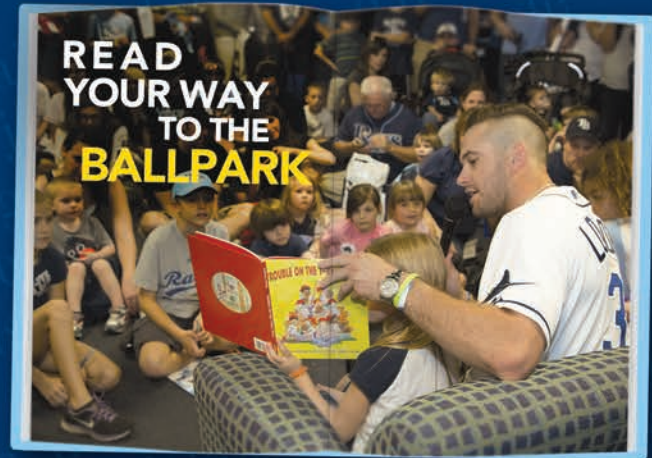


READING

WITH
THE **RAYs**



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Suncoast Credit Union
FOUNDATION



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Tampa Bay
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NIE
newspaper in education
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Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Company 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 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. Keep in the know about the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program by following us on Twitter: twitter.com/TBTimesNIE.

Teachers, you can order copies of the *Tampa Bay Times* for your summer school classroom by emailing ordernie@tampabay.com.



Newspaper in Education Staff

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Credits

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Player photos provided by the Tampa Bay Rays

Book descriptions taken from publishers

Check out our summer reading website at tampabay.com/nie/raysreading.

Florida Standards

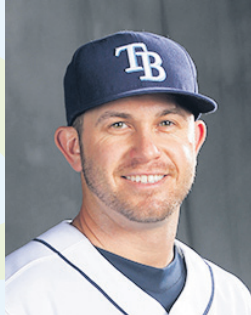
The Florida Department of Education states that the Florida Standards provide a robust set of goals for every grade. Emphasizing analytical thinking rather than rote memorization, the Florida Standards will prepare students for success in college, career and life. Reading and interpreting the material 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



Hey, Kids!

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



Once again, the Rays and I have teamed up with the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program to create a lineup of free summer reading fun. We are also happy to welcome our friends at Suncoast Credit Union as part of this summer's program. Their commitment to education in our community makes this an exciting matchup. 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.

By reading books this summer, elementary school students in grades three through five in Charlotte, Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties can circle the bases – first, second, third and home – and collect prizes as they go. Make it all the way around to home and the ultimate reward is a ticket to a Rays game at Tropicana Field this season to see my teammates and me in action.

Check out this insert and you'll see what my teammates and I have to say about reading. Chris Archer, David DeJesus, Matt Joyce, Ben Zobrist 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!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Evan Longoria".

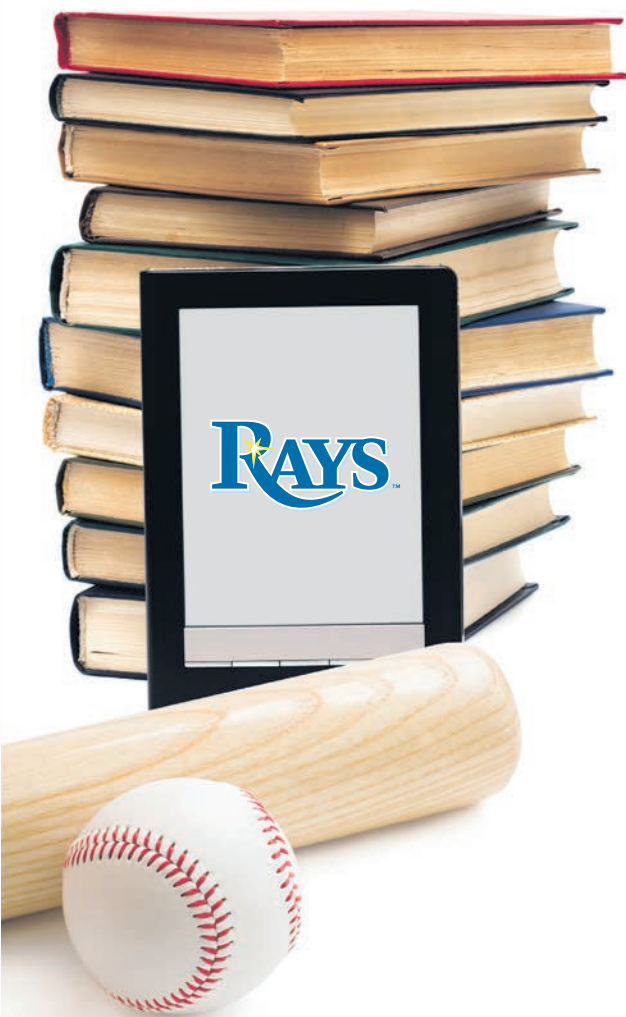
Evan Longoria, Tampa Bay Rays



Learning with the *Times*

Learning new words

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, 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 the Suncoast Credit Union Foundation to encourage and reward students for reading.

