THE CARTOON BOOK OF

BASEBALL



BAT-AND-BALL

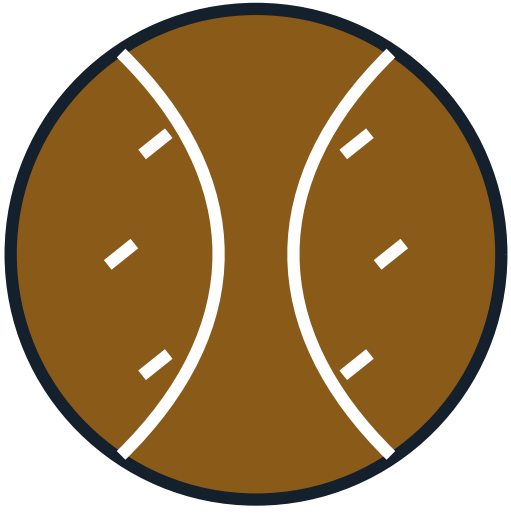
SPORT ON EARTH

Sport on Earth Books · The Bat, stick & racket Family

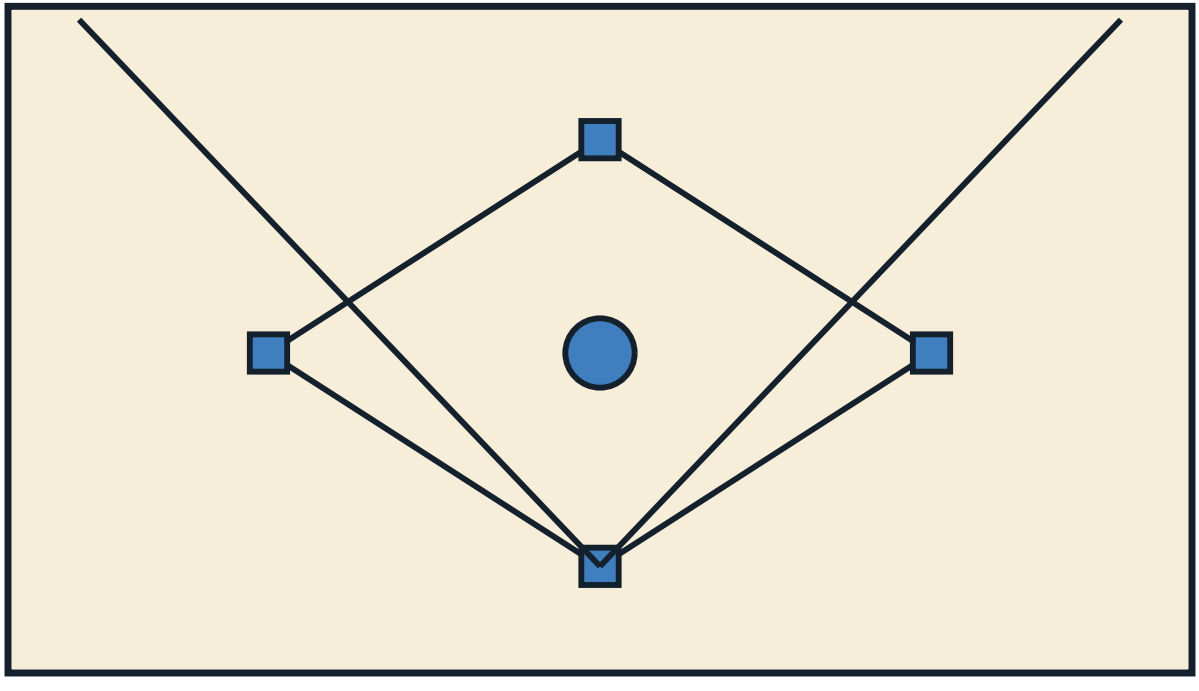
Original illustrations · No characters were copied in the making of this book

Meet Baseball!

A pitcher throws to a batter; hit the ball, run the bases, and score runs before three outs. Nine innings per game.

