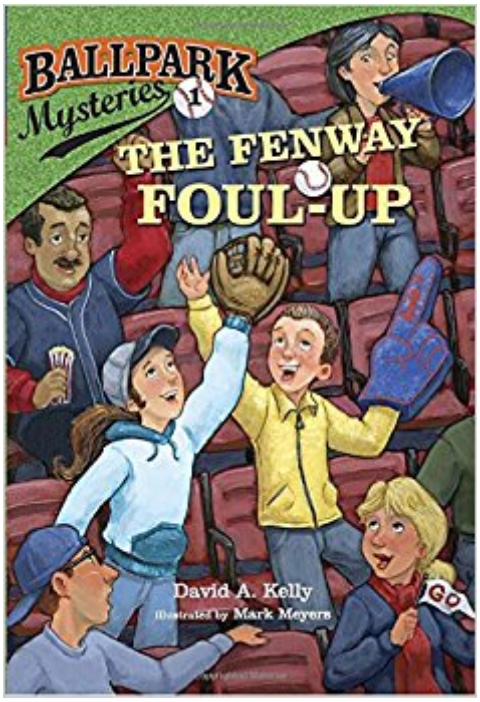
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Ballpark Mysteries #1: The Fenway Foul-up



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Synopsis

Now leading off the line-upÃ¢â ¬â •book #1 in a brand-new early chapter book mystery series where each book is set in a different American ballpark! Thanks to Kate's mom, a sports reporter, cousins Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins have tickets to the Red Sox game and All Access passes to Fenway Park. But as they're watching batting practice before the game, the lucky bat of Red Sox star slugger Big D is stolen . . . right in front of dozens of people. Without the bat, Big D can't seem to hit a thing. Can Kate and Mike figure out who pinched the bat before Big D and the Sox chalk up a loss?The Fenway Foul-Up includes a fun fact page about Boston's Fenway Park.Cross Ron Roy's mystery series with Matt Christopher's sports books and you get the Ballpark Mysteries: fun, puzzling whodunnits aimed right at beginning readers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 590L (What's this?)
Series: Ballpark Mysteries (Book 1)
Paperback: 112 pages
Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; A Stepping Stone Book edition (February 22, 2011)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0375867031
ISBN-13: 978-0375867033
Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 110 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #3,671 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #4 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States #27 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives
Age Range: 6 - 9 years
Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Two nine-year-old sleuths bring sharp powers of observation and deduction into play when a Red Sox slugger's favorite bat disappears. Cousins Mike and Kate are thrilled when Kate's sports-reporter mom brings them to a game, and they are up to the challenge when star player Big D's bat goes missing after batting practice. Folding information about Fenway Park and its colorful

history into the tale, Kelly also artfully slips in simple red herrings along with real clues to the thief's identity and the bat's whereabouts that sharper readers may pick up before the young detectives do. Game action takes a backseat to the investigation here, but Big D gets his bat back in time for some late-inning heroics against the Oakland A's, and afterward presents his awed young fans with suitable rewards. Leading off a formulaic series that will take Mike and Kate to baseball parks around the major leagues, this book should draw baseball fans as well as budding whodunit aficionados. Grades 2-4. --John Peters

"Folding information about Fenway Park and its colorful history into the tale, Kelly also artfully slips in simple red herrings along with real clues to the thiefÃ¢â ¬â„¢s identity and the batÃ¢â ¬â„¢s whereabouts that sharper readers may pick up before the young detectives do...Leading off a formulaic series that will take Mike and Kate to baseball parks around the major leagues, this book should draw baseball fans as well as budding whodunit aficionados." - Booklist"A new series for emerging chapter-book readers combines the allure of baseball parks with the challenge of solving a mystery...Historical details about Fenway Park, including the secret code found on the manual scoreboard, a look at Wally the mascot and a peek into the gift shop, will keep the young baseball fan reading." - Kirkus Reviews"Kelly throws in plenty of behind-the-scenes Fenway Park trivia (both in the story and in an appendix) and keeps the story moving at a quick pace, which should easily hold baseball-lovers' attention." - Publisher's Weekly"...should score with the series chapter-book gang, particularly kids who enjoy the blend of fiction and information that keeps the Magic Tree House thriving. There are a couple of sly misdirections to please beginner mystery readers, some Fenway-specific trivia to intrigue nonfiction readers, and the promise of the entire gamut of major-league baseball stadiums yet to visit for those continuing with the series. A scattering of black-and-white pictures and appended Ã¢â ¬Å“Dugout NotesÃ¢â ¬Â• extend the fun." - The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books"...Any 6- 9 year old baseball fan would step to the plate and devour this book like a box of Crackerjacks! Kelly intersperses the perfect mix of sports action, crime-solving and facts about Fenway Park." - Examiner.com

The Ballpark Mysteries series is the perfect series for a young boy who is obsessed with baseball. He was so excited to read these books and finished them in no time! I didn't read this myself, but according to him it was a very good book. It has since been passed down to his younger brother, who isn't so much into baseball but enjoys mystery. So it's a perfect book for the both of them! Covers all the bases (get it?!)

Great short and easy read for my 5 year old son who loves books and baseball. It even held my attention (his mom) reading it aloud to him. It was a nice change up from the everyday bedtime stories and I believe we completed it in just a couple of days. Wonderful first mystery for a young child which is interesting without being scary.

I love this series, and my kindergartener can read it pretty well. I love that these are short chapter books with a few pictures. It holds my six-year-old's attention, and we can finish a book in about a week. Great for the young sports lover!

This is a great book if your kid likes mystery books and/or baseball. It takes place at a real place (Fenway) and describes many of the peculiarities that are specific to the park. The main characters are two kids who have access to the park through a parent who works there. Both kids love baseball and are problem solvers always looking for clues.I have liked what I have read of this series since they all feature the unique aspects of different baseball parks/cities. They only think I haven't liked is that a few of the books mention divorce - which some parent may not be ready to speak to their kids about (especially if they are advanced readers for their age).

My 7 year old son really enjoyed this book. He isa reluctant reader, so we took turns reading (I read the first chapter, then he read the second, etc.). He is looking forward to the next book in the series.

A great novel book to break up into chapters to read to your child to get them into novels. I currently read a few pages a night and that equals a chapter! I am excited to add more of these books to the series!

My son is 7 years old, and LOVES baseball. I could not get him interested in a book to read for the longest time - until I found this series. He is currently reading Fenway Foul-Up and will be doing a book report on it at school. Next on his list is the Dodger book (Ballpark Mysteries #2).These books are exciting for him to read! And all the little tidbits of information regarding the actual ballpark, is wonderful. His dream is to one day go to Fenway, so this book is perfect.Thank you to the author! My child LOVES to read chapter books now!!

Great for young readers who happen to be sports fans.

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