

Jackie Changes the Game
Scholastic Teachables

Summer is the perfect time
To see a baseball game;
But baseball in America
Was not always the same.

Once, the major leagues were closed
To players who were black.
'Til Jackie stepped on Ebbets Field,
And never once looked back.

He heard the shouting from the stands,
The insults to his race.
He simply kept his head held high –
And stole another base.

With every homer Jackie hit,
He scored not just a run;
But baseball in America
Was won for everyone.

Read the poem and then answer the questions below.

1. When is the perfect time to see a baseball game? _____

2. What happened when Jackie stepped on Ebbets Field? _____

3. How do you think Jackie felt when people were yelling at him from the stands?

4. The author wrote, "And stole another base." Do you think Jackie was good at stealing bases? Why or why not? _____

5. Why was baseball in America won for everyone after Jackie played? _____
