

## Your favorite subjects

On the pages of this Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education publication, you will see suggested reading for students in grades three through five. Whether you are reading a printed book or the digital version, between the covers of these books are action, adventure, comedy and new worlds for you to explore and learn about. You can find these adventures and more on the

shelves of your local library.

You can choose to read these books or any books that interest you. There are more book lists for students of all ages on the Reading with the Rays website. Go to [tampabay.com/nie/raysreading](http://tampabay.com/nie/raysreading) and download the grade-level-appropriate PDF. You also can read the *Tampa Bay Times*. Reading the *Times* can help you earn hours to read your way to the ballpark, too!

Within the pages of your daily newspaper, in print or online, you will find news, sports, adventure, comics, classifieds and a lot of fun things to do and read about. Of course, you can read all of the news about your Tampa Bay Rays!

## Line drive

For every hour you read, you will swing the bat to advance around the bases on the game card pictured on this page. Every time you arrive at a base, you can pick up a reward at your local library. When you reach home plate, you will receive a voucher for two tickets to see the Rays in action.

## The rules of the Read Your Way to the Ballpark game are simple.

- Choose your favorite books from your local library or select your favorite section of the *Tampa Bay Times* to read over the summer.
- Go to your local library to get your game card.
- As you read, track your hours by rounding the bases and collecting Rays rewards along the way.
- When you read enough hours to get to first base, ask your parent or guardian to initial your card; then bring it to your local library.
- The librarian will initial your card and give you a reading reward.
- Round the bases by reading a total of 24 hours this summer and receive two tickets to a Rays game!

## Keeping score

On the back of the card, keep track of your favorite books and articles you read this summer. Read around the bases — 24 hours total!

- ★ **Read 3 hours** to get from Home Plate to First Base  
**Reward:** Reading with the Rays poster featuring Evan Longoria
- ★ **Read 5 more hours** to get from First to Second Base  
**Reward:** Reading with the Rays jelly bracelet
- ★ **Read 7 more hours** to get from Second to Third Base  
**Reward:** Reading with the Rays sunglasses
- ★ **Read 9 more hours** to get from Third Base to Home Plate  
**Reward:** Reading with the Rays certificate authorized by Evan Longoria and voucher redeemable for two complimentary tickets to a 2015 Rays regular season home game (select dates and restrictions apply).





## BOOK BLAST

### ***Dorko the Magnificent,* by Andrea Beaty**

Robbie Darko is a magician: an old-school, pull-a-rabbit-out-of-your-hat-style magician. Robbie loves magic and he's good at it — sort of. Despite his best efforts, passion and practice, something always goes wrong with his tricks, landing Robbie in trouble. Enter crotchety Grandma Melvyn, who calls everyone Trixie and complains about everything. Robbie discovers that she was once an internationally renowned magician and learns about the heartache that turned her into a bitter woman. Against all odds, Robbie and Grandma Melvyn form an uneasy alliance to show the world — or at least the kids of Hobson Elementary School — that he is a true magician. Shortly after a successful talent show, Grandma Melvyn performs a final disappearing act, and Robbie learns a little about the true meaning of magic.



*Publisher: Harry N. Abrams*

*Book summary from Amazon*



## Keeping your skills sharp

We know the Rays featured in this publication love to read. But did you ever stop to think about the idea that playing baseball and reading have a lot in common? Sharpening your reading skills is a lot like sharpening skills for baseball, and, of course, practice makes perfect.

When baseball season has ended, the players do not become couch potatoes. They must exercise their bodies to stay in shape, just as you need to exercise your

brain even though you are not in school. A pitcher would never enter a game without warming up his or her arm, so why would you enter a new school year without warming up your brain?

Baseball, the thinking person's game, is a sport in which having a lot of knowledge and sharp, critical thinking skills leads to success. The best way to sharpen those skills and increase your knowledge base is through reading.

## Preparation and practice do a brain and body good

When baseball players take the field, people rarely think about all the time and energy the players have spent preparing to play the game. Athletes need to eat healthy foods, be self-motivated, learn how to communicate with their teammates, pay attention to all of the different things going on at once on the field, and practice, practice, practice.

If you want to improve your reading skills, you need to practice, too. Practice doesn't entail just reading. It also includes understanding what you are reading and being able to think about what you have read.

Did you know the best way to learn and increase your ability to think critically is by asking questions? Baseball players and coaches often review their skills by watching a recorded version of a game. They discuss the plays and take notes. You can do the same thing while reading. Writing notes in a journal or highlighting important parts of the book are great ways to sharpen your skills.



LEARNING WITH THE *TIMES*

### **Journaling to self-discovery**

Knowing who you are is the first step in being healthy and mature and taking charge of your life. Keeping a journal is a great way to learn more about yourself, write down questions and explore new concepts and ideas. Who are you? Why do you do what you do? Do you have strong convictions? Are you able to stand up to others when your ideas are questioned? While you are keeping your journal, read the *Tampa Bay Times* to test yourself. What are your thoughts about the things you read in the news? To begin your journal, write about something that you have read in the *Times* that directly affects your life. Share some of your journal entries and thoughts with your peers.



# SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS



## CHRIS ARCHER

#22

Right-handed pitcher Chris Archer was born on Sept. 26, 1988, in Clayton, N.C. He was promoted to the Tampa Bay Rays Major League roster in 2012. Archer created the Archway Foundation to teach young people that their legacy should not be one of fortune and fame, but rather a legacy of generosity, integrity and passion.

### What is it that you enjoy about reading?

"I enjoy learning from successful people's experiences in life — what made them successful and what type of adversity they dealt with. It helps me understand that what I'm going through really isn't that bad, that I can get through it and accomplish my goals just like they did."

### Do you prefer print or online reading?

"Printed."

