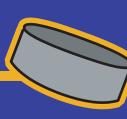


The Adventures of the P.E. GANG



P.E. GANG



Story #1



Hi, we call ourselves the P.E. Gang. Our P.E. teacher, Mr. Fitter, teaches us all different ways to show good character and stay active. We are always looking for new kids to join our gang. In our P.E. Gang, everybody gets to play and we don't care who wins or loses as long as we are having fun!

Learn more about the P.E. Gang by logging on to our web site: www.pegang.com





Hello! My name is A.J. and I am a member of the P.E. Gang. P.E. stands for physical education (which just so happens to be my favorite class in school!).

To be a member of the P.E. Gang, all you have to do is read the stories, and with the help of your teacher, complete the activities. This 1st story is about caring and how the P.E. Gang was started. My P.E. teacher, Mr. Fitter, is always teaching us the importance of showing good character.



P.E. GANG



I live in a great neighborhood. There are lots of kids and we all get along. I have a best friend named Bobby. We play on the same baseball team. When we aren't practicing, we are usually hanging out at one another's house.

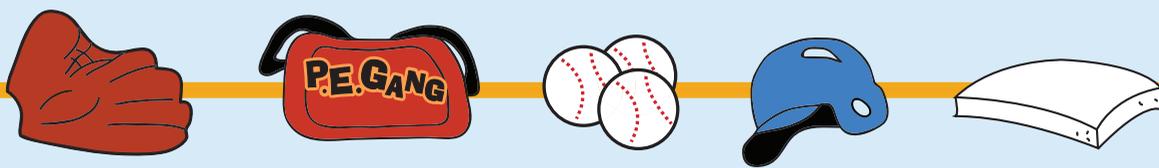
My dad is our baseball coach. Our team has practice almost every nice day after school. My dad tells us that although we don't always win our games, we should continue to try our best, be respectful and play fair. He says winning isn't always the most important part of playing. The most important part is having fun!



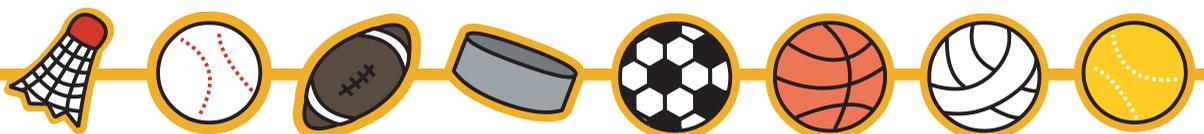
Because I enjoy my friends and living in my neighborhood, I was very disappointed when my dad came home and told us we had to move.

I really couldn't imagine being without my friends. What was I going to do? My mother knew I was sad and told me that I would meet new friends and that I could still play sports at my new school.

The first day at my new school was a little frightening. I sat next to a boy named Jimmy. He asked me if I was new to school, I told him I had just moved into town. He said he would be happy to show me around the neighborhood and would introduce me to some new kids.



P.E. GANG



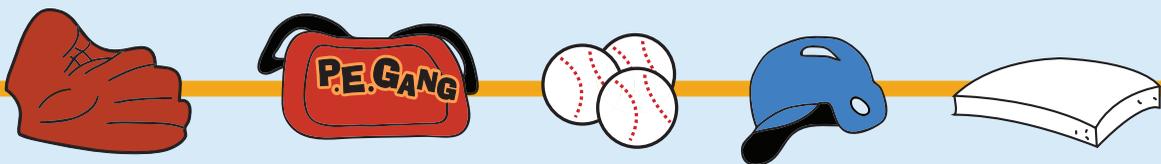
When Saturday morning came around, Jimmy kept his promise and came knocking at my door. He had his bat and glove with him and asked if I wanted to play baseball with him and the other kids.



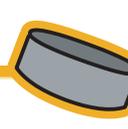
When we met up with the other kids, Jimmy introduced me to everyone. Two older guys were captains and they started to pick teams. It was the first time in my life that I was picked last. It felt awful.

