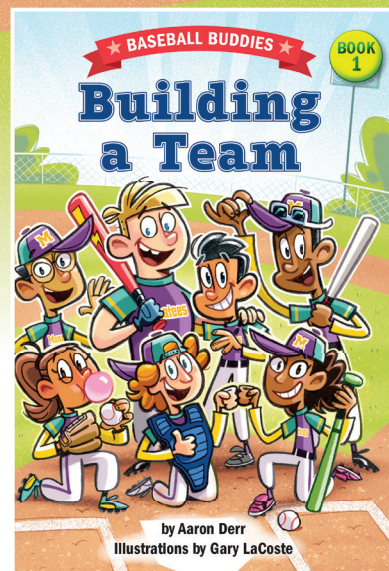


★ BASEBALL BUDDIES ★

# Building a Team

by Aaron Derr  
Illustrations by Gary LaCoste

**W**hen Luis joins his new baseball team, the Manatees, things seem hopeless at first. Some of his new teammates—including “loud and obnoxious” home-run slugger Jimmie—are mean to him or to each other. His new coach doesn’t tell the players everything to do like his old coach did. And some of the Manatees seem more interested in goofing off than in sportsmanship or working hard. Then Coach Joe makes Luis team captain. Will Luis rise to the challenge? Can he get the Manatees to balance working hard and having fun? Will he help his teammates learn to be friends rather than compete with each other? *Baseball Buddies* explores the power of working together, what it takes to build a team, and the lasting friendships that form on the baseball field.



## YOUNG READERS FICTION

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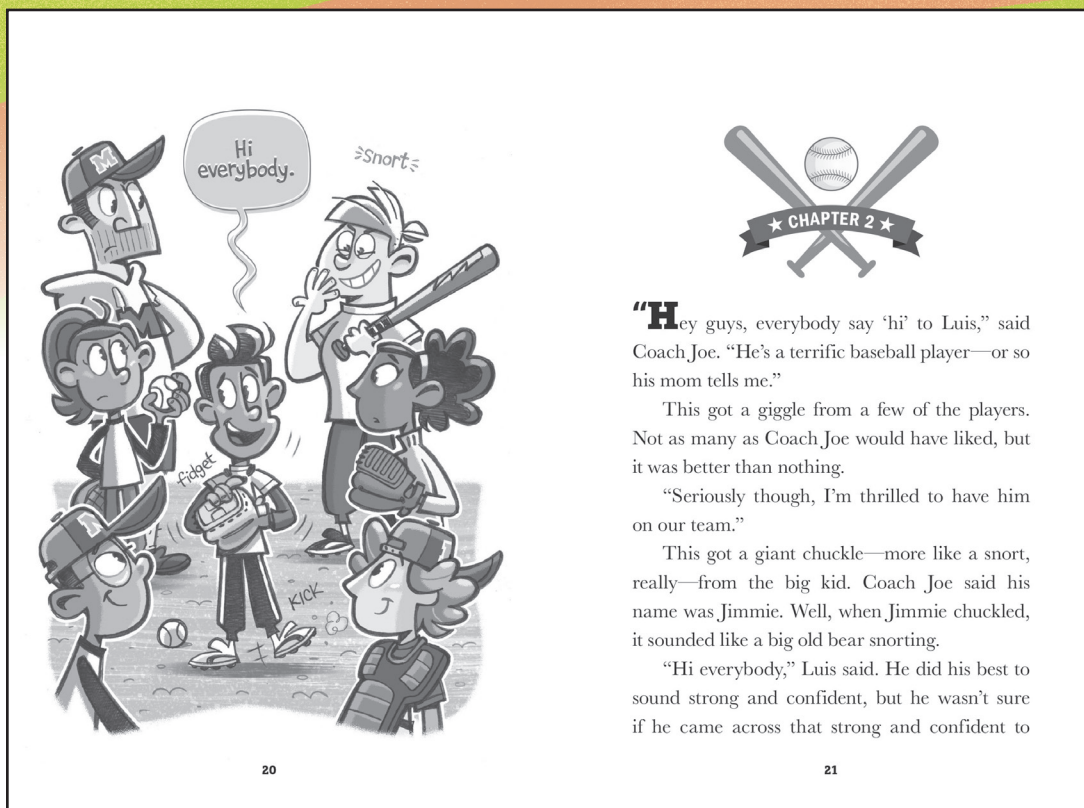
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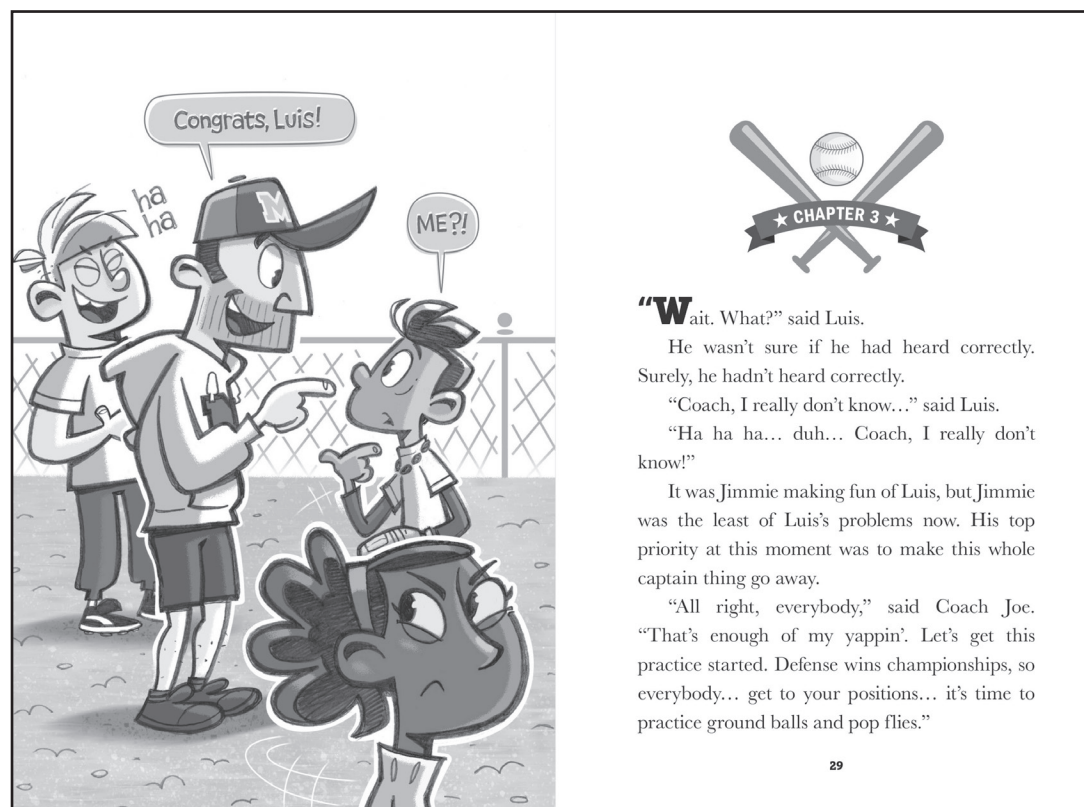
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