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 Web portal. Go to 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!

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.

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 one ticket 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 collect 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 a ticket 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: Evan Longoria arm sleeve
- ★ **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 one complimentary ticket to a 2014 Rays regular season home game (select dates and restrictions apply).



Book spotlight

How to Eat Fried Worms, by Thomas Rockwell

Because of a bet, Billy is in the uncomfortable position of having to eat 15 worms in 15 days.

The worms are supplied by his opponent, whose motto is the bigger and juicier, the better! At first, Billy's problem is whether or not he can swallow the worm placed before him, even with a choice of condiments from peanut butter to horseradish. But later it looks as if Billy will win, and the challenge becomes getting to the worm to eat it. Billy's family, after checking with the doctor, takes everything in stride. They even help Billy through his gastronomic ordeal, which twists and turns with each new day, leaving the outcome of the bet continually in doubt.

Publisher: Yearling



The academics of baseball

So, what do baseball and reading have in common? Sharpening your reading skills is a lot like sharpening skills for baseball. 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.

Sharpening your skills

When baseball players take the field, people rarely think about all of 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. 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.

RAYS SPOTLIGHT

BEN ZOBRIST, #18

Super utilityman Benjamin Thomas Zobrist was born on May 26, 1981, in Eureka, Ill. He is the longest-tenured Rays player. He and his wife, Julianna, have two children.

How does reading affect your everyday life and/or career?

"My wife and I just finished writing our first book, *Double Play: Faith and Family First*, with author Mike Yorkey. We are very proud of the work we put into it and were excited to launch it this spring. Obviously, being a reader helped tremendously in the writing of the book, as well."

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

"Ever since I can remember, I have been a huge sports fan. Naturally, I always loved reading books about sports. It is that much more enjoyable when you read about things that really interest you."

Do you enjoy reading fiction or nonfiction?

"I like to read nonfiction more than fiction. I like to read about history and really enjoy reading the Bible."

What do you read to your kids?

"My kids love the Curious George series. We read about George and the man in the yellow hat a lot these days."



Summer reading suggestions

The 39 Clues: The Maze of Bones, by Rick Riordan
The Absent Author, by Ron Roy
Against All Odds: Artist Dean Mitchell's Story, by Betty R. James
Aida, by Leontyne Price
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
Animals in the House: A History of Pets and People, by Sheila Keenan
Aquiferious, by Margaret Ross Tolbert
The Art of Racing in the Rain, by Garth Stein
Ask Dr. K. Fisher about Dinosaurs, by Claire Llewellyn
Attack of the Fluffy Bunnies, by Andrea Beaty
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 Bears on Hemlock Mountain, by Alice Dalgliesh
The Beast of Blackslope, by Tracy Barrett
Because of Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo
Better Nate Than Ever, by Tim Federle
The BFG, by Roald Dahl
Billions of Bats, by Scott Nickel
The Birchbark House, by Louise Erdrich
The Black Stallion, by Walter Farley
Bless This Mouse, by Lois Lowry
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
Bud, Not Buddy, by Christopher Paul Curtis
Calling the Doves / El Encanto de las Palomas, by Juan Felipe Herrera
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, by Roald Dahl
Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White
Charro: The Mexican Cowboy, by George Ancona
Chasing Redbird, by Sharon Creech
Chasing Vermeer, by Blue Balliett
Chomp, by Carl Hiaasen
Clambake: A Wampanoag Tradition, by Russell Peters
The Comeback Challenge, by Matt Christopher
The Contest, by Gordon Korman
Crazy Cars, by Matt Doeden
Crickwing, by Janell Cannon
Criss Cross, by Lynne Rae Perkins
Crossing Jordan, by Adrian Fogelin

Generosity, integrity and passion



Pitcher Chris Archer believes that generosity, integrity and passion are important values for people. The word “generosity” refers to giving and being liberal, or open-minded, in dealing with other people. “Integrity” suggests honesty. “Passion” refers to a strong emotion or feeling. These three traits, when used together, suggest that a person is honest and trustworthy. If the person is passionate about a subject, such as playing baseball, it means the person will work hard to achieve success.

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

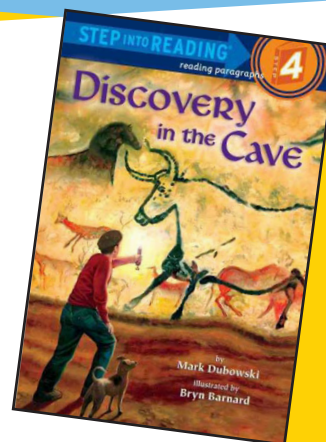
to St. Petersburg. A baseball committee, formed to attract a major league team to the city, raised \$20,000 to buy a large tract of land for a ballpark. The site chosen for the field was Coffee Pot Bayou in St. Petersburg, where a 2,000-seat grandstand was built.

