



Lesson 2: A World of Baseball Talent

Objective: Students will be able to:

Identify that players from all over the world come to the United States to play professional baseball.

Compare the home countries of players on various MLB teams.

Create and use different types of graphs to compare data.

Time Required: 1 class period

Materials Needed:

- Graph paper
- Colored pencils or markers
- Copies of some "2012 Active Rosters" - 1 team for each student group (included)
 - o Cincinnati Reds
 - o San Francisco Giants
 - o Atlanta Braves
 - o Boston Red Sox
 - o New York Yankees
- A world map

Vocabulary:

Diversity - The condition of having or being composed of differing elements, especially the inclusion of different types of people in a group or organization



Lesson

1. Begin the lesson by reviewing that in every community in America, **diversity** is a source of strength and connection. In baseball, diversity offers the same things.
2. Ask students, "Is everyone who plays for Major League Baseball from the United States?"
3. Discuss that while baseball was developed in the United States, it is a popular game all over the world. As a result, some of baseball's greatest athletes grew up playing ball in other countries, and later came to the U.S. to play professionally.
4. Explain that at the start of the 2012 Major League Baseball season, 243 players (28.4%) were born outside the United States.¹ They represented 15 different countries and territories. Each player brings a unique set of skills to the game.
5. Ask students if they can name any baseball players (from the past or present) that are from other countries. Examples include:
 - Boston Red Sox star David Ortiz is from the Dominican Republic
 - Hall of Famer Roberto Clemente was born and raised in Puerto Rico.
 - Yankees pitching legend Mariano Rivera is from Panama.
 - Ichiro Suzuki is from Japan.
6. Discuss that diversity has broadened baseball's appeal with fans who love seeing what players from different backgrounds bring to the game. Diversity has connected Northern players with Southern players, big city players with small town players, and American players with players from other countries.
7. Introduce the activity.

¹ From a pool of 856 players (749 active roster players and 107 DL or restricted MLB players). Source = http://mlb.mlb.com/news/article.jsp?ymd=20120405&content_id=27953108&vkey=pr_mlb&c_id=mlb



Activity

1. Divide the class into five small groups, and provide each group with a different team's "Active Roster" page (included).
2. Have each group count the number of players on their team from the United States, and from outside the United States.
3. Provide each group with graph paper, colored pencils, or markers. Have each group create a graph comparing the number of players from the U.S. and from outside the U.S.
4. Now have groups count the number of players from each country represented on their MLB teams. Have each group create a second graph comparing the number of players from each different country on their team.
5. Ask each group to present their two graphs to the rest of the class, and explain their findings.
6. As a class, compare and contrast the data from each team. Did each team have similar numbers of players from different countries? Where are the majority of MLB players from? How many countries are represented on these baseball teams?
7. Provide students with a world map, or use a world map in your classroom. Mark each country represented in Major League Baseball on the map. Which players traveled the farthest distance to play baseball in the United States?

Conclusion:

To complete this lesson and check for understanding, have students write journal responses reflecting their opinions about the value of diversity and the contributions to baseball made by people from a range of backgrounds.

2012 Active Roster - Cincinnati Reds

Name	Position	Home Country
Jose Arredondo	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Bronson Arroyo	Pitcher	USA
Homer Bailey	Pitcher	USA
Jonathan Broxton	Pitcher	USA
Aroldis Chapman	Pitcher	Cuba
Tony Cingrani	Pitcher	USA
Johnny Cueto	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
J.J. Hoover	Pitcher	USA
Mat Latos	Pitcher	USA
Mike Leake	Pitcher	USA
Sam LeCure	Pitcher	USA
Sean Marshall	Pitcher	USA
Logan Ondrusek	Pitcher	USA
Todd Redmond	Pitcher	USA
Alfredo Simon	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Pedro Villarreal	Pitcher	USA
Ryan Hanigan	Catcher	USA
Devin Mesoraco	Catcher	USA
Dioner Navarro	Catcher	Venezuela
Miguel Cairo	1B	Venezuela
Zack Cozart	SS	USA
Todd Frazier	3B	USA
Didi Gregorius	SS	Netherlands
Brandon Phillips	2B	USA
Henry Rodriguez	2B	Venezuela
Scott Rolen	3B	USA
Wilson Valdez	SS	Dominican Republic
Joey Votto	1B	Canada
Jay Bruce	RF	USA
Chris Heisey	LF	USA
Ryan Ludwick	LF	USA
Xavier Paul	LF	USA
Denis Phipps	CF	Dominican Republic
Drew Stubbs	CF	USA

2012 Active Roster - San Francisco Giants

Name	Position	Home Country
Jeremy Affeldt	Pitcher	USA
Madison Bumgarner	Pitcher	USA
Matt Cain	Pitcher	USA
Santiago Casilla	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Clay Hensley	Pitcher	USA
George Kontos	Pitcher	USA
Tim Lincecum	Pitcher	USA
Javier Lopez	Pitcher	Puerto Rico
Shane Loux	Pitcher	USA
Jean Machi	Pitcher	Venezuela
Jose Mijares	Pitcher	Venezuela
Guillermo Mota	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Dan Otero	Pitcher	USA
Brad Penny	Pitcher	USA
Yusmeiro Petit	Pitcher	Venezuela
Sergio Romo	Pitcher	USA
Dan Runzler	Pitcher	USA
Ryan Vogelsong	Pitcher	USA
Barry Zito	Pitcher	USA
Buster Posey	Catcher	USA
Hector Sanchez	Catcher	Venezuela
Eli Whiteside	Catcher	USA
Joaquin Arias	3B	Dominican Republic
Brandon Belt	1B	USA
Emmanuel Burriss	2B	USA
Brandon Crawford	SS	USA
Aubrey Huff	1B	USA
Brett Pill	1B	USA
Pablo Sandoval	3B	Venezuela
Marco Scutaro	2B	Venezuela
Ryan Theriot	2B	USA
Gregor Blanco	RF	Venezuela
Justin Christian	RF	USA
Xavier Nady	LF	USA
Angel Pagan	CF	Puerto Rico
Francisco Peguero	LF	Dominican Republic
Hunter Pence	RF	USA