### What advice would you give to a young student who is struggling or just not interested in reading?

"Reading helped me become a successful baseball player, and even though you might not enjoy it now, it will help you no matter what you do in life."

### Did you have a favorite book, magazine or comic book series that inspired you as a kid?

"Unfortunately, I wasn't a big reader when I was growing up, but I wish I had been because it would've helped shorten my learning curve as I grew up."

*8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel ÷ 1 Dog = Chaos,* by Vivian Vande Velde

*The 39 Clues: The Maze of Bones,* by Rick Riordan

*Abby Carnelia's One and Only Magical Power,* by David Pogue

*Absolutely Almost,* by Lisa Graff

*The Absent Author,* by Ron Roy

*The Adventures of Beanboy,* by Lisa Harkrader

*The Adventures of a South Pole Pig,* by Chris Kurtz

*Against All Odds: Artist Dean Mitchell's Story,* by Betty R. James

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland,* by Lewis Carroll

*Aliens on Vacation,* by Clete Barrett Smith

*Amazing But True Sports Stories,* by Phyllis Hollander

*Amazing Hispanic American History,* by George Ochoa

*Amelia's Notebook,* by Marissa Moss

*And Tango Makes Three,* by Justin Richardson

*Angel Island: Gateway to Gold Mountain,* by Russell Freedman

*Animals in the House: A History of Pets and People,* by Sheila Keenan

*Aquiferious,* by Margaret Ross Tolbert

*Arcady's Goal,* by Eugene Yelchin

*The Art of Racing in the Rain,* by Garth Stein

*Ask Dr. K. Fisher about Dinosaurs,* by Claire Llewellyn

*Back to the Elevator,* by Pol McShane

*The Bad Beginning: or Orphans!* by Lemony Snicket

*Barbed Wire Baseball,* by Marissa Moss

*The Bat Boy and His Violin,* by Gavin Curtis

*The Bat Scientists,* by Mary Kay Carson

*Battle Bunny,* by Jon Scieszka and Mac Barnett

*Battling Boy,* by Paul Pope

*A Bear Named Trouble,* by Marion Dane Bauer

*The Beast of Blackslope,* by Tracy Barrett

*Because of Winn-Dixie,* by Kate DiCamillo

*Before After,* by Anne-Margot Ramstein & Matthias Arégu

*Better Nate Than Ever,* by Tim Federle

*The BFG,* by Roald Dahl

*The Birchbark House,* by Louise Erdrich

*The Black Stallion,* by Walter Farley

*Bluffton: My Summers with Buster,* by Matt Phelan

*Bo at Ballard Creek,* by Kirkpatrick Hill

*The Book That Ate My Brother,* by Michael Dahl

*The Borrowers,* by Mary Norton

*The Bossy Gallito,* by Lucia Gonzalez

*Brave Wolf and the Thunderbird,* by Joseph Medicine Crow

*Bridge to Terabithia,* by Katherine Paterson

*Brown Girl Dreaming,* by Jacqueline Woodson

*Bud, Not Buddy,* by Christopher Paul Curtis

*Capture the Flag,* by Kate Messner

*The Case of the Vanishing Little Brown Bats: A Scientific Mystery,* by Sandra Markle

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,* by Roald Dahl

*Charlotte's Web,* by E.B. White

*Charro: The Mexican Cowboy,* by George Ancona

*Chasing Cheetahs: The Race to Save Africa's Fastest Cats,* by Sy Montgomery

*Chasing Vermeer,* by Blue Balliett

*Chomp,* by Carl Hiaasen

*Clambake: A Wampanoag Tradition,* by Russell Peters

*The Comeback Challenge,* by Matt Christopher



# Hard work, integrity and passion

Left-handed pitcher and Florida native Matt Moore knows what it is like to work hard, especially when coming back from an injury to get back to the job he loves. Working hard and being passionate about what you do go hand-in-hand, along with integrity.

While “passion” refers to a strong emotion or

feeling, “integrity” suggests honesty. When you combine these two traits with hard work, anything is possible. If you are passionate about a subject, such as math or science, or playing baseball, it means you will work hard to achieve success in that subject. Showing integrity and passion while you try your best is the path to being successful.



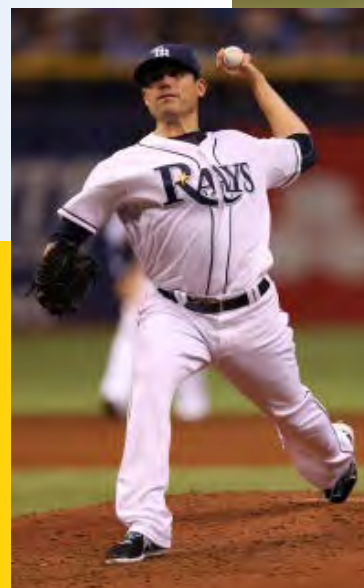
## BOOK BLAST

### ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library,*** **by Chris Grabenstein**

Kyle Keeley is the class clown and a huge fan of all games — board games, word games and particularly video games. His hero, Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious and creative gamemaker in the world, just so happens to be the genius behind the construction of the new town library. Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot as one of 12 kids invited for a sleepover in the library, hosted by Mr. Lemoncello and riddled with lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Kyle and the other kids must solve every clue and figure out every puzzle to find the hidden escape route.

*Publisher: Random House*

*Book summary from Amazon*



## Passion for baseball

Did you know that the people in the Tampa Bay area have been passionate about baseball for decades? Major League Baseball first planted roots in the Tampa Bay area on Feb. 17, 1913. It was on that date that 36 members of the Chicago Cubs disembarked their Seaboard train No. 99 at Tampa's Union Station to begin a 31-day training camp.

Around that same time, a former Pittsburgh business owner named Al Lang moved to St. Petersburg to benefit his health. As a baseball fan, he believed the answer to sagging tourism was to attract a major league team to St. Petersburg for spring training.