Book spotlight

Discovery in the Cave, **by Mark Dubowski**

In 1940, four teenage boys and a dog dropped themselves into a hole in the forest floor. Using a flaming grease gun as a torch, they ventured deep underground, eventually coming to a huge cave, the walls of which were covered with life-size paintings of animals. Whole herds of horses! Deer with horns as big as tree branches! Giant bison! The boys were amazed by their discovery. They’d stumbled upon the world’s finest examples of prehistoric painting!

Publisher: Random House for Young Readers



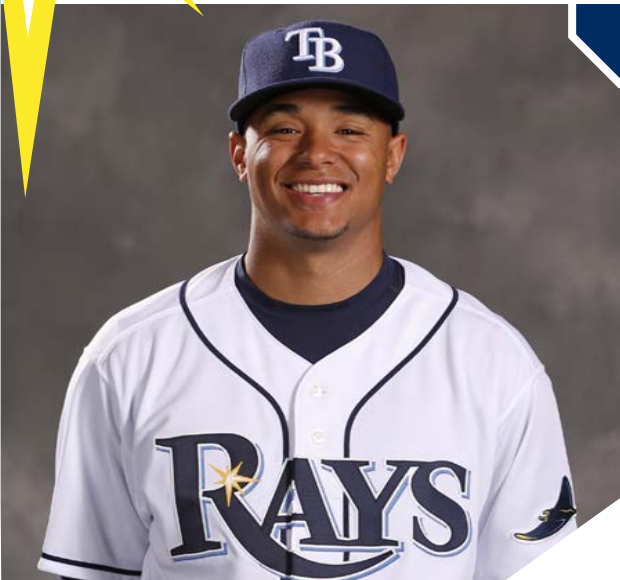
Learning with the *Times*

Unlocking secrets

Chris Archer hasn’t always liked to read, but as he has gotten older, he has learned that there are secrets hidden in books. Do you like to read? Do you like fiction or nonfiction, or do you prefer informational texts like 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 secrets you have learned. Use specific examples to highlight your points. Share your collage with your family and classmates.

RAYS SPOTLIGHT

CHRIS ARCHER, #22



Right-handed pitcher Chris Archer was born on Sept. 26, 1988, in Clayton, N.C. He joined the Tampa Bay Rays Major League roster in 2012. Archer created the Archway Foundation in 2013 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 advice do you have for young readers?

“Overall, being intelligent and reading and knowing about yourself will take you a lot further than if you aren’t doing those things.”

Did you enjoy reading as a kid?

“I didn’t always love reading as a kid. I realized as I got older that it wasn’t that I didn’t like to read, it was what I was reading that I didn’t enjoy. After I began choosing books that I enjoyed on subjects that I was able to apply to my life, I really fell in love with reading. I don’t think I would have as much of an understanding of myself had I not become a reader. It really helped me deal with failure early in my career. Through reading, I was able to gain a more broad perspective on failure and understand that my struggles were necessary to my success.”

Why is learning to read important?

“It helps you with being able to articulate. If you’re feeling a certain way and you need to communicate it, you’ve read through other people’s expressions and how to communicate them. You learn different words to use to really describe how you feel. Through reading, you can learn different ways to express yourself. You can learn through the characters’ negative and positive experiences how to deal with certain situations by reading about them and how others have dealt with them.”

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

“I have learned that everybody who has been successful has gone through some sort of adversity in his or her life. I’ve learned a lot about other successful people’s failures and successes through reading.”

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

“I’m constantly trying to grow as an individual. The secrets are hidden in books. I can continue to grow as a person if I take time out of my day to read. My goal each day is 30 minutes to an hour, usually 10 to 15 pages. At the end of each month I’ve read a book. I read 12 books a year, 12 hidden nuggets of advice for my life, by just reading 30 minutes a day.”

