

DESIGN A TEAM JERSEY

Create a team jersey that represents your community!



WHAT IS A BASEBALL JERSEY?

A baseball jersey is a shirt that players wear as part of their uniform. Jerseys show the player's team name, last name, and uniform number, so fans and teammates can find them on the field. In 1947, during his trailblazing first season with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie Robinson wore a white button-down jersey with "Dodgers" in blue across the front. On the back, was his iconic 42 uniform number in bold blue numbers.

WARM UP

Use these questions to start thinking about the role sports teams play in a community.

1. Think about the local sports teams that play in your neighborhood, city, or state such as school teams, local neighborhood teams, or professional teams. Share or write down the teams that play in your community.
2. Think about the symbols, colors, and names of these local teams. Are these symbols, colors, and names significant in other areas of your community outside of sports? How do they reflect or relate to your community or neighborhood?
3. Who makes up this team's community? Think about the players, coaches, and supporters, and others who come together around this team or sport.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A baseball team's name can tell you about where they are from and the community that cheers for them. The team that would become the Brooklyn Dodgers was founded in 1883 as the Brooklyn Grays. In the 1890s, people began calling the team the "Brooklyn Trolley Dodgers," because of the trolleys, or new street level trains, that fans had to "dodge" on their way to games. The shortened name Brooklyn "Dodgers" became the team's official name in 1911, reflecting the daily experiences of fans in the growing city of Brooklyn.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. What makes your community special? Talk about or write down and list special places, traditions, or celebrations that are part of your neighborhood or community.
2. Name your team after a place, tradition, or celebration that makes your community special. *Example: The Brooklyn Cyclones are named after the Coney Island Cyclone rollercoaster.*
3. Design your team jersey. Print out our template or draw your own jersey by tracing the template. Add your team's name and choose colors and symbols for your jersey. Don't forget to add your uniform number on the back!

Bring your team jersey to the next level: With adult permission and supervision, use supplies such as fabric markers or fabric paint on a plain t-shirt to bring your team jersey to life!
4. Cut your jersey out! Display or wear your jersey as a proud fan of your community!

IMAGE A. Jackie Robinson at home plate, 1947, Getty Images.

IMAGE B. Clyde Sukeforth and Jackie Robinson, ca. 1947, Getty Images.

MAKE YOUR TEAM JERSEY!

FRONT SIDE



MAKE YOUR TEAM JERSEY!
BACK SIDE