In 1914, Lang convinced the St. Louis Browns, under manager Branch Rickey, to come to St. Petersburg. A baseball committee, formed to attract a major league team to the city, raised \$20,000 to buy a large tract of land for a ballpark. The site chosen for the field was Coffee Pot Bayou in St. Petersburg, where a 2,000-seat grandstand was built.



## LEARNING WITH THE *TIMES*

### Unlocking secrets

Matt Moore likes reading mystery books. Do you like to read? Do you like fiction or nonfiction, or do you prefer informational texts such as newspaper and magazine articles? What secrets can be learned from reading the *Tampa Bay Times*? Look through the articles, cartoons, advertisements and photos in the *Times*. Cut out headlines, words, photos and images that unlock some secrets. Create a collage with the words and images you have collected. On the back of the collage, explain, in a fully developed paragraph, what the items shown represent and what you have learned. Use specific examples to highlight your points. Share your collage with your family and classmates.



## MATT MOORE

#55

Pitcher Matt Moore was born in Fort Walton Beach, FL. This lefthander was drafted by the Rays in 2007. The son of an Air Force helicopter mechanic, Moore likes to work with his hands. While he was rehabbing last year, he worked on redesigning and remodeling his St. Petersburg home, where he lives with his chocolate golden doodle, Griffin.

**What type or genre of books did you like to read when you were younger?**

"I liked mysteries. I really liked The Boxcar Children series."

**Who was influential in getting you to read growing up?**

"Definitely my teachers. My parents were always encouraging me to read also."

**What was your favorite book when you were growing up?**

"I would have to say my favorite book as a kid was *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*."

**Do you have any special memories connected to visiting libraries or reading in school?**

"I remember really enjoying the peace and quiet of my school library. It was a place I could really focus on my school work."

SUMMER  
READING SUGGESTIONS

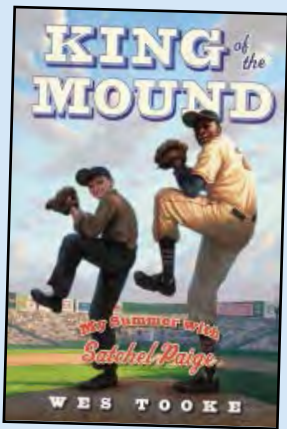
*The Contest*, by Gordon Korman  
*Crazy Cars*, by Matt Doeden  
*Criss Cross*, by Lynne Rae Perkins  
*Crossing Jordan*, by Adrian Fogelin  
*Dare to Dream!* by Carl Sommer  
*El Deafo*, by Cece Bell  
*Dear Mr. Henshaw*, by Beverly Cleary  
*Dear Whiskers*, by Ann Whitehead Nagda  
*Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, by Jeff Kinney  
*Discovering Mars*, by Melvin Berger  
*Discovery in the Cave*, by Mark Dubowski  
*Dodger Dreams: The Courage of Jackie Robinson*, by Brandon Terrell  
*Dorko the Magnificent*, by Andrea Beaty  
*Dragon Rider*, by Cornelia Funke  
*The Dreamer*, by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
*A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder*, by Walter Wick  
*Edgar Allan's Official Crime Investigation Notebook*, by Mary Amato  
*Eidi*, by Bodil Bredsdorff  
*Elijah of Buxton*, by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Elvis and the Underdogs*, by Jenny Lee  
*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, by Chris Grabenstein  
*Extreme Pets!* by Jane Harrington  
*Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World*, by Steve Jenkins  
*Falling Up*, by Shel Silverstein  
*Family Pictures*, by Carmen Lomas Garza  
The Familiars series, by Adam Epstein & Andrew Jacobson  
*Famous Hispanic Americans*, by Janet Morey and Wendy Dunn  
*The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester*, by Barbara O'Connor  
*The Fast and the Furriest*, by Andy Behrens  
*The Fisherman and His Wife*, by Eric Blair  
*Flush*, by Carl Hiaasen  
*The Fourteenth Goldfish*, by Jennifer L. Holm  
*Freedom Summer: The 1964 Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*, by Susan Goldman Rubin  
*Frogs*, by Nic Bishop  
*Ghost Hunters*, by Michael Martin  
*Ghost Knight*, by Cornelia Funke  
*The Giver*, by Lois Lowry  
*Gone Fishing: A Novel in Verse*, by Tamera Wissinger  
*Grandfather's Journey*, by Allen Say  
*The Great Brain*, by John D. Fitzgerald  
*The Great Greene Heist*, by Varian Johnson  
*The Great Migration: An American Story*, by Jacob Lawrence  
*Gregor the Overlander*, by Suzanne Collins  
*Guinea Dog*, by Patrick Jennings  
*Half-Minute Horrors*, by Susan Rich  
*Half a Chance*, by Cynthia Lord  
*Harlem Hellfighters*, by J. Patrick Lewis  
*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, by J.K. Rowling  
*Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez*, by Kathleen Krull  
*Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen  
*Hello, I'm Johnny Cash*, by G. Neri  
*Henry and Mudge and the Tumbling Trip*, by Cynthia Rylant  
*Heroes for My Son*, by Brad Meltzer  
*Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust*, by Loïc Dauvillier  
*A History of Us*, by Joy Hakim  
*Holes*, by Louis Sachar



King of the Mound:  
My Summer with  
Satchel Paige,  
by Wes Tooke

When Nick is released from the hospital after suffering from polio, he is sure that his father will never look at him in the same way again. Once the best pitcher in youth league, Nick now walks with a limp and is dependent on a heavy leg brace. He isn't sure he will ever return to the mound, never mind be the star he once was. When Nick starts working for Mr. Churchill, the owner of the semiprofessional team Nick's dad plays for, he meets Satchel Paige, arguably the best pitcher in the world. Not allowed in the major leagues because of his skin color, Satchel teaches Nick that some things can be overcome with hard work and dedication, and that just because you're down, you are most certainly not out. As Satchel and his unique teammates barnstorm toward a national baseball tournament, Nick wonders if he can really overcome what seems like the impossible and pitch again.