When I stepped up to the plate, my legs were shaking. The first pitch was over my head, but I swung anyway. The second pitch was right over the plate. As I swung, I heard, "strike two." Finally, the third pitch came. I reached out and swung. As I hit the ball, it rolled to the pitcher and before I knew it, I was out.

The game came down to the last inning. Our pitcher threw the ball and the batter smacked the ball into the air. The ball was coming right for me! I put my head down and started to run as fast as I could towards the ball.



P.E. GANG



At the last moment, I jumped into the air and stretched my arms out. As I was falling, the ball landed right into my glove. It was the best catch I had ever made!

Everybody was patting me on the back and telling me what a great catch I had made. At that moment, I stopped feeling like the "new kid". I knew I was right at home.



After a few weeks, I was feeling better. I had met new friends and was enjoying school again. In P.E. class, I was picked first, and that felt really good. However, I thought about that day when I was chosen last and that bothered me.

So, one day I asked my P.E. teacher, Mr. Fitter, if there was any way we could make teams up without having to choose players so that no one would be picked last.

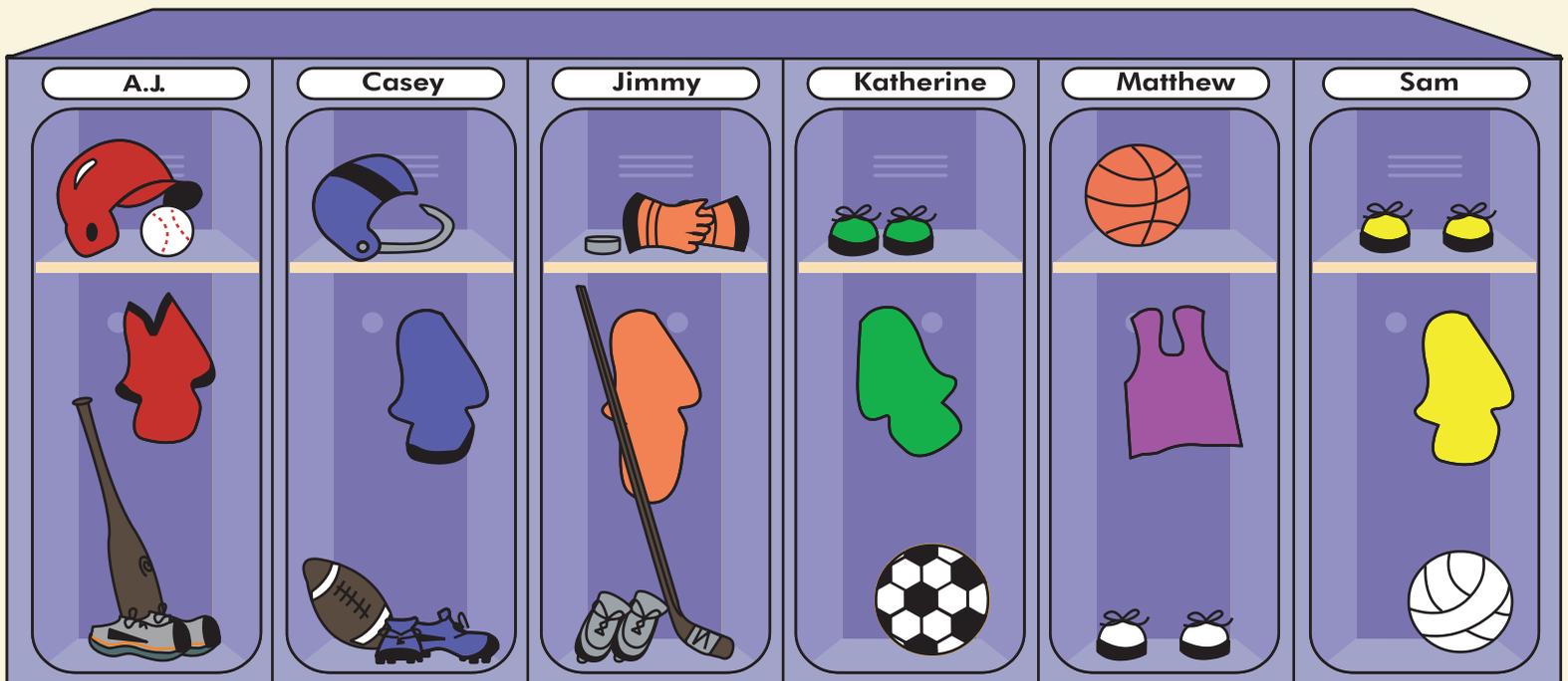
Mr. Fitter said that it was a great idea. So, we now choose our teams by counting off by numbers. This way no one would ever be picked last and feel bad.