2012 Active Roster - Boston Red Sox

Name	Position	Home Country
Alfredo Aceves	Pitcher	Mexico
Scott Atchison	Pitcher	USA
Andrew Bailey	Pitcher	USA
Daniel Bard	Pitcher	USA
Pedro Beato	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Craig Breslow	Pitcher	USA
Clay Buchholz	Pitcher	USA
Chris Carpenter	Pitcher	USA
Aaron Cook	Pitcher	USA
Felix Doubront	Pitcher	Venezuela
Rich Hill	Pitcher	USA
Jon Lester	Pitcher	USA
Daisuke Matsuzaka	Pitcher	Japan
Mark Melancon	Pitcher	USA
Andrew Miller	Pitcher	USA
Clayton Mortensen	Pitcher	USA
Vincente Padilla	Pitcher	Nicaragua
Zach Stewart	Pitcher	USA
Junichi Tazawa	Pitcher	Japan
Ryan Lavarnway	Catcher	USA
Guillermo Quiroz	Catcher	Venezuela
Jarrod Saltalamacchia	Catcher	USA
Mike Aviles	SS	USA
Pedro Ciriaco	3B	Dominican Republic
Ivan De Jesus	2B	Puerto Rico
Mauro Gomez	3B	Dominican Republic
Jose Iglesias	SS	Cuba
James Loney	1B	USA
Dustin Pedroia	2B	USA
Danny Valencia	3B	USA
Jacoby Ellsbury	CF	USA
Ryan Kalish	CF	USA
Che-Hsuan Lin	RF	Taiwan
Daniel Nava	LF	USA
Scott Podsednik	LF	USA
Cody Ross	RF	USA
David Ortiz	DH	Dominican Republic

Name	Position	Home Country
David Aardsma	Pitcher	USA
Joba Chamberlain	Pitcher	USA
Cody Eppley	Pitcher	USA
Freddy Garcia	Pitcher	Venezuela
Phil Hughes	Pitcher	USA
Hiroki Kuroda	Pitcher	Japan
Boone Logan	Pitcher	USA
Derek Lowe	Pitcher	USA
Ivan Nova	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Andy Pettitte	Pitcher	USA
David Phelps	Pitcher	USA
Clay Rapada	Pitcher	USA
David Robertson	Pitcher	USA
CC Sabathia	Pitcher	USA
Rafael Soriano	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Cory Wade	Pitcher	USA
Adam Warren	Pitcher	USA
Francisco Cervelli	Catcher	Venezuela
Russell Martin	Catcher	Canada
Chris Stewart	Catcher	USA
Robinson Cano	2B	Dominican Republic
Eric Chavez	3B	USA
Derek Jeter	SS	USA
Casey McGehee	3B	USA
Jayson Nix	3B	USA
Eduardo Nunez	SS	Dominican Republic
Alex Rodriguez	3B	USA
Mark Teixeira	1B	USA
Chris Dickerson	OF	USA
Brett Gardner	LF	USA
Curtis Granderson	CF	USA
Raul Ibanez	LF	USA
Andruw Jones	LF	Netherlands Antilles
Melky Mesa	RF	Dominican Republic
Ichiro Suzuki	LF	Japan
Nick Swisher	RF	USA

Name	Position	Home Country
Luis Avilan	Pitcher	Venezuela
Miguel Batista	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Randall Delgado	Pitcher	Panama
Chad Durbin	Pitcher	USA
Cory Gearrin	Pitcher	USA
Tommy Hanson	Pitcher	USA
Tim Hudson	Pitcher	USA
Craig Kimbrel	Pitcher	USA
Paul Maholm	Pitcher	USA
Cristhian Martinez	Pitcher	Dominican Republic
Kris Medlan	Pitcher	USA
Mike Minor	Pitcher	USA
Peter Moylan	Pitcher	Australia
Eric O'Flaherty	Pitcher	USA
Ben Sheets	Pitcher	USA
Julio Teheran	Pitcher	Colombia
Jonny Venters	Pitcher	USA
J.C. Boscan	Catcher	Venezuela
Brian McCann	Catcher	USA
David Ross	Catcher	USA
Jeff Baker	1B	USA
Juan Francisco	3B	Dominican Republic
Freddie Freeman	1B	USA
Paul Janish	SS	USA
Chipper Jones	3B	USA
Lyle Overbay	1B	USA
Tyler Pastornicky	SS	USA
Andrelton Simmons	SS	Netherlands Antilles
Dan Uggla	2B	USA
Michael Bourn	CF	USA
Jose Constanza	LF	Dominican Republic
Jason Heyward	RF	USA
Eric Hinske	LF	USA
Reed Johnson	RF	USA
Martin Prado	LF	Venezuela