

Cal and the Bowling League Surprise

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Cal was excited when his teacher, Mrs. Wilson, announced, “Today we’re going to celebrate U.S. Bowling League Day!”

Cal looked around the classroom. “Bowling League Day? What’s that?” he asked.

Mrs. Wilson smiled. “Bowling leagues are groups of people who come together to bowl on teams. They compete, but they also cheer each other on and build friendships. The first official bowling league in the United States started way back in 1901!”

“Wow,” said Mia. “So people have been bowling together for over a hundred years?”

“Exactly,” Mrs. Wilson said. “Bowling isn’t just about knocking down pins. It’s about teamwork, patience, and having fun.”

To celebrate, the class formed their own mini “bowling league” right there in the gym. Instead of heavy bowling balls, Mrs. Wilson set up plastic bottles as pins and gave each student a soft foam ball.

Cal rolled his ball carefully down the taped lane. The ball wobbled to the side but still knocked over three pins. “Yes!” Cal shouted, throwing his arms in the air.

“Good try!” said his friend Jordan. “You’ll get more next time.”

When Mia took her turn, she bowled a strike. Everyone clapped and cheered loudly, just like a real bowling league team.

At the end of the game, Mrs. Wilson reminded them, “See how you all cheered for each other? That’s the spirit of a bowling league. Winning is fun, but encouraging your teammates is what matters most.”

Cal nodded. “I think I get it now. Bowling is about rolling the ball—but leagues are about rolling together.”

The whole class laughed and agreed that U.S. Bowling League Day was a *perfect strike*!



Writing Prompt: Create Your Own Bowling League

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Imagine you and your classmates are starting a brand-new bowling league. Think about the details that would make your team unique and fun!

Write a short story or description that answers these questions:

1. **What is your team's name?** (Be creative—maybe “The Pin Crushers” or “The Strike Squad”!)
2. **What does your team logo or mascot look like?** (A superhero bowling ball? A funny dancing pin?)
3. **What would your team uniforms look like?** (Bright colors, silly hats, matching shirts?)
4. **How would your team cheer each other on?** (Would you have a chant, a high-five, or a special dance?)
5. **What makes your team special?** (Team spirit, teamwork, or maybe a secret lucky charm?)

Finish by writing a short story about your team playing in a big bowling match. Did you win? Did something funny happen? How did you encourage each other?

Extension idea: Students could also **draw their team logo or mascot** after writing their story.