P.E. GANG

P.E. GANG

This new idea made everyone feel less "singled out." This new idea went over so well that my friend Jimmy and I decided to start a P.E. Club in our school that we called the "P.E. Gang." So far, we have six members in our club. There is Casey, who loves to play football. Samantha, who we call Sam, and she loves to play volleyball. Katherine enjoys playing soccer. Jimmy is a hockey lover and Matthew loves basketball. And, I'm sure you could guess that I'm the baseball player.



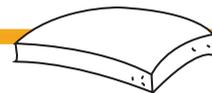
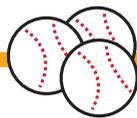
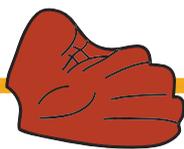
P.E.GANG

P.E.GANG



We created a P.E. promise and if you want to join the P.E. Gang, you must follow this pledge:

I promise to always play fair, be honest and work with and encourage others. I will also be a good citizen in my community by being helpful to my neighbors and being respectful to my classmates, teachers and other adults. Most importantly I will be respectful to my parents or guardians.



P.E.GANG





To encourage other kids to join the P.E. Gang, we had tee shirts made. For me, being active and playing sports has been a great way to feel "at home" in my new school, and it has helped me make new friends!

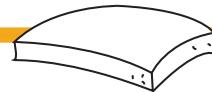
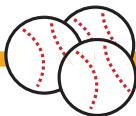
Mr. Fitter also said we should use our sports skills to help other students in class and in our neighborhood. Sometimes, we work with the younger students in Mr. Fitter's P.E. classes and help out. It's a lot of fun!



P.E. GANG

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I wrote to my friend Bobby back home and told him about the P.E. Gang we started at my new school. He said the idea sounded so cool that he's going to start a P.E. Gang at his school, too! Although we live in different towns now, Bobby and I are still good friends. We talk on the phone, and we e-mail each other as often as we can. We talk a lot about our experiences in sports because we have that in common. I miss Bobby, but am beginning to feel more comfortable now that I'm part of the P.E. Gang and have made new friends.



P.E. GANG



Hello again, it's me Anthony. All my friends call me A.J., remember? In Physical Education class, our teacher Mr. Fitter is always teaching us the importance of reading, exercise and showing good character. Have fun reading the stories and completing the activities and don't forget to check out our web site: www.pegang.com.





HOW TO SHOW YOU ARE A CARING PERSON

- ⊙ Help people in need.
- ⊙ Never be mean or hurtful.
- ⊙ Think about other people's feelings.
- ⊙ Think about how your actions will affect others.
- ⊙ Remember - you become a caring person by doing caring things!



Think and Talk

What is Caring? How did Jimmy show caring?
Directions: Think about something you do to be a caring person. Draw a picture of yourself doing it and write a sentence describing your act.





Story Response

Directions: Answer the questions.