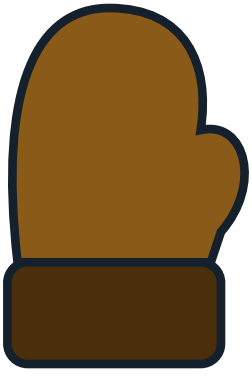


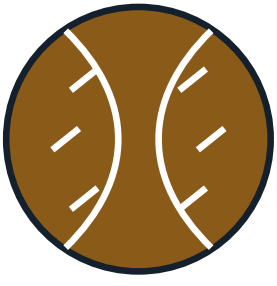
Where It Is Played



The Gear





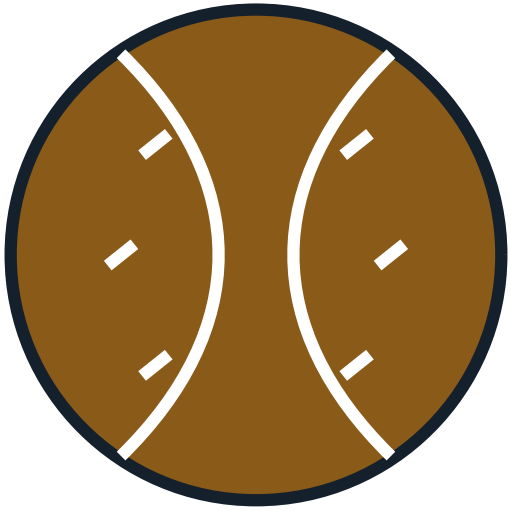


Meet the Bat, stick & racket Family

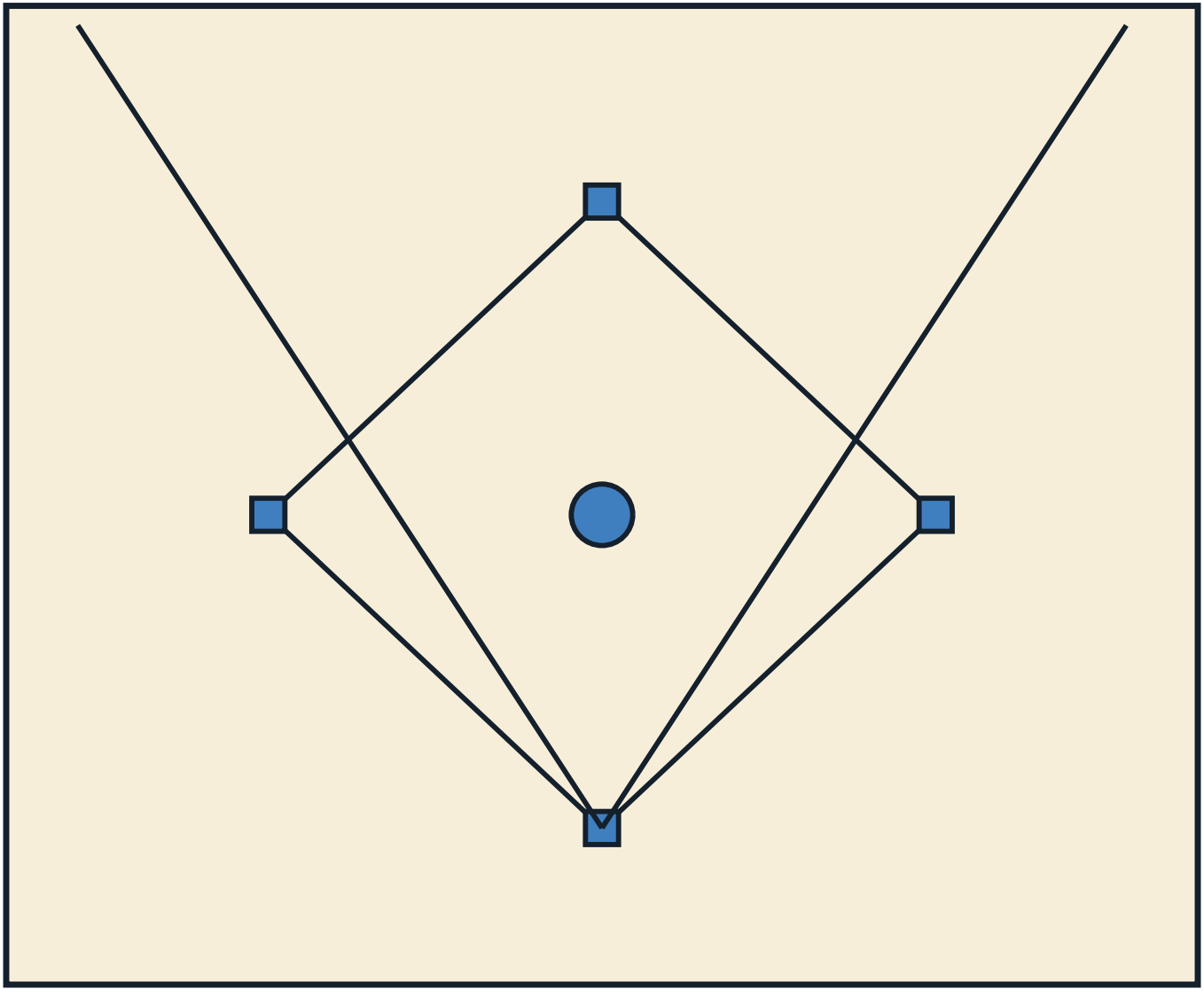
- Cricket — A fielding side tries to dismiss batters and limit runs; batters score by running between wicke.
- Tennis — Players hit a ball over a net into the opponent's court.
- Badminton — Players rally a shuttlecock over a high net. Matches are best of three games to 21.
- Table Tennis — A fast game of spin and reflexes; first to 11 points wins a game; best of five or seven games.
- Padel — Tennis-squash hybrid played in an enclosed glass court.
- Pickleball — Paddle sport on a small court with a plastic ball.

How to Play

Baseball's rulebook evolved by accretion for 150 years — the foul-strike rule alone took two leagues and three seasons to adopt. The MLB league page carries the professional game's full dossier (spitball to pitch clock); this page covers the sport-wide foundations.



