

## Mets Give Us a Delightful Rarity: An In-the-Park Home Run

By Susan Ashworth

What's as elusive as a clear San Francisco sky on the Fourth of July?

An in-the-park Little League home run. And this one is from a different kind of Sky altogether.

That's exactly what the Mets AAA pulled off in tightly fought game against the Twins AAA in late April when Mets player #12 came up to the plate. Late in the game, Sky smashed a line drive into right field that hugged the foul line nearly to the outfield fence. With his typical impressive speed on the base path, 9-year-old Sky rounded first, then second, then third — with ease — before crossing home plate and driving in runs, which helped the Mets overcome an earlier five-run deficit in the fourth inning.

His impressive homer brought every Mets player out of the dugout with whoops and cheers.

There was even some good will from the Twins too. Behind home plate for the Twins was Robbie Bixler, Sky's best friend since Kindergarten. The duo of Sky and Robbie have been playing on and off the field together since T-ball.

In the Mets bullpen, Isaac W. started the game, allowing zero hits and five runs over two and a third innings, striking out one. Hitting and base running was also strong for the Mets: Susannah led the Mets with two hits in two at bats, while speedy Benny led the Mets with five stolen bases. In all, the Mets ran wild on the base paths with 11 stolen bases.

But it wasn't quite enough to best the Twins, which had strong base running and pitching. In the third inning, the Twins AAA scored one run on a stolen base, with the Twins' Paul singling on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run. Then the Twins scored on a stolen base during Preston's at bat. Paul also earned the win for Twins after striking out five and walking one. Paul recorded the last six outs to earn the Twins' save.

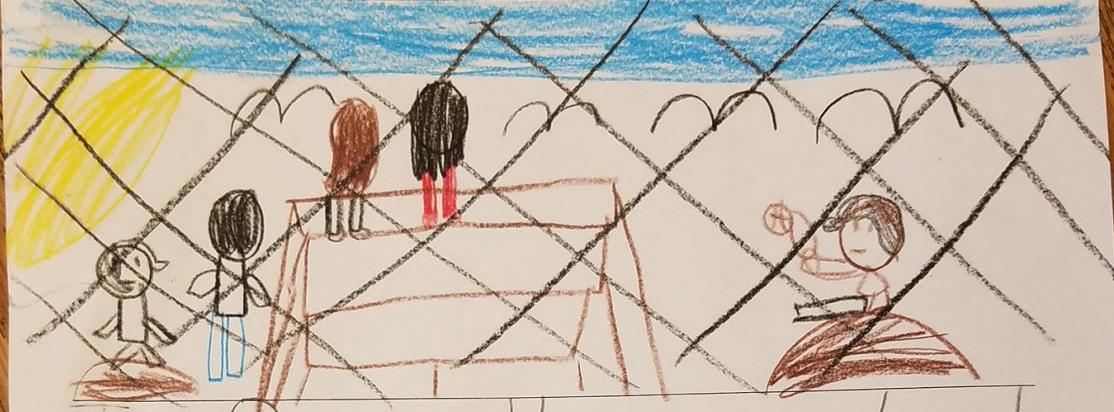
The Mets ultimately fell to the Twins 9 to 8. That's the fifth game this season that the Mets have lost by three runs or less, and each of those losses have been down to the wire — the last three have come in the final inning of the game.

Nonetheless, the Mets were uplifted by that homerun.

Even Sky's sister Sienna was impressed. She about her big brother's homerun during Kindergarten class, saying "Over the weekend I went to my brother's baseball game and I saw Sky hit a home run." Well said.

name: Sienna

date: 4-23-18



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