1. Why was A.J. sad when his father said the family was moving?

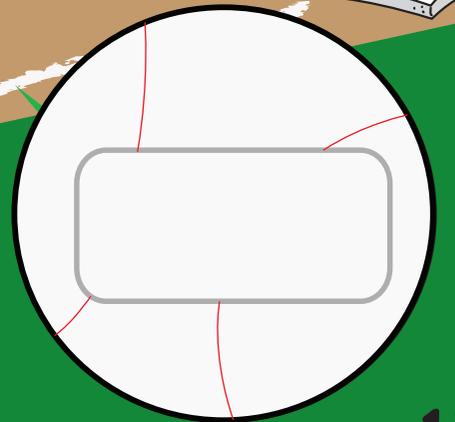
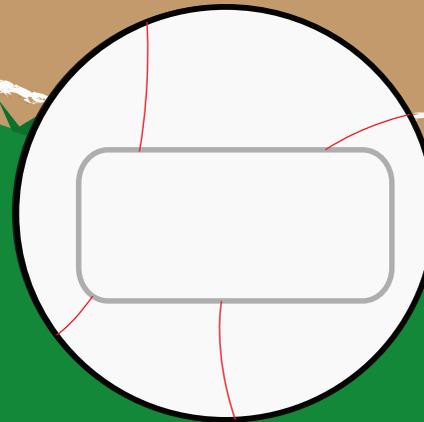
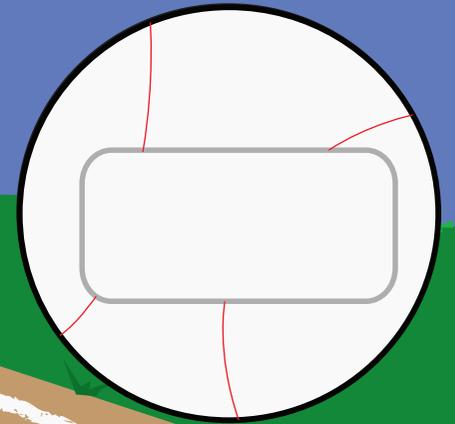
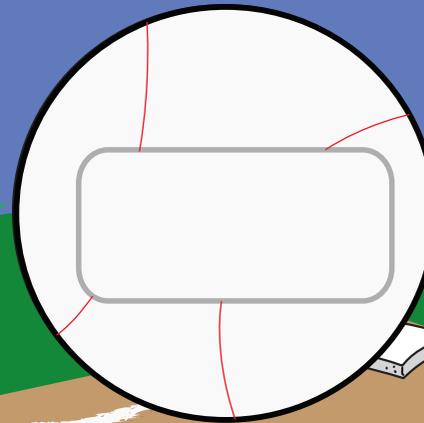
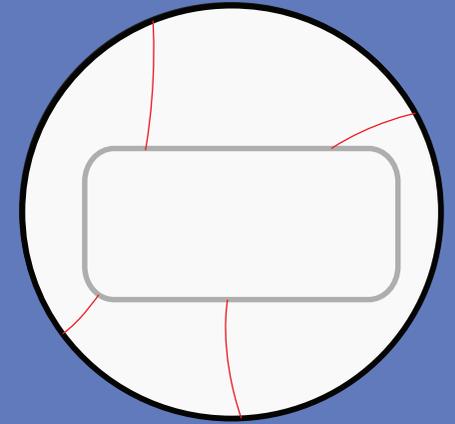
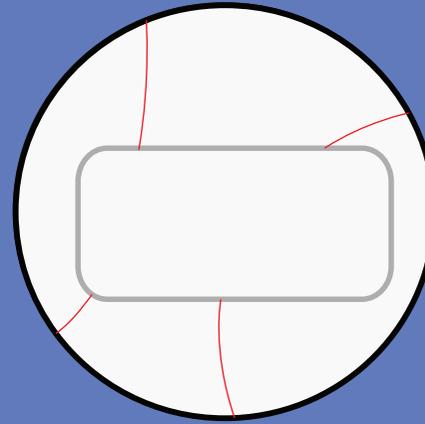
2. How does Jimmy help A.J. at school?