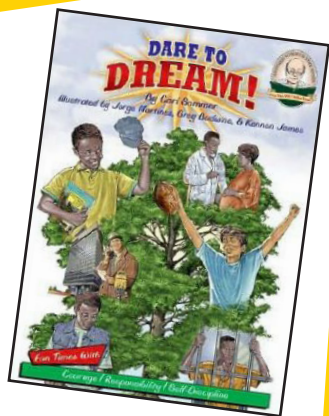
Summer reading suggestions

Dare to Dream!, by Carl Sommer
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
Doll Bones, by Holly Black
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
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library, by Chris Grabenstein
Esperanza Rising, by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Extreme Pets!, by Jane Harrington
Falling Up, by Shel Silverstein
Family Pictures, by Carmen Lomas Garza
The Familiars, by Adam Epstein & Andrew Jacobson
Famous Hispanic Americans, by Janet Morey and Wendy Dunn
The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester, by Barbara O’Connor
A Faraway Island, by Annika Thor
The Fast and the Furriest, by Andy Behrens
First Day in Grapes, by L. King Perez
The Fisherman and His Wife, by Eric Blair
Flush, by Carl Hiaasen
Fortune’s Magic Farm, by Suzanne Selfors
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 American Dust Bowl, by Don Brown
The Great Brain, by John D. Fitzgerald
The Great Migration: An American Story, by Jacob Lawrence
Gregor the Overlander, by Suzanne Collins
 Guardians of Ga’Hoole series, by Kathryn Lasky
Guinea Dog, by Patrick Jennings
Half-Minute Horrors, by Susan Rich
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
Henry and Mudge and the Tumbling Trip, by Cynthia Rylant
Heroes for My Son, by Brad Meltzer
A History of Us, by Joy Hakim
Holes, by Louis Sachar
The Homework Machine, by Dan Gutman
Hoot, by Carl Hiaasen
Horses, by Seymour Simon
How Tia Lola Came to 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

Dare to Dream! by Carl Sommer

Three boys grow up in the same drug-infested, gang-ruled, poverty-stricken neighborhood. Nelson becomes a successful doctor; his best friend, Jesse, an award-winning architectural engineer. But Nelson's brother, Alvin, ends up in jail. In this riveting tale, Nelson relates the story of their childhood and how, with the love and guidance of his grandparents, they learn valuable lessons that help them become successful against all odds. Although Alvin chooses differently, Nelson and Jesse are two friends who dare to dream!

Publisher: Advanced Publishing



Literary terms

Directions: Find the following literary terms in the word search puzzle. Next, look up the terms in the dictionary and write down their meanings in your journal. Finally, see if you can find examples of each term in the *Tampa Bay Times*.

ALLEGORY
ALLITERATION
ANTAGONIST
CHARACTER
DENOUEMENT
DIALOGUE
DIDACTIC
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE
FLASHBACK
FORESHADOWING
HYPERBOLE
IRONY
METAPHOR
NARRATOR
ONOMATOPOEIA
PERSONIFICATION
PROTAGONIST
SETTING
SYMBOLISM
THEME

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

Learning with the *Times*

Healthy eating

Evan Longoria considers food and cooking his first passion outside of baseball. Longoria, who cooks three or four times a week in the offseason, has been heavily involved in creating a healthy menu with the help of a couple of chef friends in Las Vegas and New York for his new restaurant, Ducky's. Now it is your turn to plan a healthy menu. Plan a healthy eating week at your home to increase awareness of good nutrition. Good nutrition is important for all people, especially growing kids. Use the articles in the Taste section of the *Tampa Bay Times* to help with suggestions for healthy eating. With a partner, create a plan for the healthy eating week. Use the ads and articles in the *Times* to assist you.

Create a graphic organizer with the information and share it with your family and class.

GRADES 3-5

Summer reading suggestions

The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins

Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms, by Patricia Lauber

I Have Heard of a Land, by Joyce Carol Thomas

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

Inside Out & Back Again, by Thanhha Lai

Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell

Ivan Rodriguez, by Tony DeMarco

James and the Giant Peach, by Roald Dahl

Jason and Elihu, by Shelley Fraser Mickle

Jumanji, by Chris Van Allsburg

Just Being Audrey, by Margaret Cardillo

The Keeping Quilt, by Patricia Polacco

Kickoff, by Donna King

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers, by Matt Christopher

Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me, by Daniel Beaty

The Legend of Caribou Boy, by John Blondin

A Light in the Attic, by Shel Silverstein

Life under Ice, by Mary M. Cerullo

Lincoln's Grave Robbers, by Steve Sheinkin

The Lion and the Mouse, by Jerry Pinkney

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, by C. S. Lewis

Little House in the Big Woods, by Laura Ingalls Wilder

A Little Love, by Virginia Hamilton

Lizards, by Nic Bishop

Lost in Spooky Forest, by Sean O'Reilly

Magic Windows, by Carmen Lomas Garza

The Magic Elevator, by Pol McShane

The Magic Finger, by Roald Dahl

The Magician's Nephew, by C. S. Lewis

A Man Called Raven, by Richard Van Camp

EVAN LONGORIA, #3



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 food and 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.

On Feb. 20, 2013, Longoria became the proud father of a baby girl, Elle.

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. During the 2010 season, at the age of 24, Evan became the first Rays third baseman to make the American League All-Star team in each of his first three seasons.

What is it that you enjoy about reading?

"The Reading with the Rays program has inspired me to get back into reading. The whole point of the program is for kids to start enjoying reading and reading more and learning things from what they're reading. I've read quite a few books that I never would have read had it not been for this program. I like the fact that books help me broaden my knowledge on any particular subject."

