## EL/Civics Lesson Plan

#### Staff Responsible for Lesson Wendy Oliver\_

Date(s) Used	4/15, 4/24, and 4/29	
Civics Category	II. Civic Participation	
Civics Objective	15. Community Resources - Recreation Access leisure time, cultural, and/or recreational resources.	
Time Frame to Complete Lesson	3+ hours over multiple classes and a field trip	
EFL(s)	NRS levels 3-6	
Standard(s)/Components of Performance	Speak so others can understand  • Pay attention to conventions of oral English communication including grammar, word choice,	
	register, pace, and gesture in order to minimize barriers to listener's comprehension  • Use multiple strategies to monitor the effectiveness of the communication  Listen actively -	
	Monitor comprehension, adjusting listening strategies to overcome barriers to comprehension	
Benchmark(s)	S5.4 Expand vocabulary appropriate for a variety of familiar contexts.	
	53.5 Use rephrasing to enhance communication 54.5 Repeat, rephrase, or use circumlocution to ensure listeners understand	
	S5.5 Adapt word choice, word stress, and/or grammar to enhance communication	
	S6.5 Use a variety of strategies to clarify meaning. L3.3 Use verbal strategies to demonstrate comprehension or lack of comprehension	
	L4.3 Use verbal strategies to demonstrate comprehension or lack of comprehension L5.3 Ask questions to check comprehension	
Materials	List of 1000 most commonly used English words http://www.esldesk.com/esl-quizzes/commonly-used-english- words/words.htm 'Bases' made of colored construction paper-Mark them 'Home Plate', '1st Base', 2nd Base', and Third' Base. Make a 'Pitcher's	
	Mound as well.	

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	Candy prizes
	Explanation of the game -
	http://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/sports-baseball.htm
	Picture of a baseball diamond -
	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Wrigley_field_720.jpg
	Tickets to a Lake County Captains game.
	Wiffle ball and bat
Activities	I. Divide class into two teams with people of different levels
	on each team. Explain that you are going to play baseball with
	words. Place a 'base in each corner of the room and the
	pitcher's mound in the center.
	II. Select a letter or two (depending on number of students
	in the class) from the 1,000 common words list and give each
	team time to study them and talk among themselves. Explain
	that they will need to be able to spell the word and use it in a
	grammatical sentence to get a 'hit'. They will have 3 chances
	and the team can assist or attempts 2 and 3. If they fail 3
	times on a word, it will be. If they succeed, they can advance
	to 1st base. Each time another person succeeds, they will
	move to 1st base and the other players will continue around
	the room. The team will get a point when someone comes all
	the way around to home plate. If anyone does the task
	correctly on the first try, it will be a home run. They can walk
	around all the bases and score a point right away. If they try
	3 times and fail, it will be an out. 3 outs and the other team is
	up to bat.
	III. The first player stands on home plate and someone from
	the other team selects a word and 'pitches' it. Correct
	pronunciation problems. The player from the other team spells
	it and uses it in a sentence. The teacher either gives them a
	home run or calls a strike. If it is a strike, the player can
	consult with their team. If they don't understand the meaning
	of the word, teammates need to find a way to explain it to the
	player. Players seek clarification until they understand and
	jointly form a sentence. Again the teacher rules on the
	outcome as above. Play continues, with teams alternating, for
	9 'innings'.
	TV. The winning team is awarded the condu
	IV. The winning team is awarded the candy.
	V. Explain that the class is going to go n a field trip to see a
	baseball game. Explain that the game is a lot like what was
	just played but that there are some differences. Go over the
	handout in general terms and tell them that it is easier to

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	explain when you are at the game.
	VI. Go to a game. Have students bring their handout so they can look up unfamiliar vocabulary.
Assessment/ Evidence	Students play an inning of Wiffle Ball.
Reflection	On the night that we played baseball with the common words, the class was smaller and of lower level than usual, so it was moving too slowly. I put home plate by the blackboard so they could work on spelling on the board rather than in their heads. Phonetically sounding out the new words was very useful and I insisted that each person do their word solo at first. I ended up putting everyone on one team and making it them against me (the pitcher) to see if they could get through the word list without me striking them out. They made it and we all ate candy bars.  We didn't play a real game of Wiffle Ball. We just gave everyone a chance to try to bat. People were extremely energetic in trying to get to the bases to make others out. It was really fun and the laughter followed us back to the classroom. I also learned I am too old to play.  I set the baseball game up as a cultural experience, not so much about the game itself as about the experience of being at a game, in a stadium. Everyone learned to cheer and do the wave, and sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." But it was freezing the night of the game, and the stadium was nearly empty. Fly balls were all around us. There was a home run, many pop flies, a couple of bases were stolen and some Americans yelled at the ump (as advertised). In spite of the weather, they got the idea, enjoyed the mascot and came home having won a t-shirt, a beach ball and a Captain's glass. They ate Cracker Jack too. They may never go to another game, but they will understand the references they hear.

