

In support of the Get Georgia Reading Campaign, the following example book-related activity is provided by the Georgia Department of Education to accompany *The Ball Game* by David Packard.

**Book Title: The Ball Game**

**Author: David Packard    Illustrator: Robert W. Alley**

### Read Aloud

Reading the story aloud, you may want to ask a few questions before beginning the group activity.

- What do the words and numbers on the scoreboard mean?
- How do the numbers on the scoreboard change?
- What does it mean if the game is *tied*?

### Materials Needed

- chart paper
- two sets of number cards 0-4
- markers
- baseball glove

### Small or Whole Group Activity

1. Draw the scoreboard from the book on chart paper, leaving the numbers blank.
2. Ask students to take a number card from the stack of cards in the baseball glove.
3. Ask students to take turns placing the numbers on the scoreboard and compare the value of their numbers.
4. Discuss terms such as more/less, before/after, and counting on.
5. Move the numbers around on the scoreboard and review number concepts with different comparisons.
6. Students can predict which number card is needed for the HOME team to win.

Guided discussion during this activity is important for students' language development. Consider how this story and activity could reinforce number concepts and encourage students to think about numbers in a sequence and terms like more/less and before/after.