The Playing Area



Good to Know

The Story So Far

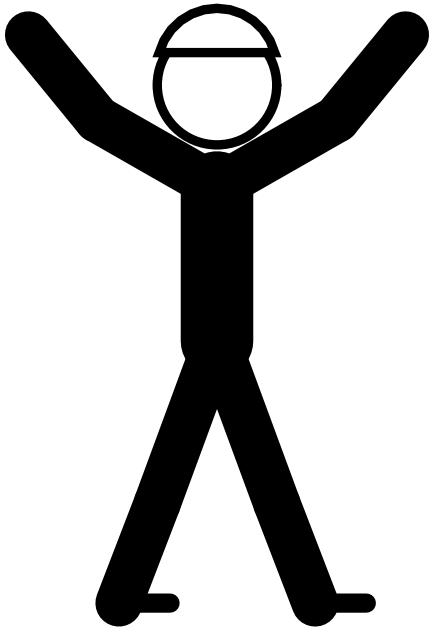
Rules took shape in New York in the 1840s and 1850s; the National League began in 1876.



Rules That Changed the Game

- 1901 (NL) / 1903 (AL) — The Foul-Strike Rule: The entire modern pitcher–hitter duel assumes this rule — the two-strike approach, pitch-count economics, the value of 'spoiling' .
- 1920 — The Clean-Ball Era (1920): Ball replacement is now so constant that a ball lives a handful of pitches; the spectacle of a fresh white ball is itself a 1920 i.
- 1973–2022 — The DH Schism and Reunification: College, high-school and most international baseball had long allowed DH variants of their own; the majors' reunification aligned .

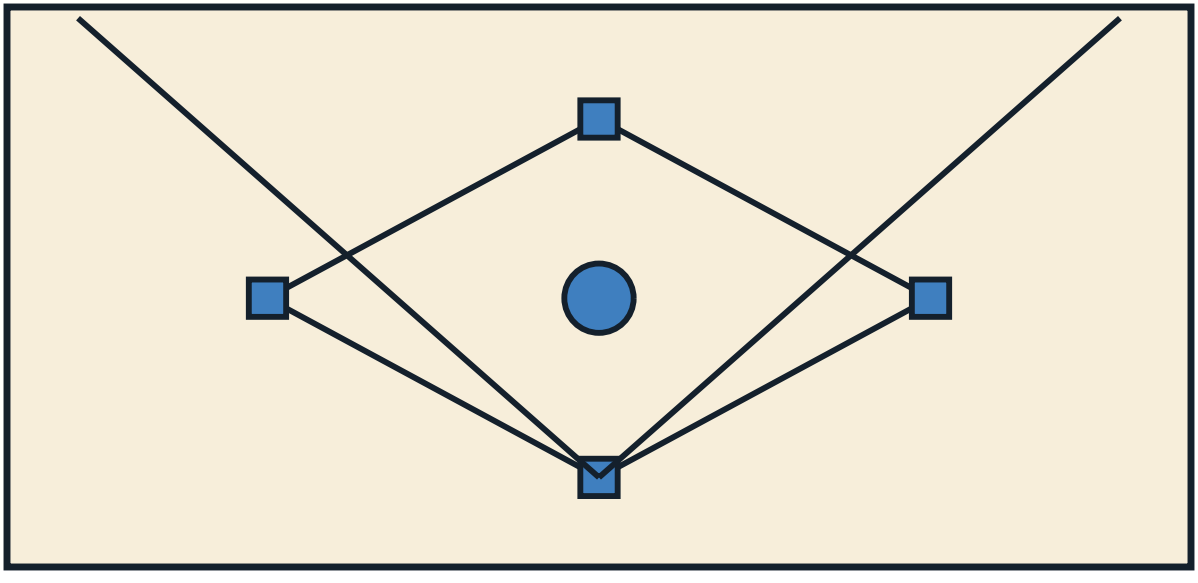
Colour the Action



Psst — this page is a colouring page!

The Sport Today

MLB, Japan's NPB, Korea's KBO, Mexican and Caribbean leagues, and a farm system in the minors.



At School and College

NCAA baseball, the College World Series, plus Japan's high school Koshien tournament.

Play It Near You

Little League, rec leagues, and softball.

Through the Year

MLB from late March to October ending with the World Series; Koshien each summer in Japan.

The Bat, stick & racket Family

Every sport belongs to a family of games that share its shapes and skills. Here are some of this book's closest relatives — each with a cartoon book and a colouring book of its own.