#### **How The Game Works**

Baseball is played between two teams of nine players on a specially-built baseball field, with up to four umpires in charge of a game. The teams take turns throwing the ball, or pitching, and batting. The pitcher throws the ball from the pitcher's mound (see diagram at right), aiming to throw it over a pentagonal rubber slab known as the *home plate*. The batter stands to one side of this plate, and tries to hit the ball when it is pitched. If the batter doesn't hit a pitch that is in the *strike zone*, meaning it's over the plate and not too high or too low, the umpire calls a *strike*. If three strikes are called, the batter is *out*. If the batter hits a pitch and the ball is caught by one of the *fielders*, the batter is also out. But if the batter hits a pitch into fair territory and it isn't caught, he drops his bat and runs towards first base (see diagram). If a fielder gets the ball and touches the batter with it, or tags him, before he gets to first base, he is out. But if he gets there without being tagged, he is safe. He can either stop at first base, or if he thinks he can get to second base safely, or even further, he can keep going. Once he stops at a base, the next batter comes in. If the next batter hits a pitch, the first batter can run to the next base, and so on. If he can run all the bases and get back to the home plate without being tagged, he scores a run for the team. His team will keep sending out new players to bat until three of them have been given out by the umpires and the team's turn at batting is over. The opposing team then has a chance to bat and score some runs. When both teams have had a turn to bat, an inning is over. In professional baseball, the team with the most runs after nine innings have been played is the winner.

The main contest in a game of baseball is between a pitcher and a batter. The pitcher tries to win the contest by striking the batter out, or by making him hit the ball into the air so a fielder can catch him out. The batter tries to win the contest by hitting the ball and helping his team to score runs. The pitcher works closely with his *catcher*, who is the player standing behind home plate who catches the ball whenever it isn't hit by the batter. The catcher often decides which type of pitch the pitcher should throw, and uses secret hand signals to communicate with him. Pitchers use a range of pitches, including fast balls, curve balls, sliders and change ups, with one of the arts of pitching being to disguise the type of ball one is pitching in order to confuse the batter. But if the batter hits a pitch, he could hit a fly ball high into the air, a pop fly almost straight up and down, a line drive fast and low to the *outfield*, or he could hit a gentle bunt into the infield. If the batter hits a pitch high and far and "out of the park", he scores a home run. If he does this when the bases are *loaded*, meaning there are base runners already waiting on all three bases, all of the runners will score a run on the same play. This is called a grand slam, and it's the highest-scoring play in baseball. The dream of every major league player, and the fantasy of every young baseball fan, is to come out to bat in the final inning of a World Series, on a grand slam play with the bases loaded, and to win the series by hitting a home run. Nothing in baseball could be finer than this.

# **Baseball Vocabulary**

Word	Example sentence	Meaning
ball	I walked to first base after the pitcher threw four balls.	a pitch thrown outside the strike zone
base	If the ball gets to the baseman before you do, you'll be out.	one of four "safe havens" to be reached in turn by a runner
base hit	He had a good game, getting five base hits altogether.	a play in which the batter hits the ball into fair territory and gets at least to first base
bases loaded	I was very nervous because our bases were loaded and we'd get 4 runs and win if I hit a home run.	situation in which a runner is waiting on each of three bases
bat	He hit the ball so hard that his bat was broken.	instrument made of aluminium or wood that is used to hit the ball while batting
batter	The batters wait in the dugout until it's time to bat.	player whose job is to hit the ball with a bat
batter's box	The umpire makes sure the batter is standing in the batter's box.	an area around home plate marked by white lines in which a batter must stand
bunt	He hit a bunt and the ball rolled slowly along the ground while he ran quickly to first base.	light hit made by letting the ball hit the bat without swinging it
catcher	Our catcher spends a lot of time practising hand signals with our pitchers.	player who squats behind home plate and catches pitches the batter doesn't hit
change up	One of his best pitches is his change up as most batters can't spot it and they have trouble hitting it.	a slow pitch thrown with the same arm action as a fastball, intended to deceive the batter
curve ball	His curve ball is hard to hit and he strikes out lots of weaker batters with it.	a pitch that moves unexpectedly in the air because of spin put on the ball by the pitcher

