



Let's Play Ball

by Winston White
illustrated by Jan Bryan-Hunt



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

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🔊 Sara liked to play games.
She wanted to play ball,
so she got a bat
and a ball.

🔊 But she needed someone
to play with her.



🔊 Sara saw her Dad.
She asked, "Can you
play ball with me?"
"I can't play now,"
said Dad.
"I'm too busy."



🔊 Sara went to her Mom.

"Can you play ball with me?" Sara asked.

🔊 Mom shook her head.

"Not today," Mom said.



🔊 Sara saw Sam and Jason.
“Let’s play ball,”
Sara said.

🔊 “Sorry” said Sam.
“I have to work.”
“I have to work, too,”
said Jason.



🔊 Sara sat alone
in the yard.

No one would play ball
with her.

🔊 She **thought** about
what to do.



🔊 Then Sara had an **idea**.

"Come here, Max!"
shouted Sara.

🔊 Max ran to Sara
and wagged his tail.



🔊 Sara said, "Listen, Max.
I'll hit the ball
and you bring it back."

🔊 Sara hit the ball.
The ball went
a long way.



🔊 Max ran after the ball.
He got it
and brought it back.

🔊 When Sara hit the ball,
Max got it again.
He did **not** want to stop.



🔊 Sara was tired.

“Good dog, Max,”
she said.

“Let’s play ball again
on another day.

🔊 You are never too busy
to play ball with me!”

Responding

TARGET SKILL Understanding

Characters What kind of person is Sara? What words and actions help you know? Copy and complete the chart below.

Talk About It

Text to Text Think of another story about someone who has a pet. What did he or she do?



WORDS TO KNOW

beautiful

caught

friendship

idea

listen

minute

thought

took



TARGET SKILL

Understanding

Characters Tell more about characters.



TARGET STRATEGY

Visualize Picture what is happening as you read.



GENRE Realistic fiction is a story that could happen in real life.

Level: F

DRA: 10

Genre:

Realistic Fiction

Strategy:

Visualize

Skill:

Understanding Characters

Word Count: 215

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