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers  
Book summary from Amazon



Discovering new words

Directions: The best way to increase your vocabulary is to read. Keep a list of new words you learn in your journal, including the words listed here. Find the following words in the puzzle. Next, look up the definition of each word in the dictionary and write down all of the meanings of each word in your journal. See if you can find each of the words in the Tampa Bay Times.

- AUTHOR
- BASEBALL
- BOOK
- CHARACTER
- FICTION
- INTEGRITY
- LIBRARY
- MASCOT
- MYSTERY
- NEWSPAPER
- PERSEVERANCE
- PERSONIFICATION
- PLOT
- PREPARATION
- PROTAGONIST
- PUBLISHER
- READING
- SKILLS
- SYMBOLISM
- THEME

T D R T P Y L Y R M B B I F L I J S D T K Q I I K  
R J A H P E C E E Y I I A V L B O D S U P G X C W  
M B N E Z I H F P T R F S S Y O M K V R H G K X A  
P Z O H M S I N A O O M G H E G R I O I P O F N A  
S P Z C I C R G P C W U S J R B X T W I N V Z M S  
K G X L T O V I S S X F P A U E A O N Q A A D D X  
M M B I H V W V W A A Z H Z M G T L Y O V G F P T  
T U O T W H Z K E M I R P M O K U C L S K I L L S  
P N U L L H H Y N U J E X N H W W N A P Y W C R L  
I A G W I U U R R Q R R I K L K D N D R L X P W W  
F H P I A H T X L E U S G U D A U N B Z A R M U L  
I N T E G R I T Y R T Y R A R B I L O P L H O G R  
J U A O R P A V A Y B S U K E L P Y O Q W B C S E  
P H K J G S O K B J W N Y T N C Y K K A L X X Q A  
R L M P Q L E M S I L O B M Y S O H W A F N C X D  
E A X S B A X V P W S W E Y C A A U N B I Y E W I  
P U H H J V P H E W P E R S O N I F I C A T I O N  
A Z K J K L C F L R C F Z W M A U G K I W E K P G  
R P R Z P I R T C M A S P C J N V R X K A R L P L  
A Q U M N N Y R A T D N C O N I X F S J Y O V Y A  
T G M L B R O G A C H R C C C H M X G K T M A W T  
I Z E K K Q M D R U O E P E F K G B U H E Y E C Z  
O C H F K U O K W I P B M H N Z F Z X O N B T T U  
N X R F E U D R N C P D U E O Q F E P I Y W H C I  
Q G P W F A W S H L U H L O Z J O N M A J X C D I



LEARNING WITH THE TIMES

Being strong

Satchel Paige teaches Nick an important lesson in *King of the Mound: My Summer with Satchel Paige*. Working hard and being dedicated to a goal are important character traits. Do you know people who are dedicated and hard workers? Make a list of all of the people you know who fit this description. Now, look for an article in the *Tampa Bay Times* that focuses on a person in your community who fits this description. Write down the important points in the article that depict these character traits. Create a poster to illustrate your ideas. Share your visual and what you have learned with your family and class.



GRADES 3-5

SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

- The Homework Machine*, by Dan Gutman
- Hoot*, by Carl Hiaasen
- Hope Is a Ferris Wheel*, by Robin Herrera
- Hooper Finds a Family: A Hurricane Katrina Dog's Survival Tale*, by Jane Paley
- How Tia Lola Came to (Visit) Stay*, by Julia Alvarez
- How to Catch a Bogle*, by Catherine Jinks
- How to Eat Fried Worms*, by Thomas Rockwell
- The Hundred Dresses*, by Eleanor Estes
- I Have Heard of a Land*, by Joyce Carol Thomas
- I Lived on Butterfly Hill*, by Marjorie Agosin
- Ice Magic*, by Matt Christopher
- The Ice Man*, by MariJo Moore
- In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*, by Bette Bao Lord
- The Indian in the Cupboard*, by Lynne Reid Banks
- Island of the Blue Dolphins*, by Scott O'Dell
- James and the Giant Peach*, by Roald Dahl

- Jason and Elihu*, by Shelley Fraser Mickle
- Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker*, by Patricia Hruby Powell
- Jumanji*, by Chris Van Allsburg
- The Keeping Quilt*, by Patricia Polacco
- Kickoff*, by Donna King
- The Kid Who Only Hit Homers*, by Matt Christopher
- Kinda Like Brothers*, by Coe Booth
- King of the Mound: My Summer with Satchel Paige*, by Wes Tooke
- A Light in the Attic*, by Shel Silverstein
- Life under Ice*, by Mary M. Cerullo
- Lincoln's Grave Robbers*, by Steve Sheinkin
- The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis
- Little House in the Big Woods*, by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Lizards*, by Nic Bishop
- Lost in Spooky Forest*, by Sean O'Reilly
- Lowriders in Space*, by Cathy Camper





# EVAN LONGORIA

Rays third baseman Evan Michael Longoria was born on Oct. 7, 1985, in Downey, Calif. Longoria made his major league debut in 2008. Longoria considers cooking his first passion outside of baseball and opened his first restaurant, Ducky's, in December 2013. Ducky's, located near the University of Tampa on West Kennedy Boulevard, features two duckpin (mini) bowling lanes and plenty of TVs.

In addition to having a passion for food and baseball, Longoria is a classic car enthusiast. As a kid, he would watch his grandfather, a mechanic, work on cars at the gas station he owned.

