



# REVERSE THE CURSE!

Baseball is a sport filled with quirky characters, superstitious superstars, and tall tales. Take, for example, the Curse of the Billy Goat. In 1945, Billy Sianis, a tavern owner, brought a goat to a Chicago Cubs game, and was ejected due to the animal's pungent odor. As he left Wrigley Field, Sianis placed a curse on the Cubs for disrespecting his goat. The cursed Cubs still haven't won the World Series since 1908, but now you can help them! Each base contains one true legend and one that's pure myth. Circle the baseball next to the legend you think is true. If you make it all the way around the base path and identify each true legend, you just might appease Sianis's foul-smelling goat and lift the curse off the Cubs. Batter up!

MENTAL FLOSS WORKSHEET



**Answers** **FIRST BASE 1** Fact; members of the expedition documented playing "the game of bases" with the Nez Perce. **2** Fiction **SECOND BASE 3** Fiction. **4** Fact; unfortunately, a Pepsi representative who offered McLain an endorsement deal also got him hooked on gambling, which led to the downfall of the pitcher's career. **THIRD BASE 5** Fiction **6** Fact **HOME 7** Fact; although Boggs did deny a myth that he once drank 64 beers on a flight from Boston to Los Angeles. **8** Fiction; the fictional Finch fooled the nation in a Sports Illustrated April Fool's Day article by George Plimpton.