Do you enjoy reading fiction or nonfiction?

"I enjoy reading nonfiction more. I read *The Lone Survivor* recently. I enjoy learning things about other people and other professions and what makes people tick. I also really feel I get a lot out of books I can apply to my career and life. I read a book called *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*, which focuses a lot on different personalities and management styles and leadership. It's a great book if you're looking to understand how groups of people work together. Obviously, being a part of a team, I can apply this to my everyday life."

Now that you are a parent, do you read to your child?

"From the time we knew we were going to have a baby, we wanted to start her a library. So we asked people, instead of sending cards, to send books and inscribe them to her. The idea behind it was that she would get a bunch of books and we'd be able to start reading to her at a very early age. Now she has a pretty cool collection of books. She's got about 50 or 60 books already. She just turned 1 year old and it's cool to see that she's already engaged in the books we read to her. She really loves this one Elmo book we have."

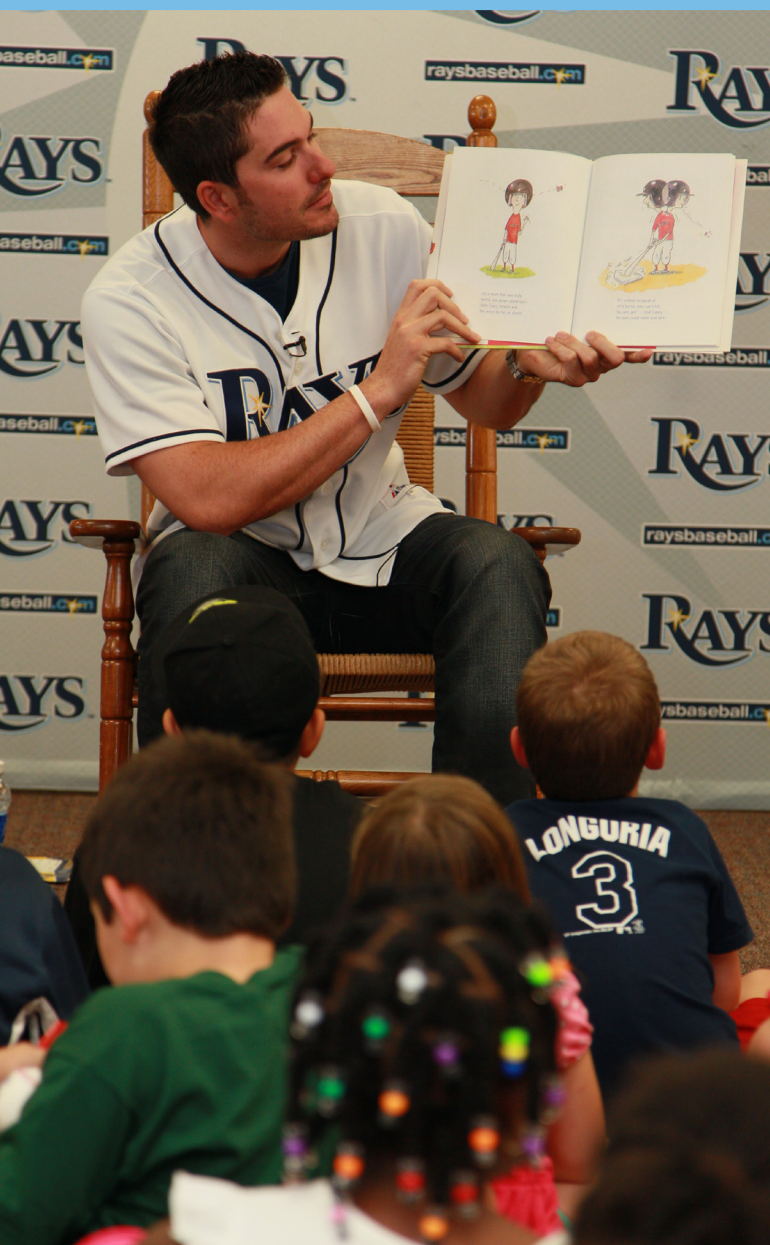
Do you prefer reading printed publications or reading online or on a tablet device?

"I read on my iPad mostly and I go onto the bookstore app a lot to see what's new, what the bestsellers are and what I might want to read next."



What do you hope kids who participate in this program get out of it?

"This program has really grown on me. Every year, I become more involved and it's become more important to me. I've seen the value in it. Having a child of my own, I want to be able to teach her that value early. It's great to be able to present reading in a positive way to kids early on and stoke their curiosity. Hopefully it encourages their desire to learn about things. It's amazing how much you can learn just by picking up a book. You can learn about anything at any time. The challenge is to get kids to read above and beyond what they *have* to read. Once they get to read things they *want* to read, hopefully they will enjoy reading that much more."