Longoria will donate more than \$1 million during the life of his new contract to the Rays Baseball Foundation, which supports youth and education programs in the region.

Longoria works closely with the Moffitt Cancer Center, the Tampa Sports Commission's Tampa's

Got Wings program and the Pet Pal Animal Shelter in St. Petersburg. He is the proud father of a girl, Elle (2), and infant son, Nash.

Longoria knows the importance of education. He studied criminology at Long Beach State University in California, and he has enjoyed reading since he was a child.

In 2010, at the age of 24, Evan became the first Rays third baseman to be named an American League All-Star in each of his first three seasons.



## This is your fourth year sponsoring the Reading with the Rays program. Why is being a part of this program so important to you?

"Any time we can get kids reading and help them experience a positive vibe associated with it, is a win for all of us. It has also taken on a more prominent place of importance to me because of the addition of my own kids."

## What do you hope kids get out of this program?

"For them to make an early connection to books and realize the importance of reading."

## Why do you think it's so important to have someone like you as the face of this initiative?

"I think it's important any time you have an adult taking the time to influence kids in a positive way. I'm happy to use the platform the Rays and MLB have given me to do this."

## Has your attitude toward reading changed since you've started a family?

"Definitely. From the time our daughter was born, we have made it a priority to teach her the importance of reading and have books available to her. We will continue that practice with our son."

## How does your family incorporate reading into their daily routine?

"At the very least, we read a book at bedtime. We are constantly encouraging reading as a means to learn and grow."

## What are some of your family's favorite books?

"We read Elmo, Dr. Seuss, *8 Little Monkeys* and I occasionally throw in a baseball book!"



## BOOK BLAST

### ***The Adventures of Beanboy,* by Lisa Harkrader**

Never underestimate the power of the bean. Tucker MacBean has been drawing comic books almost as long as he's been reading them.

When his favorite comic has a contest for kids, he hopes he has finally found a way to fix his family — all he has to do is create the winning superhero sidekick... .

Introducing “Beanboy” — the first comic book character to truly harness the power of the bean for good. He is strong, he is relentless, he can double in size overnight (if given enough water).

*Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers*

*Book summary from Amazon*



## Being a goal setter

Baseball players know the importance of having self-discipline. Did you know that having self-discipline is not just the ability to set a realistic goal or make a plan, but it includes sticking with that plan in order to achieve your goal? The Tampa Bay Rays players, manager and coaches know this and make sure they practice self-discipline on and off the diamond.

Having self-discipline means you keep promises and follow through on commitments. Self-discipline is the foundation of other positive character

traits, such as responsibility, honesty, fairness and integrity.

Often, self-discipline requires persistence. That means you must stick with a plan and follow through on your commitments. It also may require you to put your negative emotions, such as anger and envy, aside.

Learning self-discipline can help you develop willpower and good decision-making skills. Having self-discipline and patience may prevent you from jumping into bad situations or harm.



## Think about it

Tampa Bay officially became the Rays on Nov. 8, 2007. In the seven years since, they have averaged 90 wins per season, advanced to the post-season four times and won two American League East Division titles and the 2008 American League Championship. In the 10 previous seasons as the Devil Rays, Tampa Bay averaged only 65 wins per season.

Think about the character traits that the players and coaches must possess to make success happen. Make a list of these character traits. Read about the games in the *Tampa Bay Times*. Put examples next to each character trait. Compose a song with this information.



### LEARNING WITH THE *TIMES*

#### Turning reality into fiction

Tucker MacBean is a not-so-typical middle school student. Beanboy is not your everyday superhero. A graphic novella is a story made up of comic content. Can you turn an everyday person or situation into a graphic novella? Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for a photo or advertisement that catches your attention. In your journal, write down the points that are shown in the photo or ad. Write down as many details as you can, so you can change your facts into a graphic novella. Be sure to include creative images, dialogue and details in your final result. Share your graphic novella with your family and friends.





## RENE RIVERA

#44

Catcher Rene Rivera is a native of Puerto Rico. He joined the Rays in December 2014 as part of a three-team, 11-player trade — the largest in club history. Last year, his catcher's ERA of 3.10 for the Padres was the best in franchise history. When not traveling with the Rays, Rivera lives in Bayamon, Puerto Rico with his wife and twin daughters.

**Why is learning to read important?**

"Learning to read is really important in life. You learn about life from every perspective — like how to take care of yourself or learn a language — a lot of things that are important on a daily basis."

**How do you use the skills you learned by reading in baseball? In life?**

"I learned early in my career that I needed to read. When I entered professional baseball, I didn't know English, so reading was important. It helped me learn how to speak, how to write English and communicate with my teammates just by reading."

**How do you feel reading has affected your quality of life as an adult?**

"I learn different types of skills just by reading. I read to relax and to learn more of the English language. It's a huge part of my life."

**Do you read to your children? If so, what are some of their favorite books?**

"When they are a little older, I'll start reading to them about Mickey Mouse. The twins are still only 1 year old."

