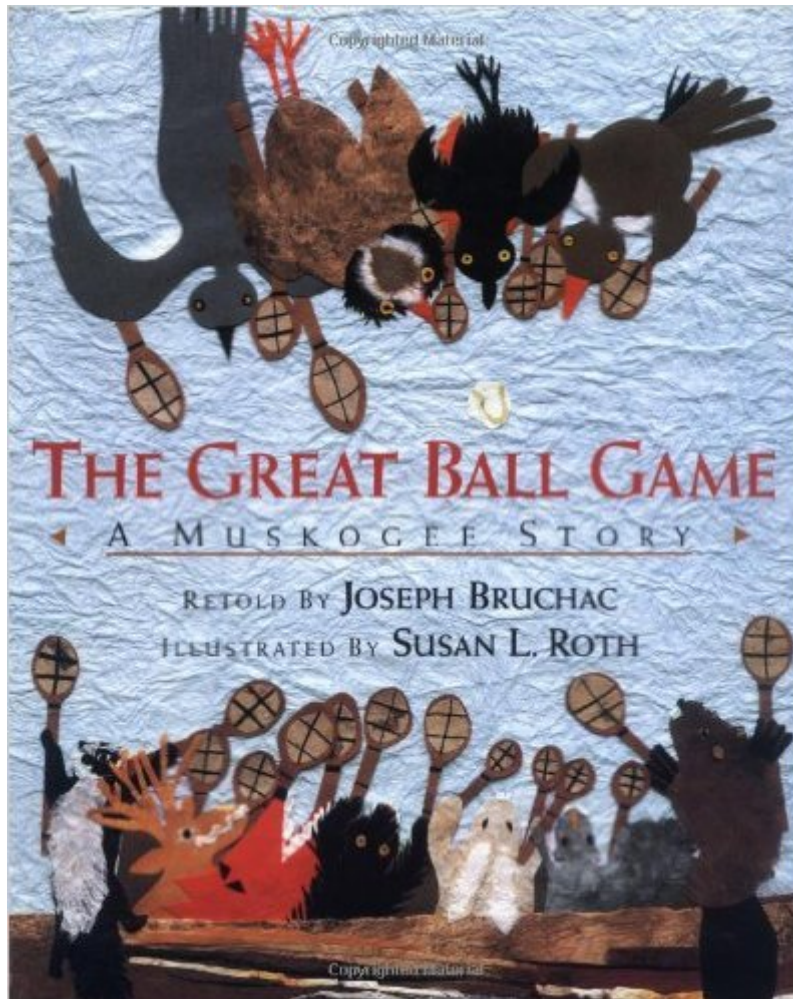


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# The Great Ball Game: A Muskogee Story



## Synopsis

With characteristic action and wit, renowned Native American storyteller Bruchac retells the amusing and rousing folktale of an epic ball game between the Birds and the Animals, which offers the explanation as to why birds fly south every winter. Roth's brilliant collage art enhances the story. Full color.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dial Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (September 1, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803715390

ISBN-13: 978-0803715394

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.4 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #754,202 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > United States](#) #428 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Anthologies](#) #498 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans](#)

Age Range: 4 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten and up

## Customer Reviews

One of the best, if not the best children's book I have ever read. Its an excellent text to help young people realize that no matter who they are, they have a place and a role to play in this world. I loved it.

The Great Ball Game...Joseph Bruchac and Susan L. Roth. 1994--25 pages..a kids book. Beautiful art work. STORY ABOUT HOW ANIMALS AND BIRDS PLAYED GAMES INSTEAD OF GOING WAR. Story from Louis Littlecoon Oliver. THEY SETTLED DIS AGREEMENTS THROUGH THE GAME. I LOVED THIS creek BOOK! bbbp okc ok 63 retired

How could anyone make just beautiful collage then find photography so vivid. I think this is the most

beautiful book I have ever enjoyed. I am drawn to Native American tales and have loved teaching about them in school, but this work is top of my list. I can hardly wait to share it with the grandchildren. Not far from here is a known site of Cherokee and Creek ballgames used to settle great conflicts between groups and over in mid-north Georgia is a town called Ballground where similar events occurred. Bruchac's story is supportive of that element of some Native American groups. I am delighted!

Joseph Bruchac has written a number of award-winning picture books, many of them biographies or traditional stories originating from various Native American tribes. This Muscogee (Creek) story tells of a conflict between the animals and birds. They cannot decide which group is best, so they decide to resolve the question in a traditional manner, through a sports competition. But when the sides line up to play the small bat, equipped with both wings and teeth, has to plead for the right to join either side. Bear takes pity on him and finally allows him to join the Animals. At nightfall, when the game begins to go badly for them, the Bat swoops in to snatch the ball and score a winning goal, showing that "sometimes even the small ones can help." Bat decides that the Birds' penalty for losing shall be their annual migration south, thus vacating the land for the Animals to use. This story has much in its favor. In spare, clear text Bruchac conveys the practice of sport as a substitute for war, builds a fine drama within the context of the game, includes a little scientific observation and mixes in a little humor. Roth's torn-collage illustrations are fairly abstract, and may not appeal to all readers, but I believe she captures the right mood for this kind of mythological story. Because this kind of story is meant to be shared, it may make a better read-aloud than read-alone. It's well suited for a preschool or elementary audience.

I got this book as a gift for my son to learn a story of his people. The artwork kept his interest and he pointed to Bear, Fox and Rabbit saying their names in Native tongue. Excellent book for the little ones to know that there is always a fair way to settle arguments and that size and differences do not matter when it comes to helping.

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Dressing & Cooking Wild Game: From Field to Table: Big Game, Small Game, Upland Birds & Waterfowl (The Complete Hunter)  
Game Feel: A Game Designer's Guide to Virtual Sensation (Morgan Kaufmann Game Design Books)

Video Game Addiction: The Cure to The Game Addiction (Addiction Recovery, Addictions, Video Game Addiction, Online Gaming Addiction) The Predators' Ball: The Inside Story of Drexel Burnham and the Rise of the JunkBond Raiders Can You Spot the Ball? (Manchester United) Kid's Travel Fun Book: Play Games. Make Things Out of Paper and String. You'll Have a Ball! Pete the Cat: Play Ball! (My First I Can Read) A Big Guy Took My Ball! (An Elephant and Piggie Book) Watch Me Throw the Ball! (An Elephant and Piggie Book) Froggy Plays T-ball Storytime with Daniel: Thank You Day; Friends Help Each Other; Daniel Plays Ball; Daniel Goes Out for Dinner; Daniel Feels Left Out; Daniel Visits the Library (Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood) Sometimes I Like to Curl Up in a Ball Ball I am Lucille Ball (Ordinary People Change the World) Who Was Lucille Ball? Dragon Ball Z, Vol. 11 Superhero for a Day: The Magic Magic Eight Ball (Volume 1)

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