Setting goals

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 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

The Tampa Bay Major League baseball team officially became the Rays on Nov. 8,



2007. In the six seasons since then, they have averaged 92 wins per season, and advanced to the post season three times, winning two American League East Division titles and one American League Championship.

Under the current three-division format, which was initiated in 1994, only the Yankees and Rays have won more than one AL East title over a full 162-game season. 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 that 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.

T Learning with the *Times*

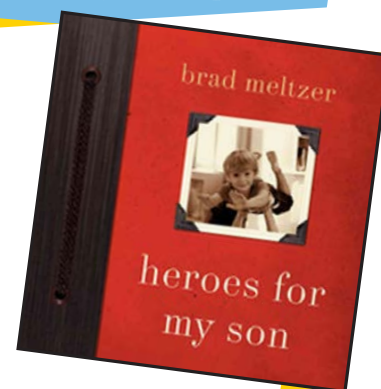
Setting a good example

In 2013, Matt Joyce hosted the fourth annual Sweet Swingin' Baseball Camp. The money from the camp was donated to the North Brandon Little League and All Children's Outpatient Care of Brandon. Joyce is setting a good example in the Tampa Bay community by being a good role model. Look in the pages of the *Tampa Bay Times*, as well as the Internet, to find other people who are role models to others because of their actions. Make a list of the people you find and what they have done that shows good character. Be sure to list specific examples next to the person's name. Share what you have learned with your classmates and family.

Book spotlight

***Heroes for My Son*, by Brad Meltzer**

From the Wright Brothers, who brought extra building materials to every test flight, planning ahead for failure, to Miep Gies, who risked her life to protect Anne Frank and her family from the Nazis during World War II, *Heroes for My Son* brings well-known figures together with less famous ones, telling the inspiring, behind-the-scenes stories of the moment that made them great. They are a miraculous group with one thing in common: Each is an example of the spectacular potential that can be found in all of us.



Publisher: Vook

RAYS SPOTLIGHT

MATT JOYCE #20



Outfielder Matt Joyce was born on Aug. 3, 1984 in Tampa, Fla. Joyce grew up in Brandon and lives in the Tampa Bay area year-round. For the past four years, Joyce has hosted the Sweet Swingin' Baseball Camp at North Brandon Little League, where he played as a youth.

What is it that you enjoy about reading?

"I enjoy reading because it takes you to a different world. It opens your mind to new places and new ideas and gives you a different perspective on things."

What genre do you prefer reading?

"I like fiction, a little nonfiction, self-improvement and I also really enjoy books on business. I read a lot of business books."

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

"I actually prefer to read printed books. I think sometimes staring at a tablet can strain your eyes, so I like a real book. It's a different feeling, reading an actual book."

Did you visit public libraries when you were growing up?

"I enjoyed going to the library when I could. The library wasn't very close to our house, so we didn't go too often. I had a lot of books at home, though."

Do you have any advice for young readers?

"Find something you're interested in and gravitate toward that, first. Pick up books on the topics that you like. Reading for just a few minutes a day can really help you be a better reader and keep you interested in the subject."

Did you enjoy reading as a kid?

"I read pretty actively as a kid. Once I found a subject that I liked, that really made me realize that I actually enjoyed reading. I was really into the Goosebumps series."

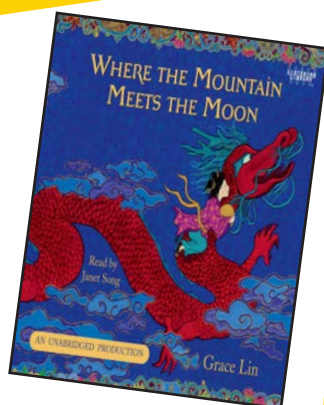
How does reading affect your everyday life and/or career?

"Reading has given me the chance to go to a good college and get an education. I would say the biggest way it's helped me in my career as a baseball player is building my vocabulary. As a player, you do a lot of interviews, and knowing how to communicate effectively and how to answer questions properly is very important. Being an active reader growing up has really made that an easy thing for me to do at my job."

