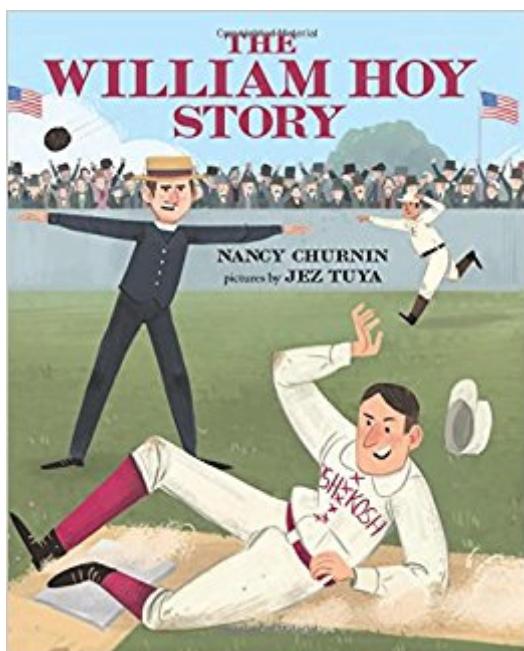


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# The William Hoy Story: How A Deaf Baseball Player Changed The Game



## Synopsis

Winner - 2017 Storytelling World Resource Award Honor BookFinalist - 2017 North Texas Book Festival Best Children's Books All William Ellsworth Hoy wanted to do was play baseball. After losing out on a spot on the local deaf team, William practiced even harder—eventually earning a position on a professional team. But his struggle was far from over. In addition to the prejudice Hoy faced, he could not hear the umpires' calls. One day he asked the umpire to use hand signals: strike, ball, out. That day he not only got on base but also changed the way the game was played forever. William "Dummy" Hoy became one of the greatest and most beloved players of his time! The William Hoy Story is also on several book lists:2016 New York Public Library Best Books for Kids2017 Texas 2x2 Reading List2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List2017 Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College2018 Illinois Monarch Award Master List

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 620 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company (March 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807591920

ISBN-13: 978-0807591925

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.3 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 43 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #92,047 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Sports & Recreation #120 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #166 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 3—This picture book biography demonstrates how an extraordinary deaf player from the early days of baseball made a lasting contribution to the game. The ambitions of William Hoy (1862–1961) were clear from the start. The boy thought of little other than baseball and

practiced tirelessly in hopes of playing on a team. Achieving his goal brought challenges that he didn't expect, but giving up was not an option. Hoy realized that better communication was needed and knew just the way to do it. While he was not the only person to introduce hand signals to the game, he did popularize their use among players and fans. The book is well told and charmingly illustrated in a semirealistic style that conveys Hoy's emotions. Those who enjoyed Audrey Vernick's *Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team* (Clarion, 2012) will want to read this engaging biography. **VERDICT** This is the largely unknown story of a differently abled athlete's valuable addition to the great American pastime. —Paige Mellinger, Gwinnett County Public Libraries, Lillburn, GA

"This picture book offers a smoothly written text and simplified digital illustrations. A rewarding read-aloud choice for baseball fans." *Booklist*, February 1, 2016 "Tuya's bright cartoons give a solid sense of the period, as well as Hoy's pride, satisfaction and some hurtful moments on his way to becoming 'king of center field.'" *Publishers Weekly*, December 11, 2015 "[Churnin] tells William's story patiently and clearly, with a wonderfully matter-of-fact tone about the ways a deaf person navigates life." *The New York Times Book Review*, April 28, 2016 "Churnin tells Hoy's story in sprightly, descriptive language that reaches to the heart of his courage and ingenuity. Tuya's bright, flat, cartoon-simple illustrations complement the text perfectly, deftly capturing the era, Hoy's emotional ups and downs, and his determination and spirit. A moving tribute to a hero." *Kirkus Reviews*, March 1, 2016 "The book is well told and charmingly illustrated in a semirealistic style that conveys Hoy's emotions. Those who enjoyed Audrey Vernick's *Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team* will want to read this engaging biography." *School Library Journal*, February 2016

An inspiring story of perseverance and the value of a "can do" attitude. Beautifully told and illustrated for the young reader, it encourages children to set their goals high regardless of the challenges they face. This remarkable man, born when Lincoln was president and still active when JFK was in office, made his mark in major league baseball. It's a marvelous biography thoughtfully crafted for children by an author who clearly found much to admire in this extraordinary man. A gem of a book!

Although this is written for younger children, the information and the presentation will interest kids up to about 12 years of age. My 11-year-old grandson, a baseball player, found the story of William

Hoy fascinating. A good book for elementary schools to add to their library. A story of encouragement and perseverance. Jean M Cogdell is the author of Tryouts for BenÃ  Â Tryouts For BenTryouts For Ben

Heartwarming. From the moment that William picked up that ball in the beginning of the book all the way through till the crowd is giving the silent applause; I was hooked. This story appeals to the sports lover, the underdog, the indomitable attitude, or any child facing adversity.

This is a unique and special book on so many levels. It is entertaining to children and adults alike with the story of the incredible William Hoy a baseball player "who just happened to be deaf," and how he overcame this disability to be a star. It is the story of a time in history that children should learn about and appreciate. The telling of the story is compelling along with colorful and outstanding illustrations to emphasize the plot. Finally the author has included a summary for adults about Hoy's story and a timeline for history buffs. Librarians, teachers, parents, children and baseball fans can all enjoy this story of a very important but little known baseball player. I look forward to more stories from this author!

From page one to the end, this inspiring man will win your heart. He looked adversity in the eye and forged ahead with solutions instead of regret. Parents and children will stand up and wave after reading William's story.

Important story, and well-written. Recommended for children and older students or even adults as well.

I read a review of this book in the Dallas Morning News. I had never heard of William Hoy. One of my grandsons is a real baseball fan, even at 10 years of age., so I ordered us both a copy. It is a great story and we both enjoyed it. I reviewed it at a Book Club meeting. Several others ordered their own copies. We were all inspired!

Wonderful book. An important, not very well-known historical figure's inspiring life made accessible for children.

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