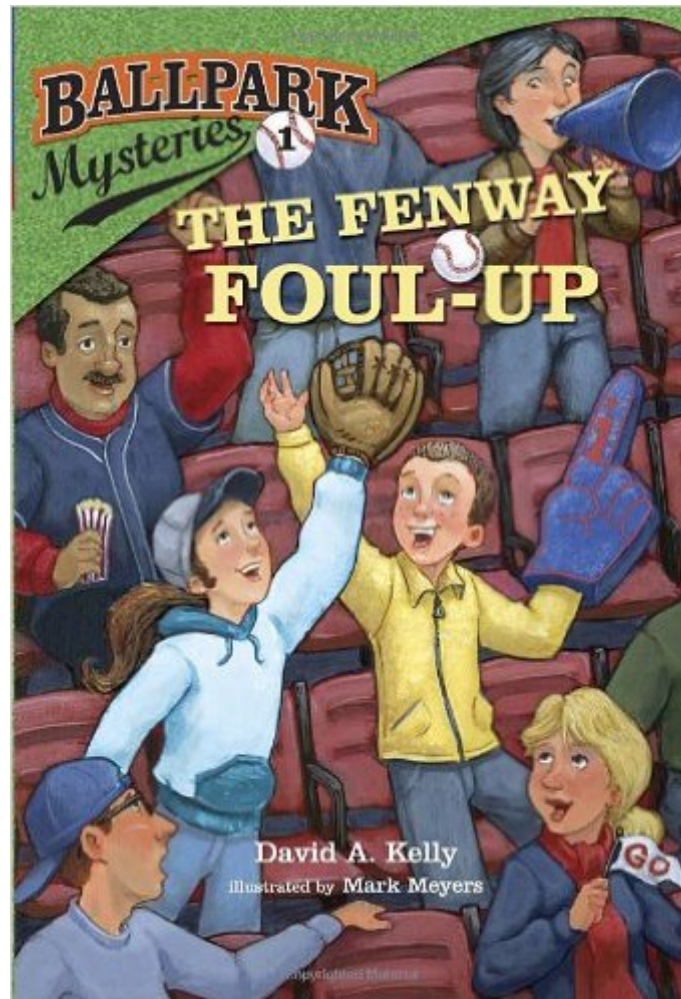


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# Ballpark Mysteries #1: The Fenway Foul-up (A Stepping Stone Book(TM))



## Synopsis

Now leading off the line-upâ ”book #1 in a brand-new early chapter book mystery series where each book is set in a different American ballpark! Thanks to Kate’s mom, a sports reporter, cousins Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins have tickets to the Red Sox game and All Access passes to Fenway Park. But as they’re watching batting practice before the game, the lucky bat of Red Sox star slugger Big D is stolen . . . right in front of dozens of people. Without the bat, Big D can’t seem to hit a thing. Can Kate and Mike figure out who pinched the bat before Big D and the Sox chalk up a loss?The Fenway Foul-Up includes a fun fact page about Boston’s Fenway Park.Cross Ron Roy’s mystery series with Matt Christopher’s sports books and you get the Ballpark Mysteries: fun, puzzling whodunnits aimed right at beginning readers.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 590L (What’s this?)

Series: A Stepping Stone Book(TM) (Book 1)

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; A Stepping Stone Book edition (February 22, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375867031

ISBN-13: 978-0375867033

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (98 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,791 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #6 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States #43 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

As someone who has learned what I know about sports from books, author David A. Kelly has given me another lesson and a great mystery with THE FENWAY FOUL-UP. Though the book is perfect for that young person in your life who loves a great story, it is also a quick read that adults can read appreciate as well.Cousins Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins not only share a love for baseball but a

challenge as well. When they learn that one player's "lucky bat" has been stolen, they do all they can to not only find the bat but the one responsible as well. There are several lessons in this book that we as adults can share with children. One is the importance of being observant to things going on around us. There is also the lesson of not taking something that doesn't belong to us, never knowing what the consequences could be. Probably one of the great lessons that Kelly shares is that good deeds are always rewarded, sometimes in ways you could never expect. This proved true for Mike and Kate and can easily be the case for all of us. A clever read with just enough twists and turns to keep a child's attention, David A. Kelly hits another one out the park with **THE FENWAY FOUL-UP**. Cyrus Webb, Conversations Book Club/Conversations Magazine

No mystery at all about the appeal of *The Fenway Foul-Up*: the first book in author David A. Kelly's terrific new series serves up a winning mix of baseball action and ace detective work in one clever package. The neatly plotted story takes young readers behind the scenes at a Major League ballpark, where nine-year-old pals Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins find themselves in the middle of a muddle when a star slugger's prized bat goes missing just before game time. Crackerjack sleuthing combine with insider-y baseball lore to make the book a perfect fit for Cam Jansen and A-to-Z Mystery enthusiasts as well as fans of sports adventures. My eight-year-old devoured *The Fenway Foul-Up* in one sitting and looks forward to many more Ballpark Mysteries to come!

\* Ballpark Mysteries are a great addition to the early chapter books currently out there.\* Author David A. Kelly is definitely filling a need for more sports books for newly independent readers.\* Mysteries set in sports venues makes a combination guaranteed to work for young boys and sports-oriented girls.=====Kate Hopkins and Mike Walsh have accompanied Kate's mom to Fenway Park for a Boston Red Sox game against the Oakland A's. During batting practice, Big D's lucky bat goes missing. Big D is the Red Sox's biggest hitter, but without his lucky bat he can't do much. After some great detecting, Kate and Mike save the day when they locate the missing bat. The writing is simple and so is the story. Young sports fans will eat this up. This book will be a grand slam for Boston fans, but general sports fans will enjoy it as well, using this one to whet their appetite until Kelly gets around to setting a story in their favorite team's stadium. The second book, already published, is set in Yankee Stadium and the third in Los Angeles Dodger Stadium.

The Ballpark Mysteries series is the perfect series for a young boy who is obsessed with baseball.

He was so excited to read these books and finished them in no time! I didn't read this myself, but according to him it was a very good book. It has since been passed down to his younger brother, who isn't so much into baseball but enjoys mystery. So it's a perfect book for the both of them!  
Covers all the bases (get it?!)

My six year-old enjoyed this. It's not rich or deep literature, but it's a well-written mystery that's easy to follow. the female characters are very strong - it's quite egalitarian. Great for a Red Sox lover.

My 7 year old son really enjoyed this book. He is a reluctant reader, so we took turns reading (I read the first chapter, then he read the second, etc.). He is looking forward to the next book in the series.

A great novel book to break up into chapters to read to your child to get them into novels. I currently read a few pages a night and that equals a chapter! I am excited to add more of these books to the series!

Great series to read with grades 2-4. My reluctant readers really liked this book and I decided to purchase books 1-9 so I could have the books on hand for them to take back to their classrooms.  
Thank you David A. Kelly!

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