- Cricket — A fielding side tries to dismiss batters and limit runs; batters score by running between wicke.
- Tennis — Players hit a ball over a net into the opponent's court.
- Badminton — Players rally a shuttlecock over a high net. Matches are best of three games to 21.
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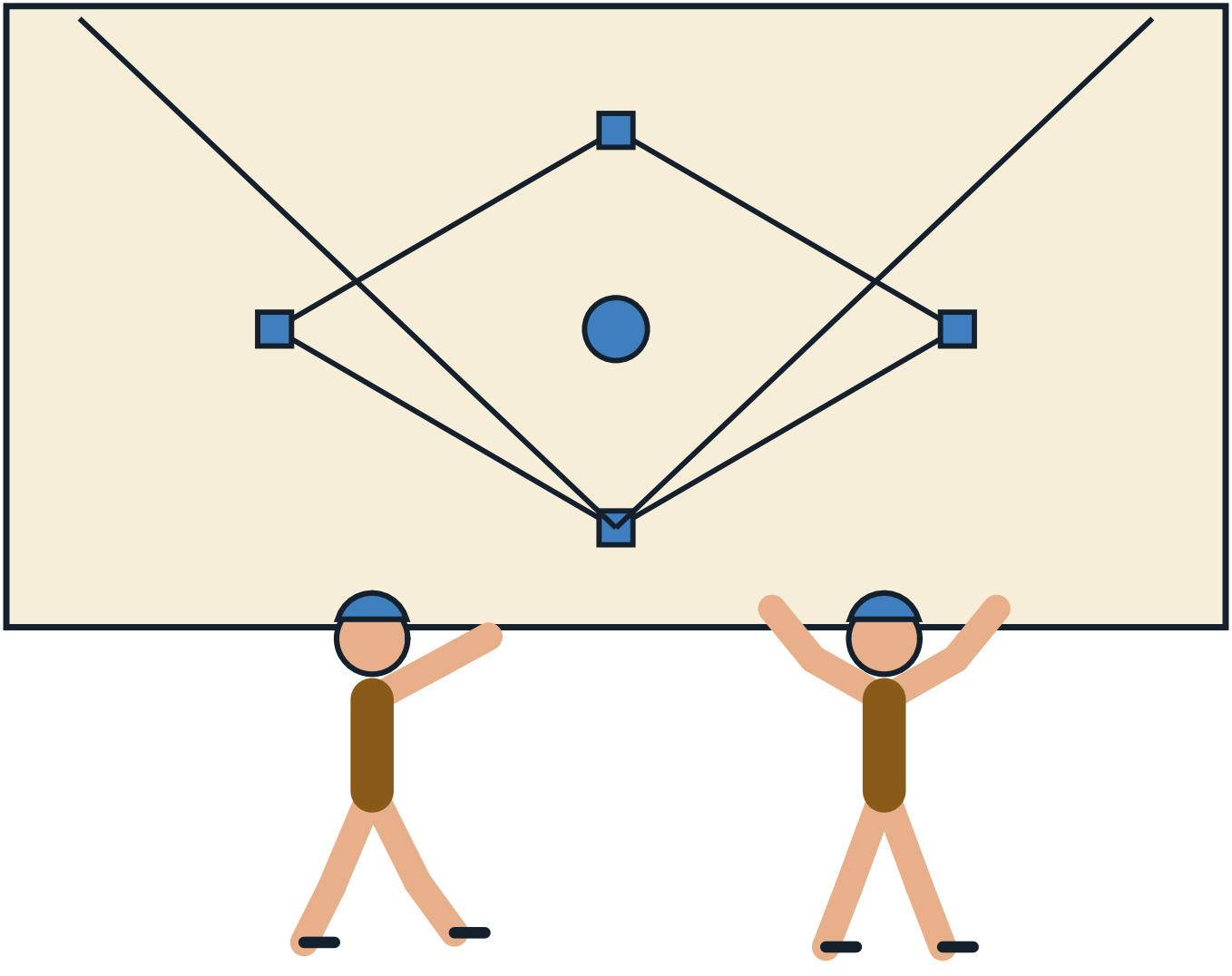
Game Day!



The Sport on Earth Mark

Every sport on Sport on Earth carries its own original mark, drawn for the site. Here is this sport's.



BAT-AND-BALL

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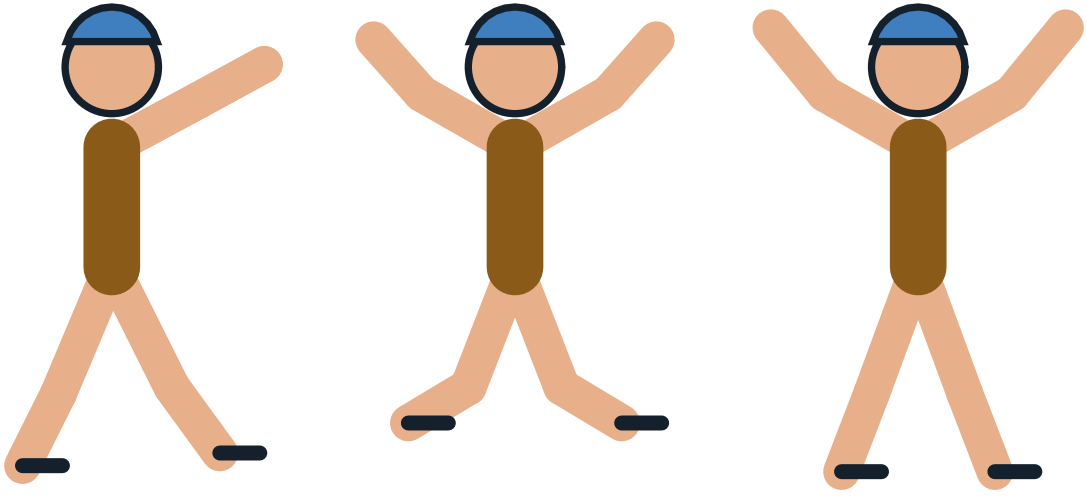
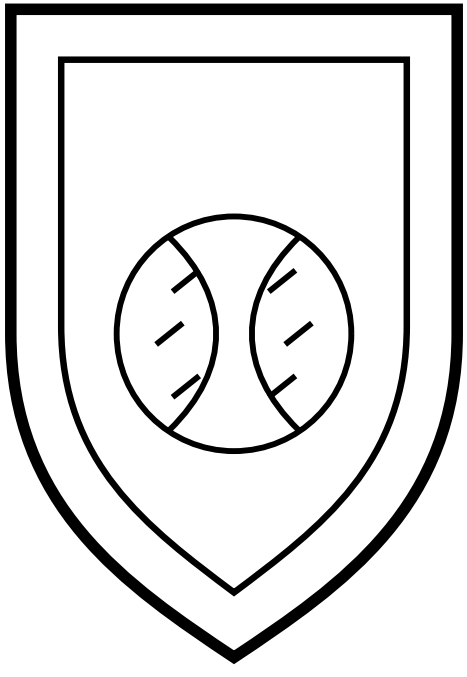
Moves of the Game



