

Name: _____

Reading a Chart

Be Chart Smart

Directions: Read the Scholastic News Online story about about the Little League World Series (“U.S. Kids Bring It Home”), then look at the chart below. It shows how Little League Baseball in the U.S. has grown since the organization was formed in 1939. Use the chart to answer the questions.

YEAR	NUMBER OF LOCAL LEAGUES	BASEBALL PLAYERS	SOFTBALL PLAYERS	TOTAL PLAYERS
1939	1	30	0	30
1949	197	11,800	0	11,800
1959	5,228	380,500	0	380,500
1969	6,255	1,288,800	0	1,288,800
1979	6,899	1,702,600	122,974	1,825,574
1989	6,841	1,939,845	246,315	2,186,160
1999	7,431	2,518,755	392,370	2,911,125
2009	6,947	2,236,590	359,340	2,595,930

Source: Little League Baseball

1. How many local leagues were in Little League Baseball in 2009? _____
2. In which year shown on the chart were there about 380,000 Little League players? _____
3. How many softball players participated in Little League in 1989? _____
4. In 1999, how many more Little League participants played baseball than played softball? _____
5. According to the chart, in which decade did the number of Little League participants first reach 1 million? Was it the 1950s, 1960s, or 1970s? _____
6. Overall, has Little League participation increased or decreased over the past 10 years? _____ By how many participants? _____
7. Based on the information in the chart, what do you think will happen to Little League participation in the next decade? Why do you think so? _____

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