

push her around. Parents told her she didn't belong on the field. "They could see that I was a better player than some of their sons," Kathryn says.

But Kathryn was the last girl to play for a long time. After that season, Little League officially banned girls from playing. The decision became known as the "Tubby Rule."

In the next 20 years, the world changed. Women fought for equal rights. A law called Title IX was passed in 1972. It required public schools to offer more sports for girls. And in 1974, Little League finally got rid of the Tubby Rule. Since then, hundreds of thousands



GIRL POWER Mo'ne Davis became a star player during the 2014 Little League World Series. She's just one of the hundreds of thousands of girls to play Little League Baseball since Tubby Johnston.

of girls have played Little League Baseball. Millions more have participated in high school sports. Kathryn—who is 81 now—has advice for them all. "You need to dream big," she says. "Because that's what I did." •

Action Activity

Why did Kathryn pretend to be a boy?

Write a paragraph to answer this question.

Get started by using facts from the article to finish the sentences below.

GO FURTHER! FIND ACTIVITIES ONLINE

Remember to indent the first sentence!

Topic Sentence

In 1950, Kathryn Johnston dressed as a boy because

The main idea of your paragraph: What did Kathryn want to do that no girl had done before?

Detail 1

At that time, girls who wanted to play sports

What kinds of chances did girls have to play sports?

Detail 2

Kathryn was great at playing baseball, but

Who could and could not play Little League back then?

Detail 3

To try out for a Little League team, Kathryn had to

How did Kathryn get people to think she was a boy?

Conclusion

Kathryn showed that girls can play baseball as well as boys can by

How did Kathryn's tryout go?