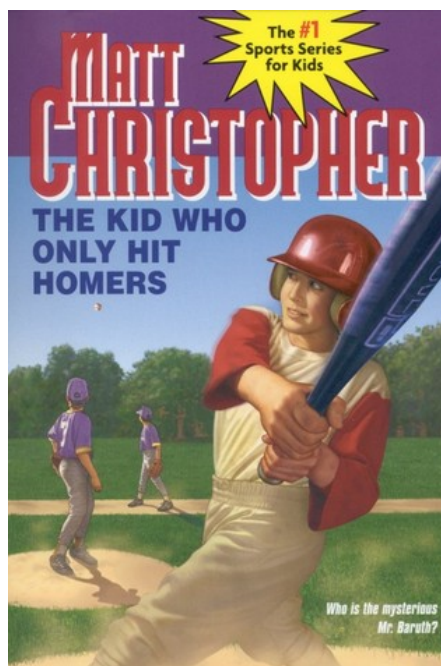




The Kid Who Only Hit Homers

Matt Christopher

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Sylvester loved baseball, but he wasn't what you'd call a good hitter. He had decided against joining the team, when he met George Baruth. He promised Sylvester he would help him become one of the best players ever. Before long he was hitting homers.

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers Details

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From Reader Review The Kid Who Only Hit Homers for online ebook

Anthony M says

Sylvester loved baseball and loved to play it. He thinks that he is not a good hitter because he doesn't. Sylvester was going to tryout for a team called the redbirds when he met George Baruth. He said that I am going to make you a very good player and that you will hit the play. He helped him to be the best player on the team. Sylvester started to hit a lot of home runs on his team. He would always hit home runs because he practiced and practiced. Sylvester was very happy when he hit the first Home Run of his life. He had a long streak on the team. Sylvester thanked the guy who helped him with everything to be a good player.

I liked this book because it was about a guy who helped a kid to be the best player on his team. I also liked it because I play baseball and I had my first Home Run like he did and I was happy. I don't love baseball like he does but I like it but not a lot because I like baseball.

Gentry.T says

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers is a great and interesting book. This book is about a boy who has never played baseball before but he really wants to. He gets help from a new friend so he can become a better baseball player. I think that his friend's information helped him out a lot.

Sylvester, George, Snooky, The team, and his parents have a lot of cool experiences throughout the book. Sylvester has a record for hitting the most home runs. The audience is amazed when they find out that Sylvester has never played baseball his whole life, well until he joined the team.

Find out what other interesting things happen when you read The Kid Who Only Hit Homers.

I hope this review gave you enough information that makes you want to read the book even more.

Collin Jorgensen says

I read the book "The Kid Who Only Hit Homers" by Matt Christopher. I liked this book although sometimes it was confusing because I didn't if this guy named George Baruth existed.

In this book, this kid named Sylvester was awful at baseball. He couldn't hit, and he couldn't catch or anything! Then one day, a man named George Baruth spent a day at the park with him. He made Sylvester be able to hit good... really good. So one day, George told Syl to go to one of the practices for his school. Syl went and he hit home runs, a lot of them. He went into the outfield and caught all the balls hit to him. He played some games and never struck out and all he did was hit home runs. The media wanted to do a story on him but couldn't get a good picture. So one day they showed up at his house to take a picture, and Syl said he wanted George to be in the picture with him. So after one of his games, he and George went to take a picture. After the picture was taken, George wasn't in it. Syl didn't know what was going on. He went home and went to his room. He went to his next game and still hit home runs. George Baruth was never there.. Ever.

I recommend this book to male Middle or High School students. It was kind of hard to understand, but they should get the concept.

Christopher Guinto says

I liked this book because it was about sports. I would recommened this book to people who like baseball.

Charles says

While Christopher is one of the best writers of juvenile sports fiction, this book is not one of his best efforts. This is largely due to the poorly executed mysticism. While other books have demonstrated that the injection of mysticism and spirits into a sports book can work very well, this one fails.

Sylvester Coddmyer III is trying out for the local Little League team and he is doing very poorly. He fails in the field and at the plate. Understanding his ineptitude for the game, during the practice time the next day he is in the bleachers, watching the other kids going through their drills. Suddenly a man called George Baruth comes up to him and talks to Sylvester about giving it one more try.

Suddenly, the ball flies off his bat, hence the title, and Sylvester can catch fly balls he could only wave at before. He of course makes the team and they have a winning season. Sylvester also has ups and downs, generally up when Baruth is there and down when he is not.

Given this completely predictable situation, the success of the team is generally known beforehand along with how Sylvester will do. There is just no tension or excitement in the story.

Nicholas Walters says

I read "The Kid Who Only Hit Homers" by Matt Christopher. This book was very good. Sylvester Coddmyer III loved baseball, but he was not very good. He wanted to try out for the Hooper Redbirds baseball team, but he doesn't think that he was good enough to play on the team. He didn't sign up for the team that year. One day, a guy named George Baruth, meets Sylvester while he watched the first day of practice. He told Sylvester he would help him with his swing, and told him to try to get on the team. George helped Sylvester with his stance, and all of the sudden, he was hitting home runs. The coach allowed him on the team, and at his first practice he hit a bunch of home runs. The coach put him in the lineup in right field. He had the record for the most home runs in a game, the most consecutive home runs, and all with George Baruth at the games. A big magazine company wanted him to do an interview, and give him money because they thought he was the next big thing. A kid named Snooky Malone bugged him every day to tell his secret, but Sylvester didn't have a secret. He turned down all that because he didn't want the fame. Then, at the last game of the season, George Baruth had left to go home and wasn't there. Sylvester didn't hit a home run, but he hit two doubles in the gap in left field. He still could hit, but not home runs. The school gave him a trophy for best athlete in the school.