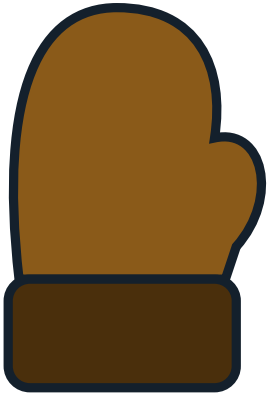
Design a Badge

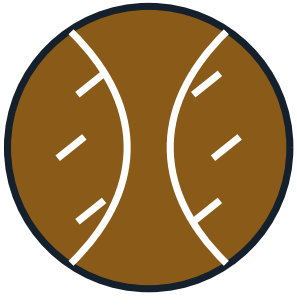


Draw and colour a badge for your own team.

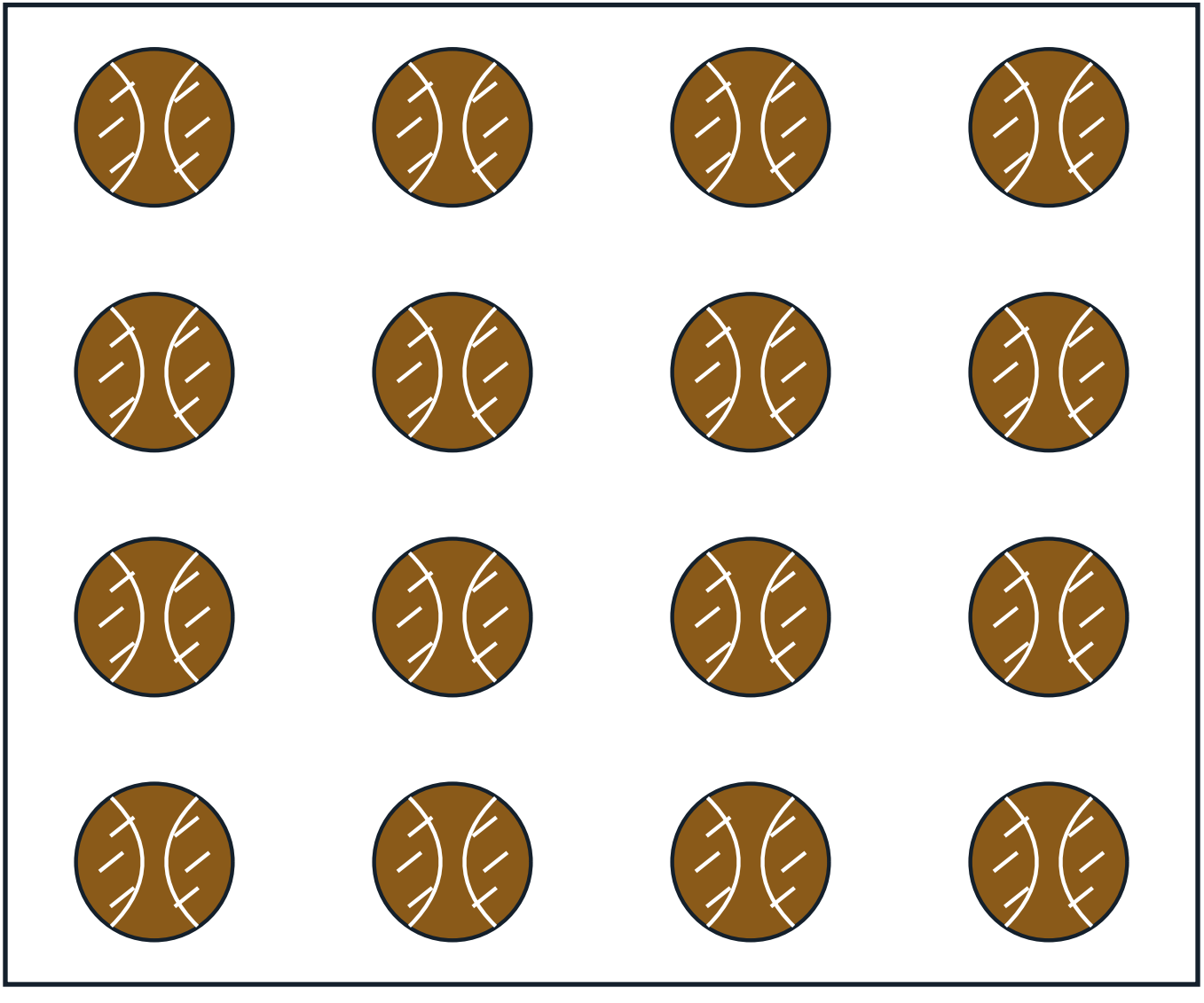
The Gear Parade



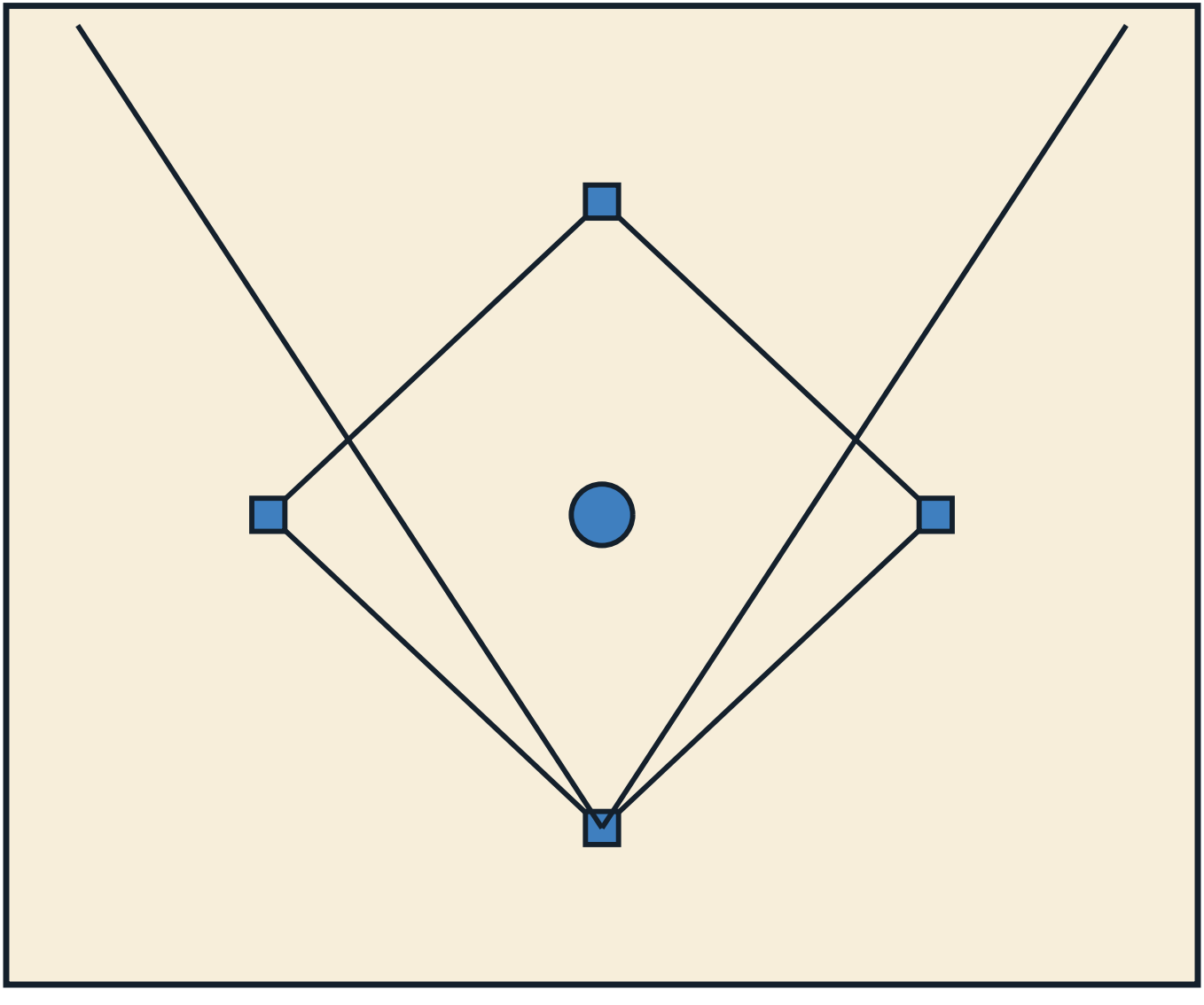




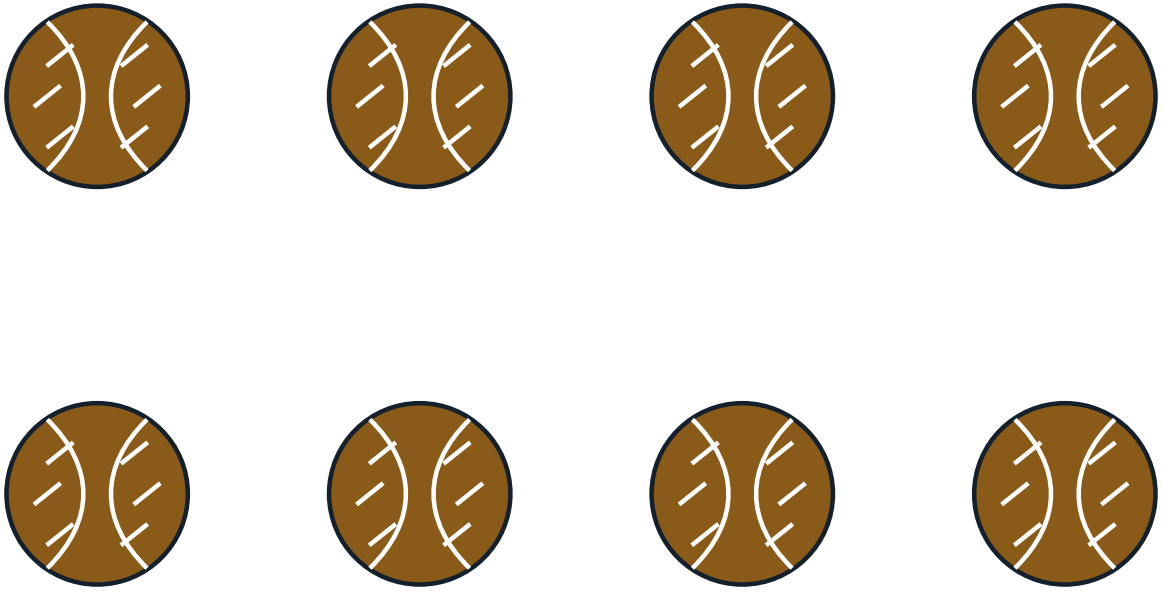