SUMMER  
READING SUGGESTIONS

*The Luck Uglies*, by Paul Durham  
*The Magic Elevator*, by Pol McShane  
*The Magic Finger*, by Roald Dahl  
*Magic Marks the Spot*, by Caroline Carlson  
*The Magician's Nephew*, by C.S. Lewis  
*Maniac Magee*, by Jerry Spinelli  
*Maritcha*, by Tonya Bolden  
*Matilda*, by Roald Dahl  
*Meet Danitra Brown*, by Nikki Grimes  
*Mikis and the Donkey*, by Bibi Dumon Tak  
*Millicent Min, Girl Genius*, by Lisa Yee  
*The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher*, by Dana Alison Levy  
*Mirandy and Brother Wind*, by Patricia McKissack  
*Missing May*, by Cynthia Rylant  
*Monster on the Hill*, by Rob Harrell  
*A Moose Boosh: A Few Choice Words about Food*, by Eric-Shabazz Larkin  
*The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, by Beverly Cleary  
*My Diary from Here to There*, by Amada Irma Pérez  
*My Dog May Be a Genius*, by Jack Prelutsky  
*My Name Is Maria Isabel*, by Alma Flor Ada  
*My Side of the Mountain*, by Jean Craighead George  
*Mysterious Patterns: Finding Fractals in Nature*, by Sarah C. Campbell  
*Nathaniel Talking*, by Eloise Greenfield  
*Nest*, by Esther Ehrlich  
*Night on the Neighborhood Street*, by Eloise Greenfield  
*Norby, the Mixed-up Robot*, by Janet Asimov  
*Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry  
*Once Upon an Alphabet*, by Oliver Jeffers  
*The One and Only Ivan*, by Katherine Applegate  
*Out of the Dust*, by Karen Hesse  
*Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant's Tale*, by Duncan Tonatiuh  
*Pirateology*, by Dugald A. Steer  
*President of the Whole Fifth Grade*, by Sherri Winston  
*Princess Academy*, by Shannon Hale  
*P. S. Be Eleven*, by Rita Williams-Garcia  
*Punished*, by David Lubar  
*The Quest for the Tree Kangaroo*, by Sy Montgomery  
*Rain Reign*, by Ann M. Martin  
*Rainbow Jordan*, by Alice Childress  
*Ramona the Pest*, by Beverly Cleary  
*Real-Life Vampires*, by Megan Kopp  
*The Red Pencil*, by Andrea Davis Pinkney  
*Return to Animal Land*, by Pol McShane  
*The Road to Memphis*, by Mildred Taylor  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, by Mildred D. Taylor  
*Romare Bearden: Collage of Memories*, by Jan Greenberg  
*Rotten School #4: Lose, Team, Lose!* by R.L. Stine  
*Roxie and the Hooligans*, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
*Rules*, by Cynthia Lord  
*Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin*, by Liesl Shurtliff  
*Safe at Home*, by Sharon Robinson  
*Sahara Special*, by Esme Raji Codell  
*Sarah, Plain and Tall*, by Patricia MacLachlan  
*The Sasquatch Escape*, by Suzanne Selfors  
*Sisters*, by Raina Telgemeier



## BOOK BLAST

### ***Capture the Flag,* by Kate Messner**

Anna, José and Henry have never met, but they have more in common than they realize. Snowed in together at a chaotic Washington, D.C. airport, they encounter a mysterious tattooed man, a flamboyant politician and a rambunctious poodle named for an ancient king. Even stranger, news stations everywhere have just announced that the famous flag that inspired *The Star-Spangled Banner* has been stolen! Anna, certain that the culprits must be snowed in, too, recruits Henry and José to help find the thieves and bring them to justice. But when accusations start flying, they soon realize there's even more than a national treasure at stake.

*Publisher: Scholastic*

*Book summary from Amazon*



## Compassion, empathy, philanthropy

Evan Longoria and the rest of the Rays players featured in this publication all exhibit the character traits of compassion, empathy and philanthropy. You can add these three terms to your vocabulary list and look up their meanings. Compassion, empathy and philanthropy go hand-in-hand.

The Rays players exhibit these three traits by giving to the Rays Baseball Foundation as well as their own foundations, which give back to the community. Compassionate people have an understanding of points of view and beliefs different from their own. Compassion gives people a feeling of excitement, instead of sadness, when other people have successes. The United States Department of Education has

some suggestions for you to learn to be more compassionate in your everyday life. Practice some of these suggestions and write about them in your journal.

- Talk about the point of view of others as you watch TV, watch videos and read books and newspaper articles. For example, you can ask, "What do you think that character is feeling and thinking?"
- Show care for other people by helping them. For example, you can run errands for sick neighbors or open doors for people.
- Give others the benefit of the doubt.
- Be open to differences in your classmates and other people you meet.

Source: U.S. Department of Education

## Think about it

After a hard day at the ballpark, Manager Kevin Cash,

along with some of the other Tampa Bay Rays, like to relax with a good book or the *Tampa Bay Times*. Reading can be relaxing as well as entertaining. You can enjoy the best of both worlds this summer by participating in the Reading with the Rays program. Your local library can be a great place to have fun during the summer break. By reading books and exploring the Internet, you can have a lot of adventures. Books are your ticket to learning about the past and traveling around the world this summer. Be your own travel agent and choose destinations that will lead you right back to the Tampa Bay area and Tropicana Field. The best place to find your favorite books is at your library.

## Showing compassion

Compassion can be a complicated character trait for some people. There are examples of compassion all around us, though. Look through the pages of the *Tampa Bay Times* to find an article and a cartoon that show a person or character being compassionate. In your journal, write down why this character or person is compassionate. As an additional activity, research compassion in an encyclopedia or dictionary. Find a famous person who displays compassion and philanthropy and research that person. Write a blog or Facebook post about what you have learned and share the information with your friends, family and classmates.





# KEVIN CASH

#16



This past December, Tampa native Kevin Cash was named the fifth manager of the Tampa Bay Rays. Rays President of Baseball Operations Matt Silverman described Cash as having poise, confidence and open-mindedness, which are a “rare combination to have in an individual.”

Cash is the youngest active manager in Major League Baseball and the youngest manager/head coach among the four major professional sports (MLB, NFL, NHL and NBA). A former catcher, Cash played with five major league teams, including 13 games for the Rays in 2005. He served as bullpen coach for the Cleveland Indians before coming home to Tampa Bay.

Cash is a graduate of Florida State University and Gaither High School. He was a member of the Tampa Northside Little League team that played in the 1989 Little League World Series. He and his wife, Emily, have three kids: daughters Camden (8) and Ella (7) and son J.D. (2).

## SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

*Scat*, by Carl Hiaasen  
*Search for the Shadowman*, by Joan Lowery Nixon  
*The Shadows*, by Jacqueline West  
*Shoeless Joe and Me*, by Dan Gutman  
*Sing Down the Rain*, by Judi Moreillon  
*The Singing Man*, by Angela Shelf Medearis  
*The Skates of Uncle Richard*, by Carol Fenner  
*The Sky Is Full of Stars*, by Franklyn Branley and Felicia Bond  
*Slam Dunk*, by Donna King  
*A Snicker of Magic*, by Natalie Lloyd  
*So You Want to Be an Inventor?* by Judith St. George  
*Soccer Duel*, by Matt Christopher  
*Soldier Dog*, by Sam Angus  
*Sophie Simon Solves Them All*, by Lisa Graff  
*Soul Looks Back in Wonder*, by Phyllis Fogelman  
*Stanley and the Magic Lamp*, by Jeff Brown  
*The Star People: A Lakota Story*, by S.D. Nelson  
*Storm in the Night*, by Mary Stolz  
*Stranded*, by Jeff Probst and Chris Tebbetts  
*The Strange New Feeling*, by Julius Lester  
*Summer Reading Is Killing Me!* by Jon Scieszka  
*Super-sized Slugger*, by Cal Ripken Jr.  
*The Tale of Despereaux*, by Kate DiCamillo  
*Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, by Judy Blume  
*Ted & Me*, by Dan Gutman  
*Three Bird Summer*, by Sara St. Antoine  
*Third Grade Pet*, by Judy Cox  
*Through My Eyes*, by Ruby Bridges  
*The Tilting House*, by Tom Llewellyn  
*The Top of the World*, by Steve Jenkins  
*Treasury of Egyptian Mythology*, by Donna Jo Napoli  
*The Trouble with Wishes*, by Diane Stanley  
*The Trumpet of the Swan*, by E.B. White  
*Turtle in Paradise*, by Jennifer L. Holm  
*The Turtle of Oman*, by Naomi Shihab Nye  
*Tuesdays at the Castle*, by Jessica Day George  
*Under the Egg*, by Laura Marx Fitzgerald  
*Under the Sunday Tree*, by Eloise Greenfield  
*The Underneath*, by Kathi Appelt  
*Volcano Wakes Up!* by Lisa Peters  
*Vroom! Motoring into the Wild World of Racing*, by Tim Miller  
*Waiting for Normal*, by Leslie Connor  
*The War within These Walls*, by Aline Sax  
*We Are the Ship*, by Kadir Nelson  
*West of the Moon*, by Margi Preus  
*What Are You So Grumpy About?* by Tom Lichtenheld  
*When Life Gives You O.J.*, by Erica Perl  
*Where the Flame Trees Bloom*, by Alma Flor Ada  
*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, by Grace Lin  
*Where the Red Fern Grows*, by Wilson Rawls  
*Where the Sidewalk Ends*, by Shel Silverstein  
*The Whispering Town*, by Jennifer Elvgren  
*The Witches*, by Roald Dahl  
*The Witch's Boy*, by Kelly Barnhill  
*Who Has Seen the Wind?* by Christina G. Rossetti  
*Words with Wings*, by Nikki Grimes  
*Zlateh the Goat*, by Isaac Bashevis Singer





## MASCOT SPOTLIGHT

Born somewhere in the Gulf of Mexico, Raymond has been the Rays mascot since 1998. You can see Raymond at all of the Rays games. He is really tall and

really heavy. He also is afraid of bats. Raymond loves baseball and reading. His other hobbies include belly dancing, hugging, eating hot dogs, doing flips, playing full-contact shuffleboard, playing extreme chess and meeting kids. The next time you see Raymond, ask him about reading. You are sure to get two thumbs up!

### What is it that you enjoy about reading?

"Reading takes my mind off the stress of the baseball season."

### What genre do you prefer reading?

"Sports books about baseball!"

### What is your favorite book?

"*Underwater Dogs*, by Seth Casteel."

### Do you prefer reading printed publications or reading online or on a tablet device?

"Nothing like flipping through the pages of a soft spine book."

### Why is learning to read important?

"Learning to read will keep you from working for hotdogs ... trust me on that one."



## MASCOT SPOTLIGHT

Music and reading go together. Did you know that songs are just poems put to music? Listening to poetry is pretty cool, and it is DJ Kitty's favorite

thing to do. Some of his favorite songs are *Pump Up the Jam* by Technotronic, *Jump Around* by House of Pain, *Do It Again* by The Chemical Brothers, *Voodoo People* by the Prodigy and *Jump* by the Movement.



### What is it that you enjoy about reading?

"I think it's way more fun than chasing a ball of string."

### What genre do you prefer reading?

"Books about my fellow felines."

### What are some of your favorite books and/or authors?

"*The Cat's Meow*, by Darlene Arden, and *M Is for Meow*, by Helen Wilbur."

### Do you prefer reading printed publications or reading online or on a tablet device?

"I prefer online because I get to use the mouse!"

### Why is learning to read important?

"If you read, then you get to reach higher heights, in all your nine lives."



## LEARNING WITH THE TIMES

### Honesty is the best policy

DJ Kitty loves reading books, but he also likes reading the comics in the *Tampa Bay Times*. The comic strips in the newspaper often reflect real life. We can be pleased with this because there is much honesty that can be found among the characters in various comic strips. Read through the comic strips in the *Times*. As you read, look for examples of honesty or truthfulness in each character's speech and actions. Write a brief paragraph about the comic strip and the qualities you have discovered in the character or characters. Share your thoughts with your classmates and family.



