

# Louis Sockalexis *Native American Baseball Pioneer*

## RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

### WRITING

- ◆ Pretend that you were a sports reporter back in Louis's day. Write an article either about him or about an imaginary game his baseball team played. Remember to include a headline!



- ◆ Famous athletes often get fan mail. Write a letter to Louis explaining why you admire him and encouraging him not to give up on playing baseball. You can include a story of a time in your own life when you kept doing something you loved even though it was difficult.
- ◆ Jim Thorpe was another American Indian athlete. Many people think he was the great-

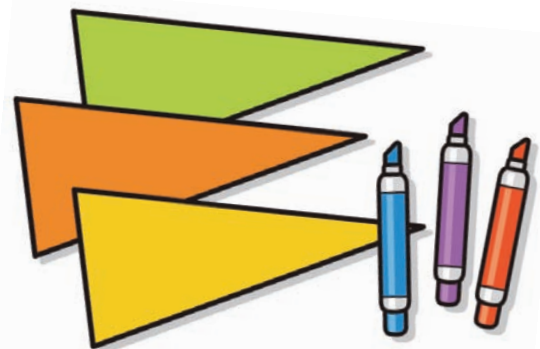
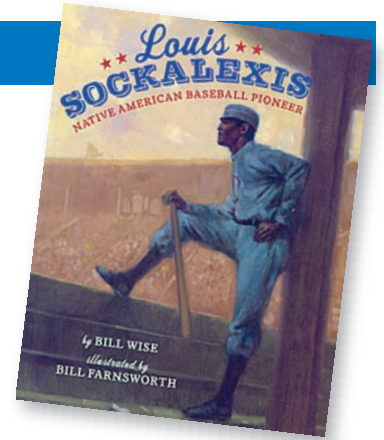
est athlete of the 20th century. Research to find out more about his career. Do you agree? Why or why not? If not Jim Thorpe, who do you think the 20th century's greatest athlete was? Explain your answer.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

- ◆ Like Louis Sockalexis, Jackie Robinson and Elizabeth Stroud were also baseball pioneers. Create a chart or graph comparing all three of them. Include information on when they played and what their biggest achievements were.
- ◆ Choose a city with a Major League Baseball team. Research the city and make a tourism brochure. Include information about the city's location, population, history and major attractions. Draw or print out a map showing the city and state.

### MATH

- ◆ **Running the Bases I:** A baseball diamond is actually a 90 x 90 foot square—there are 90 feet between each of the four bases. If you hit a home run (meaning you have to run all the way around the diamond), how many feet will you have to run?
- ◆ **Running the Bases II:** The bases are loaded, which means there is a player on each base. You hit a grand slam home run. Every player will run from their base to home plate. How many total feet will all of the players run? Make a diagram to help find the answer. (Don't forget to include your own home run in the total!)
- ◆ **Winning the Pennant:** Your team plays 137 games and wins 98. What is your winning percentage (number of wins/total number of games)? Research to find the winning percentage of last year's World Series champions. How do you compare?



### ART

- ◆ Use colored construction paper and markers to make a pennant for yourself. Make sure that your name is displayed somewhere in the design. Write words or draw pictures that show your strengths and/or interests on the pennant.