Pattern Play



The Arena From Above



Count the Balls!



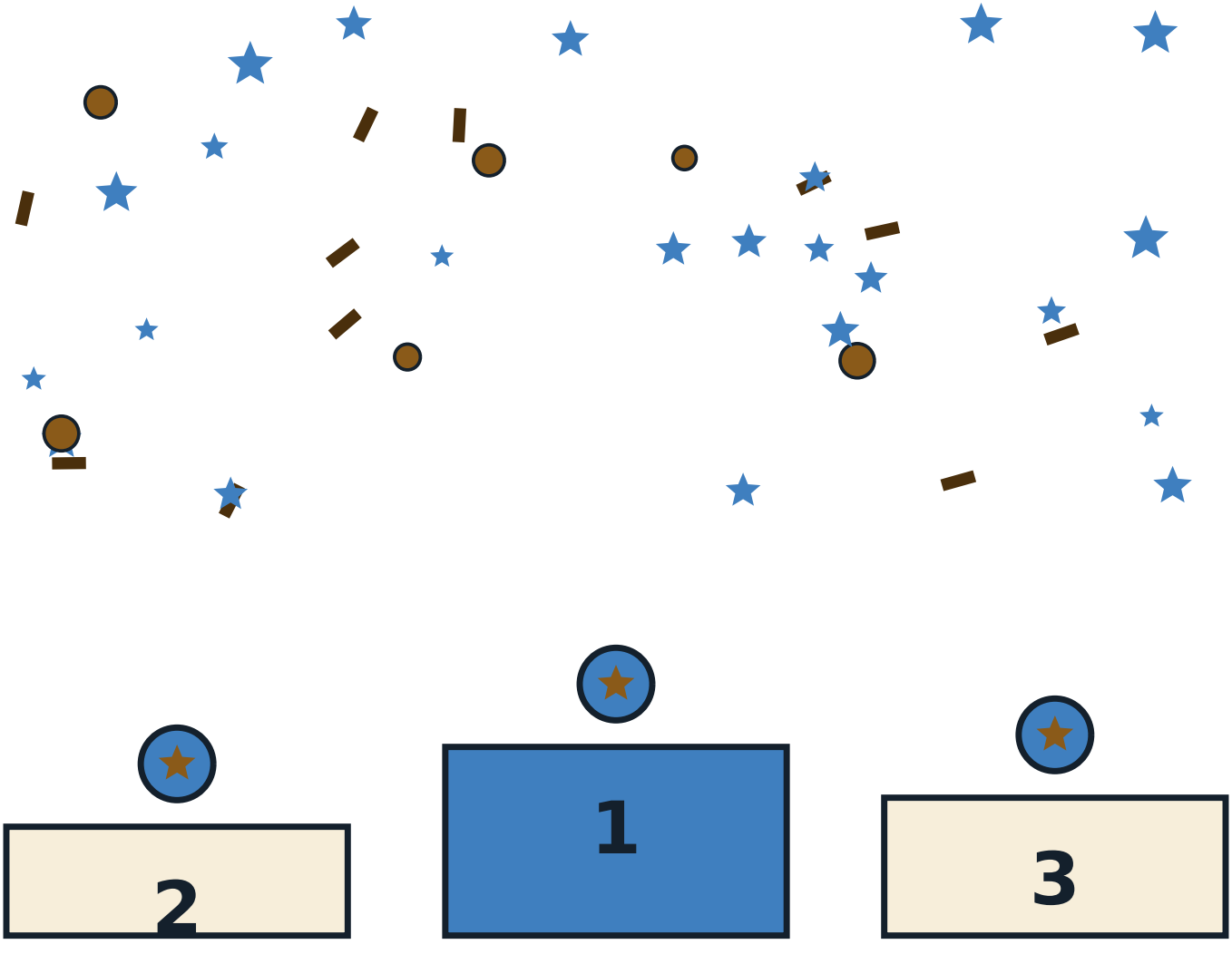
How many can you count? Write the number here: _____