3. List one way you can show you that you care about others (in school, at home and or the playground).

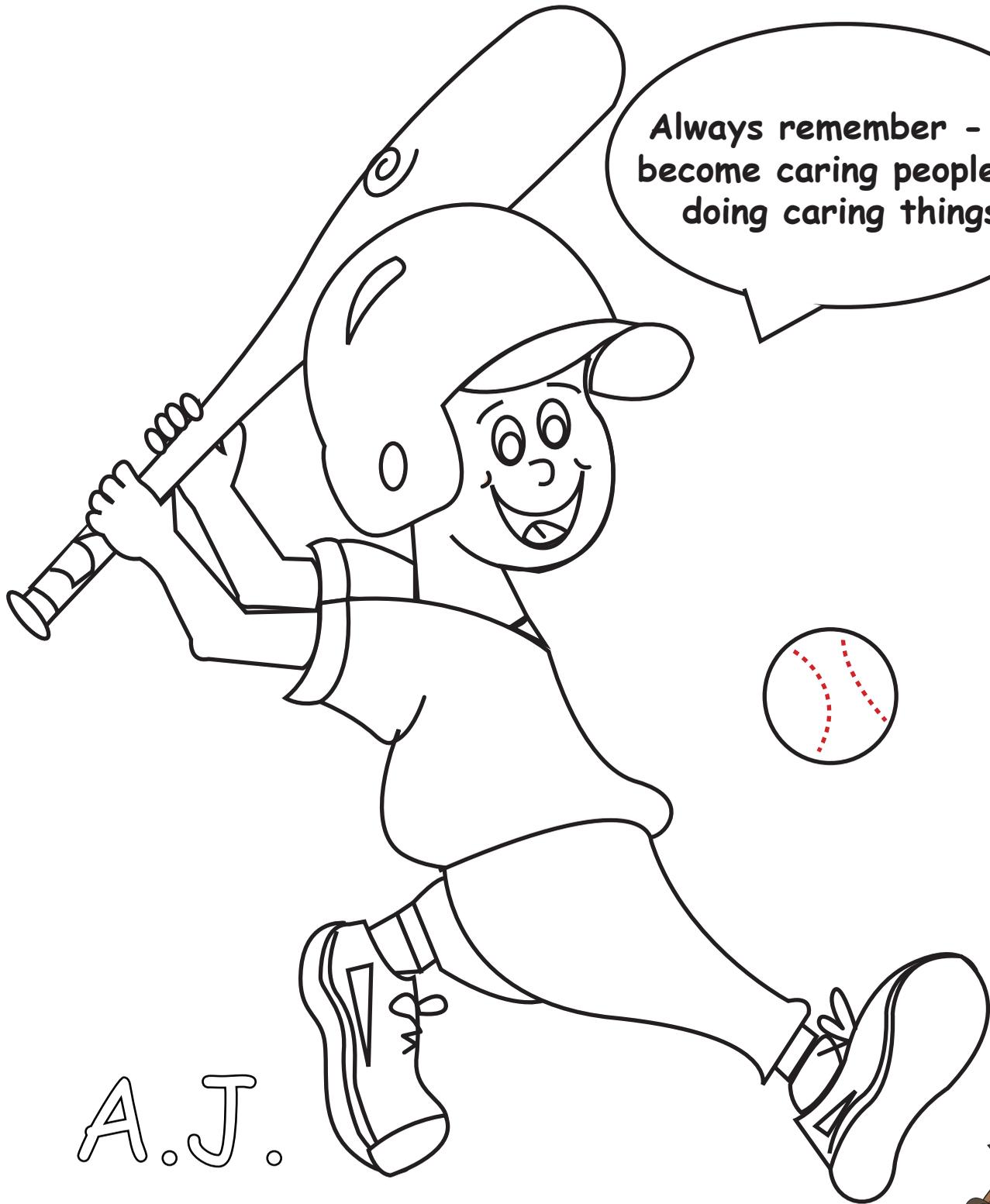


HOW TO BE A CARING PERSON

Directions: Think about and be on the lookout for ways you are showing how to be a caring person. Write your name on the baseball only when your teacher or guardian says you are showing how to be a caring person. Then, place one of the baseballs on the baseball diamond.



Directions: Color the character from the P.E. Gang



A.J.

