

E. Seth Makes the Team

6TH-8TH GRADE

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Discouraged, Seth watched the boy's basketball tryouts from the sidelines. "I'll never make the team," he thought sadly. "This game is too rough and fast for me, and I am not very strong." He remembered reading in a book about Dr. James Naismith that basketball was invented as a polite indoor sport. It definitely wasn't anymore. Soon it was Seth's turn to try out for the team. He didn't work very hard when he got on the court, so he wasn't too surprised when his name wasn't on the team roster.

Before tryouts the next year, Coach Roberts came and talked to Seth. She was very encouraging. "I've been watching you in your P.E. class all year and you really are a very talented athlete. You should play for the Cougars this year. You can make this basketball team. Just give it all you've got." Seth decided he did want to make the basketball team. He ran onto the court, full of determination. Seth focused all his energy on making freethrows and dribbling. Sure enough, when the team was announced, his name was at the top of the list.