



BETTER ATHLETES
BETTER PEOPLE

Discussion Guide: 42

In 1947, Jackie Robinson becomes the first African-American to play in Major League Baseball in the modern era when he was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers and faces considerable racism in the process. 42 tells this story.

Take advantage of the teachable moments presented in 42 by using these questions to help guide a discussion with your team or children.

- 1.) Why would it be worse for his case if Jackie Robinson fought back and lost his temper in difficult situations?
- 2.) How does Mr. Rickey (the Dodgers General Manager) convince other coaches and players to accept Jackie as a player and teammate?
- 3.) What might the crowd be thinking in the first game when Jackie keeps his cool and the pitcher loses his temper?
- 4.) Do you think Mr. Rickey's only motive for bringing Jackie in the team was for money or was he also doing it for a goal bigger than baseball?
- 5.) How do Jackie's actions on the field speak louder than words against his doubters and even teammates that don't want to accept him?
- 6.) When the new manager joins, how does he introduce himself and what actions does he take to immediately build a good relationship with Jackie Robinson?
- 7.) What actions did Jackie's teammate take to stand up for Jackie against the opposing racist coach? How might this peaceful strategy of talking be applied in any situation where one stands up for a teammate?
- 8.) How does being teammates build a connection where you stand up for each other? How does this movie show this relationship between teammates and how would a coach and players foster this in youth sports teams in our time today?

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