# Hey, Parents

The No. 1 way to keep your family reading is with the daily newspaper. Encourage your children to participate in the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education Reading with the Rays program. Have your children keep up with the Rays games and chart their favorite players' statistics by reading the *Tampa Bay Times*.

## Your participating libraries

The following library systems are proud partners of the Reading with the Rays program. Check out your library's summer programs. You can find out about your library's calendar of events, kids' and teens' programs and special events by going to the main library Web page. Visit [tampabay.com/nie/raysreading](http://tampabay.com/nie/raysreading) for more activities and reading suggestions for elementary, middle and high school students.

### Charlotte County Library System

Website: [charlottecountyfl.com/Library](http://charlottecountyfl.com/Library)  
Phone: 941-625-6470

### Citrus County Library System

Website: [citruslibraries.org](http://citruslibraries.org)  
Phone: 352-795-3716

### Hernando County Public Library System

Website: [hcpl.lib.fl.us](http://hcpl.lib.fl.us)  
Phone: 352-754-4043

### Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative

Website: [hcplc.org](http://hcplc.org)  
Phone: 813-273-3652

### Manatee County Library System

Website: [mymanatee.org/library.html](http://mymanatee.org/library.html)  
Phone: 941-748-5555

### Pasco County Library Cooperative

Website: [pascolibraries.org](http://pascolibraries.org)  
Phone: 727-861-3040

### Pinellas Public Library Cooperative

Website: [pplc.us](http://pplc.us)  
Phone: 727-441-8408

### Polk County Library Cooperative

Website: [mypclc.org](http://mypclc.org)  
Phone: 863-834-4280

### Sarasota County Libraries System

Website: [scgov.net/library/system](http://scgov.net/library/system)  
Phone: 941-861-5000



## BOOK BLAST

### *The Sasquatch Escape*, by Suzanne Selfors

When Ben Silverstein is sent to the rundown town of Buttonville to spend the summer with his grandfather, he's certain it will be the most boring vacation ever. That is, until his grandfather's cat brings home what looks like ... a baby dragon? Amazed, Ben enlists the help of Pearl Petal, a local girl with an eye for adventure. They take the dragon to the only veterinarian's office in town — Dr. Woo's Worm Hospital. But as Ben and Pearl discover once they are inside, Dr. Woo's isn't a worm hospital at all — it's actually a secret hospital for imaginary creatures.

*Publisher: Little Brown Books for Young Readers*  
*Book blurb: Amazon*



## Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Co. to promote the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources. Our educational resources fall into the category of informational text.



Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the *Times*, plus our award-winning original curriculum, at no cost to teachers or schools. With ever-shrinking school budgets, the newspaper has become an invaluable tool to teachers. The *Times* and our NIE curriculum are rich educational resources, offering teachers an up-to-the-minute, living text and source for countless projects in virtually every content area.

Teachers, email [ordernie@tampabay.com](mailto:ordernie@tampabay.com) to become an NIE teacher. For information about how you can donate to NIE, call 800-333-7505, ext. 8138 or visit [tampabay.com/nie](http://tampabay.com/nie). Keep in the know about the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program by following us on Twitter: [twitter.com/TBTimesNIE](https://twitter.com/TBTimesNIE).

Teachers, you can order copies of the *Tampa Bay Times* or additional copies of this publication for your summer school classroom by emailing [ordernie@tampabay.com](mailto:ordernie@tampabay.com).

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Check out our summer reading website at [tampabay.com/nie/raysreading](http://tampabay.com/nie/raysreading).

## Florida Standards

Reading and interpreting the material in this publication and the *Times*, as well as completing the activities, correlate to the following Florida Standards for elementary school students. **Language Arts reading:** LAFS.3-5.RL.1.1; LAFS.3-5.RL.1.2; LAFS.3-5.RL.1.3; LAFS.3-5.RL.2.4; LAFS.3-5.RL.2.5; LAFS.3-5.RL.2.6; LAFS.3-5.RL.2.9; LAFS.3-5.RF.3.3; LAFS.3-5.RF.4.4; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.1; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.2; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.3; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.4; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.5; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.6; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.7; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.8; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.9 **Language Arts writing:** LAFS.3-5.W.1.1; LAFS.3-5.W.1.2; LAFS.3-5.W.1.3; LAFS.3-5.W.1.4; LAFS.3-5.W.1.5; LAFS.3-5.W.1.6; LAFS.3-5.W.1.7; LAFS.3-5.W.1.8 **Language Arts speaking and listening:** LAFS.3-5.SL.1.1; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.2; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.3; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.4; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.5; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.6 **Language:** LAFS.3-5.L.1.1; LAFS.3-5.L.1.2; LAFS.3-5.L.1.3; LAFS.3-5.L.1.4; LAFS.3-5.L.1.5; LAFS.3-5.L.1.6 **Visual Arts:** VA.3-5.C.1.1; VA.3-5.F.1.1; VA.3-5.F.3.1; VA.3-5.F.3.2; VA.3-5.F.3.3; VA.3-5.O.2.1; VA.3-5.O.3.1





# Readers Hit Home Runs, Too!

The Rays want you to knock it out of the ballpark this summer by reading your favorite books and participating in Reading with the Rays. It's simple. **The more you read, the more bases you round and the more prizes you collect.** When you reach home plate, you get two tickets to watch the Rays at the ballpark!



**Suncoast**  
Credit Union

Suncoast Credit Union is a proud sponsor of Reading with the Rays. As a supporter of educational efforts in the Tampa Bay area, we know financial literacy is an important concept for growing children. Learn more about teaching your child money saving tips and good spending habits at [suncoastcreditunion.com](http://suncoastcreditunion.com).

For more information about [Reading with the Rays](http://tampabay.com/nie/raysreading) visit [tampabay.com/nie/raysreading](http://tampabay.com/nie/raysreading)