My Favourite Part of Baseball

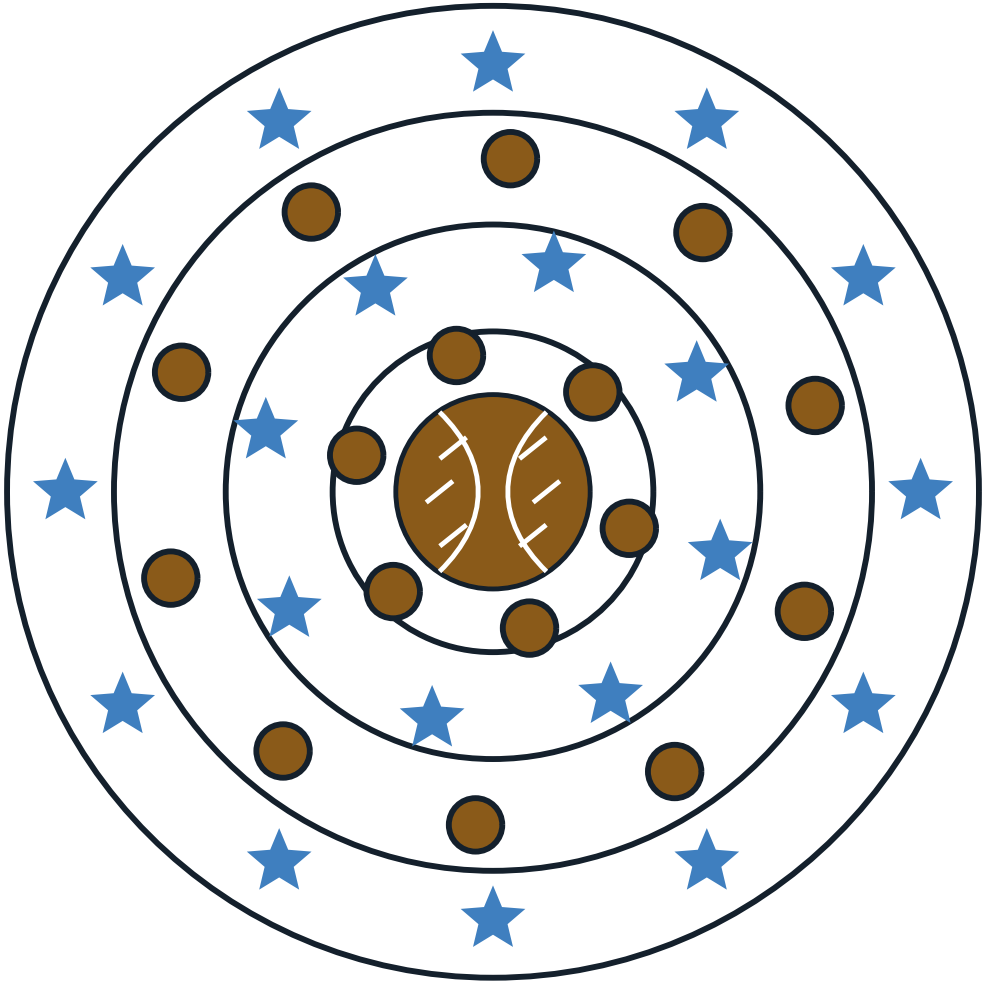
Gear Close-Up



Champions!



The Mandala of the Game



About This Book

Rule-change history: Official Baseball Rules history; SABR rule-evolution research; National Baseball Hall of Fame records.. Everything in this book comes from Sport on Earth's own verified sport files — the same words you can read on the sport's page at Sport on Earth. The illustrations are original artwork drawn by computer for this book series. They are not pictures of real players, real teams or anybody else's characters.

More Books in the Family

- The Cartoon Book of Cricket
- The Cartoon Book of Tennis
- The Cartoon Book of Badminton
- The Cartoon Book of Table Tennis
- The Cartoon Book of Padel
- The Cartoon Book of Pickleball
- The Cricket Colouring Book
- The Tennis Colouring Book

My Notes

Baseball

The Cartoon Book of Baseball — a Sport on Earth Book.

Text from Sport on Earth's verified sport files. Illustrations: original programmatic artwork created for this series, including the site's own sport mark. No copyrighted characters, team logos or player likenesses appear in this book.

Collect the whole shelf: a cartoon book and a colouring book for every one of the 442 sports and games on Sport on Earth.