double	I hit the ball deep into the outfield and ran to second base for a double.	a hit from which the batter reaches second base
double play	We got two of their runners out on a double play and the inning was over.	a defensive play in which two base runners are out from two quick throws
dugout	The manager sat in the dugout chewing gum and shouting to his players.	area beside the field in which a team's players and coaches can sit
fair territory	He hit the ball over the fence, but it wasn't over fair territory so it wasn't a home run.	area of the field from home base out to the bottom of the home run fence and between the foul lines
fastball	Pitchers with good fastballs can throw them over 100 mph (162 km/h).	a pitch that is thrown as fast as possible
fly ball	He hit a fly ball into the outfield and a fielder caught it, so he was out.	batted ball that goes high in the air
foul ball	The hit went just outside the foul line, so it was called a foul ball.	batted ball that goes outside the foul lines
foul line	If a ball lands on a foul line, it is in fair territory.	lines extending from home plate through 1st and 3rd bases to the outfield fence
foul territory	Umpires decide whether a hit is into fair or foul territory.	all parts of the playing field outside the foul lines
grand slam	My son was so happy after hitting a home run on a grand slam play that he couldn't stop smiling.	a home run hit with a runner on every base, by which 4 runs are scored
ground ball	I knew I couldn't hit it far enough for a home run, so I hit a ground ball so it wouldn't be caught.	a batted ball that rolls or bounces in the infield
home plate	A pitcher usually tries to pitch the ball over the home plate.	the fourth base to which a runner runs, over which a pitcher pitches and a batter bats
home run	Babe Ruth held nearly all the home run records for many years.	a ball hit out of the playing field in fair territory, scoring a run for

		the batter and any base runners
infield	A bunt is a gentle shot played into the infield.	area inside the square formed by the four bases
infielder	The infielders have to have speed and very good reflexes.	player who fields in the infield, including first, second and third basemen and shortstop
inning	In professional baseball, a game usually lasts for nine innings.	a period of play in which each team bats until 3 batters are out
line drive	Good batters can hit line drives between fielders so they don't get caught.	a ball hit hard and low in the air
out	I hit the ball a long way, but a fielder caught it and I was out.	to be dismissed, or to have one's turn ended
outfield	How many fielders are usually placed in the outfield?	area between the infield and the home run fence
outfielder	Outfielders must be able to throw the ball a long way.	a player who fields in the outfield
pitcher's mound	Our relief pitcher walked slowly out to the pitcher's mound.	a raised section in the middle of the diamond on which pitchers stand when pitching
play	They threw the ball quickly and got both runners out on the same play.	a move or manoeuvre in a sport or game
run	We got three runs in the first innings, but didn't get any more until the eighth.	a score earned when a base runner safely gets to home plate
shortstop	The shortstop is near the batter and must be brave enough to catch or stop hard hits.	fielder whose position is between second and third bases
slider	Our best pitcher has four good pitches; his fastball, his curve ball, his change up and his slider.	a pitch that acts like a fastball until it breaks suddenly as it reaches the plate
steal	A pitcher has to keep an eye on the runners in case one tries to steal a base.	to run a base between pitches without the batter hitting the ball

strike	I was nervous because I'd already had two strikes called and if another one was called I'd be out.	a strike is called if a batter swings at a pitch and misses, or if the pitch passes through the strike zone without being hit
strike out	Joe's pitches are difficult to hit, so he strikes out a lot of batters.	to be out for having three strikes called
strike zone	Different umpires have different ideas on how big the strike zone should be.	the area over home plate and between the batter's armpits and knees as he stands ready to bat
tag	The fielder got the ball and tagged me out just before I got to the base.	to get a runner out by touching them with the ball or with the glove holding the ball
triple	I hit it way into the outfield and managed to run to third base for a triple.	a hit from which the batter reaches third base
triple play	Fielders must throw fast and accurately to make a triple play.	a defensive play in which three base runners are tagged out with three quick throws
walk	Their pitcher was replaced after walking three batters in a row.	free pass to first base given to a batter after a pitcher throws four balls outside the strike zone