The author did a very good job describing Sylvester's character and how dedicated he was to baseball. He loved to play it. He just thought he wasn't very good. George Baruth was just on vacation in the city and wanted to help Sylvester. We don't really ever know who George is, but you can tell he is someone that is a good baseball player, and that he was more into Sylvester's head than anything.

The story took place in Hooper City. It's a small town just like the one I live in. It's summer time because they are playing baseball. Sylvester went to junior high, and he is the talk of the town.

The author's message in this book is that you don't need someone, real or imaginary to motivate people. You just have to love what you are doing and put in a little extra effort to get what you want. If you work hard things will go your way. You have to believe you can do it.

This is a great book. This book was very easy to understand and know what is going on. I would recommend this book to anyone who is looking for a good book to read. The book has a very good message, but you have to understand baseball.

Lcohen says

Kida of boring.

Catherine says

I listened to the audio version and it was well narrated with several voice actors. I think any kid who likes baseball will enjoy this story.

Erica says

I checked out the audio book from the library and I listened to it with my kids in the car. They liked it, but I wasn't a fan.

Jason Shea says

The Kid Who Only Hit Homers is apart of the Matt Christopher series. The author of this book is Matt Christopher. This book is a realistic fiction book. The main setting of this book is in New York most of the events take place there but not all of them. The main characters are Syl, Mr. Baruth, Coach Corbin, and Snooky, and Syl's mother. They're the main characters that keep coming up in the book. In the book Syl meets with Baruth at a baseball practice, and later on in the book Baruth turns Syl from good to bad! What could have possibly happened to make him one of the best baseball players in history? Could it be magic, could it be a cheat? Read The Kid Who Only Hit Homers to find out! I rated this book 5 stars because I absolutely love sports. Not only do I love sports but it's because this is a children sports book, and I love baseball! That's why I gave this book a rate of 5 out of 5 stars.

Jett Reiter says

This book is a great book for readers who are interested in sports and more specifically, baseball. Sylvester Coddmyer is a young boy who wants to try out for little league. He isn't that great of a player but he tries his best. Then, a mysterious man comes up and gives him a bat that always hits homers. It shows how Sylvester plays throughout every game.

Byron Gonzalez says

I found this book to be very interesting, one person was so influential that he changed a boy's life. This boy was going to quit because he was not as good as the other kids and he got discouraged from all their awesome baseball skills. A character named Mr. Brauth who helps him train by practicing drills. Mr Brauth is actually an imaginary person, probably is his inner self and determination pushing him to get better. This boy actually he had it in him from the start. This book inspired me to never give up on my dreams and keep on going to become the best I can be. I was able to connect to this story because something similar happened in my life. I began playing with a travel baseball team that was two years older than me and felt discouraged when I saw all the big kids. I actually made the team and play with older kids, I have been able to hold my own and contribute to the team. With a positive attitude, working hard and practicing, anything is possible. So, really dreams can become true, dreams can become reality.

Christina says

This book was highly recommended for my "sports nuts" boys, and I'm glad we listened to this first in the series together. A few pros and cons:

- 1- Pro: Good character development, including an mysterious "imaginary" visitor, and the boys enjoyed the audio version which included "acting" instead of just reading the book. I thought it was cheesy though.
 - 2- Pro: Great baseball "announcer" talk- there is probably a more technical term, but my boys loved to be walked through the game, play by play.
 - 3- Pro: Good transition to a sequel, so they want to listen to the next one.
 - 4- Con: There is a supporting character who studies astrology and horoscopes and talks to the main character about them. It doesn't really fit in the story. He also mentions he studies Occultism (what?!?) but doesn't go into details besides it is "mysticism". I think this is highly inappropriate for an elementary grade school book, most of it went over my kids heads but I'm thinking I will listen to the next one with them to see if it pops up again. If this builds, we may have to abandon the series....but then again my oldest is only a few years away from Harry Potter which is a far more complex can of worms.
-

Heather says

Conversation with my son after reading the book...

N: Did Matt Christopher write other books about sports?

Me: He sure did. There's actually another one about Sylvester. Would you like to read it next?

N: Are you kidding? I love baseball, and I want to see if Sylvester sees someone like George Baruth again who can help him be the best baseball player. Do you think I'll be that good when I'm in junior high?

Me: No one is that good in junior high except in books.

N: Yeah, I guess you're right. Maybe I can be that good in my mind. Ha, ha

Brad says

My brother and I used to read loads of Matt Christopher books, certainly any one about baseball we could get our hands on. Something about this book's title made it stick out from the others, giving it a mythic quality shared by a few other fictional sports stories (like the movie *Field of Dreams*). Even the cover has a Vaseline-lens dreamy quality. All that's missing is the greatest sports myth of all: Babe Ruth's called home run.

Rereading it as an adult, it is clearly a kids book with little to offer an older reader other than nostalgia. What I remember is the mysterious George Baruth who helps Sylvester Coddmyer III become a better athlete. What I'd forgotten is the throwaway side character Snooky Malone, who loves astrology and basically pesters Sylvester. The author loves writing a play-by-play and even includes the final records of each team at book's end. A very simple book that would capture the adoration of young readers who dream of being a baseball star.