Summer reading suggestions

Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli
Maritcha, by Tonya Bolden
Matilda, by Roald Dahl
Meet Danitra Brown, by Nikki Grimes
Michelle, by Deborah Hopkinson
Millicent Min, Girl Genius, by Lisa Yee
The Mouse and the Motorcycle, by Beverly Cleary
Mirandy and Brother Wind, by Patricia McKissack
Missing May, by Cynthia Rylant
Monster on the Hill, by Rob Harrell
Move!, by Steve Jenkins
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
 Nathan Abercrombie series, by David Lubar
Nathaniel Talking, by Eloise Greenfield
Night on the Neighborhood Street, by Eloise Greenfield
Norby, the Mixed-up Robot, by Janet Asimov
Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry
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 Tonatui
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
Rainbow Jordan, by Alice Childress
Ramona the Pest, by Beverly Cleary
Real-Life Vampires, by Megan Kopp
Return of the Buffaloes, by Paul Goble
Return to Animal Land, by Pol McShane
Return to Sender, by Julia Alvarez
Riddle-iculous Math, by Joan Holub
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
Rooftoppers, by Katherine Rundell
Rotten School #4: Lose, Team, Lose!, by R.L. Stine
Roxie and the Hooligans, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Rules, by Cynthia Lord
Safe at Home, by Sharon Robinson
Sahara Special, by Esme Raji Codell
Sarah, Plain and Tall, by Patricia MacLachlan
Scat, by Carl Hiaasen
Search for the Shadowman, by Joan Lowery Nixon
Serafina's Promise: A Novel in Verse, by Ann E. Burg
The Shadows, by Jaqueline West
Shoeless Joe and Me, by Dan Gutman
Sing Down the Rain, by Judi Moreillon
The Singing Man, by Angela Shelf Medearis

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon, by Grace Lin



In the valley of Fruitless Mountain, a young girl named Minli lives in a ramshackle hut with her parents.

In the evenings, her father regales her with old folktales of the Jade Dragon and the Old Man on the Moon, who knows the answers to all of life's questions. Inspired by these stories, Minli sets off on an extraordinary journey to find the Old Man on the Moon to ask him how she can change her family's fortune. She encounters an assorted cast of characters and magical creatures along the way, including a dragon who accompanies her on her quest for the ultimate answer.

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers



Compassion, empathy, philanthropy

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 point of views and beliefs different from their own. Compassion gives people a feeling of excitement, instead of sadness, when other people have successes.

The U.S. 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

Learning with the *Times*

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.

RAYS SPOTLIGHT



DAVID DeJESUS, #7

Outfielder David DeJesus was born on Dec. 20, 1979, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He joined the Rays franchise in August 2013. DeJesus is passionate about the David DeJesus Family Foundation, established in 2012. The foundation is committed to helping families in crisis who lack access to basic needs.

Do you remember the first book you ever read?

"*The Cat in the Hat* was the first book I read. I remember I really liked the rhyming and how all over the place it was. I read it to my son every day now. He really loves it, too."

Who was influential in getting you to read growing up?

"I had a few teachers who were influential, but really it was my parents that encouraged me to read the most as a kid. They always encouraged me to try different books out to find what I enjoyed reading. Once I found a genre I liked, I stuck with it. I found out early on that I really enjoyed funny books. They really kept me engaged."

Did you enjoy reading as a kid?

"My parents had to settle me down to get me to read. But once I sat down and got into the book and started to visualize it, I was locked in."

Why is learning to read important?

"Reading stimulates your brain. I think nowadays there are so many other ways for kids to be entertained with video games and stuff. I encourage them to pick up a book and try reading. They'll see quickly how fun it can be to use your imagination and get locked into a story."

Now that you are a parent, do you read to your child?

"Our little boy always wants to read. When I'm reading, he points out the words he wants to hear. That's pretty cool to me — now to be a mentor for him, knowing how important it is to get started at an early age."



Summer reading suggestions

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
So You Want to Be an Inventor?, by Judith St. George
Soccer Duel, by Matt Christopher
Soldier Dog, by Sam Angus
Something on My Mind, by Nikki Grimes
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
The Strange New Feeling, by Julius Lester
Sugar, by Jewell Parker Rhodes
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
Thank You, Mr. Falker, by Patricia Polacco
Third Grade Pet, by Judy Cox
This Land is My Land, by George Littlechild
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 Chickens, by Doreen Cronin
The Trouble with Wishes, by Diane Stanley
The Trumpet of the Swan, by E.B. White
Tuesdays at the Castle, by Jessica Day George
Turtle in Paradise, by Jennifer L. Holm
Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba, by Alma Flor Ada
Under the Sunday Tree, by Eloise Greenfield
The Underneath, by Kathi Appelt
Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys, by Elizabeth Howard
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
What Are You So Grumpy About?, by Tom Lichtenheld
When the Rain Sings, by Lee Francis
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
Whittington, by Alan Armstrong
Who Has Seen the Wind?, by Christina G. Rossetti
The Witches, by Roald Dahl
Words with Wings, by Nikki Grimes
Yetsa's Sweater, by Sylvia Olsen
The Young Man and the Sea, by Rodman Philbrick
Zlateh the Goat, by Isaac Bashevis Singer

MASCOT SPOTLIGHT

RAYMOND

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?

"Science fiction! I love stories about robots and faraway lands."

What is one of your favorite books and/or authors?

"I love reading *The Old Man and the Sea*, by Ernest Hemingway."

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

"I love a good paperback to read while fishing."

Why is learning to read important?

"Learning to read can take you places you never thought you would go."

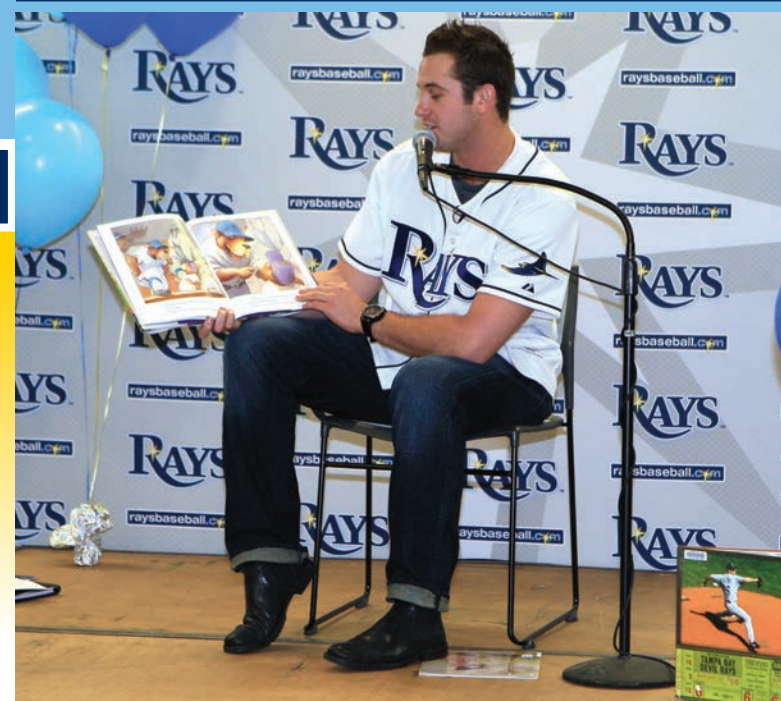
Book spotlight

The BFG, by Roald Dahl

The BFG is no ordinary bone-crunching giant. He is far too nice and jumbly. It's lucky for Sophie that he is. Had she been carried off in the middle of the night by the Bloodbottler, or any of the other giants — rather than the BFG — she would have soon become breakfast. When Sophie hears that the giants are flush-bunking off to England to swollomp a few nice little chiddlers, she decides she must stop them once and for all. And the BFG is going to help her!



Publisher: Puffin



America's favorite pastime ... reading

Yes, we all know baseball is billed as America's favorite pastime, but reading is, too. Every day, millions of people across the U.S. read. Whether it is a newspaper, book, magazine, traffic sign, menu or instruction manual, people read all of the time, often without even realizing it.

Along with the Tampa Bay Rays players, the mascots love to read, too. "LeVar Burton from *Reading Rainbow* first inspired me to read," notes Raymond. "Reading is fun! More importantly, reading opens doors to understanding and allows you to grow. Reading and baseball go ball in glove — you've got to read to understand the history of baseball and to learn how the game is played."

Relaxing at your library

After a hard day at the ballpark, some of the 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.

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 for more activities and reading suggestions for elementary, middle and high school students.

Charlotte County Library System

Website: charlottecountyfl.com/Library
Phone: 941-625-6470

Citrus County Library System

Website: citruslibraries.org
Phone: 352-795-3716

Hernando County Public Library System

Website: hcpl.lib.fl.us
Phone: 352-754-4043

Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative

Website: hclpc.org
Phone: 813-273-3652

Manatee County Library System

Website: mymanatee.org/library.html
Phone: 941-748-5555

Pasco County Library Cooperative

Website: pascolibraries.org
Phone: 727-861-3040

Pinellas Public Library Cooperative

Website: pplc.us
Phone: 727-441-8408

Polk County Library Cooperative

Website: mypclc.org
Phone: 863-834-4280

Sarasota County Library System

Website: scgov.net/LibrarySystem
Phone: 941-861-5000

MASCOT SPOTLIGHT

DJ KITTY



Music and reading go hand in hand. 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?

"Biographies. Real people are way cooler than cats."

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

"Two of my favorite feline fantasies are *The Cat in the Hat*, by Dr. Seuss and *Cat Says Meow*, by Michael Arndt."

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

"Tablets. My claws tap the screen purr-fectly."

Why is learning to read important?

"Reading makes you wise and your whiskers grow strong."



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.



Books are magic and a wise investment of time.

Each page unfolds a story in your mind - magical worlds and epic battles where villains are destroyed and heroes prevail.

The Tampa Bay Rays are heroes that love to read, so get out there and read your way around the bases for a chance to win some pretty cool prizes.

Suncoast Credit Union is proud to present Reading with the Rays

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

Today's kids are tomorrow's heroes, so invest in their future.

Suncoast has made it easier to save more for life by offering higher returns on deposits, many free and low-fee services and lower rates on loans.

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FOUNDATION