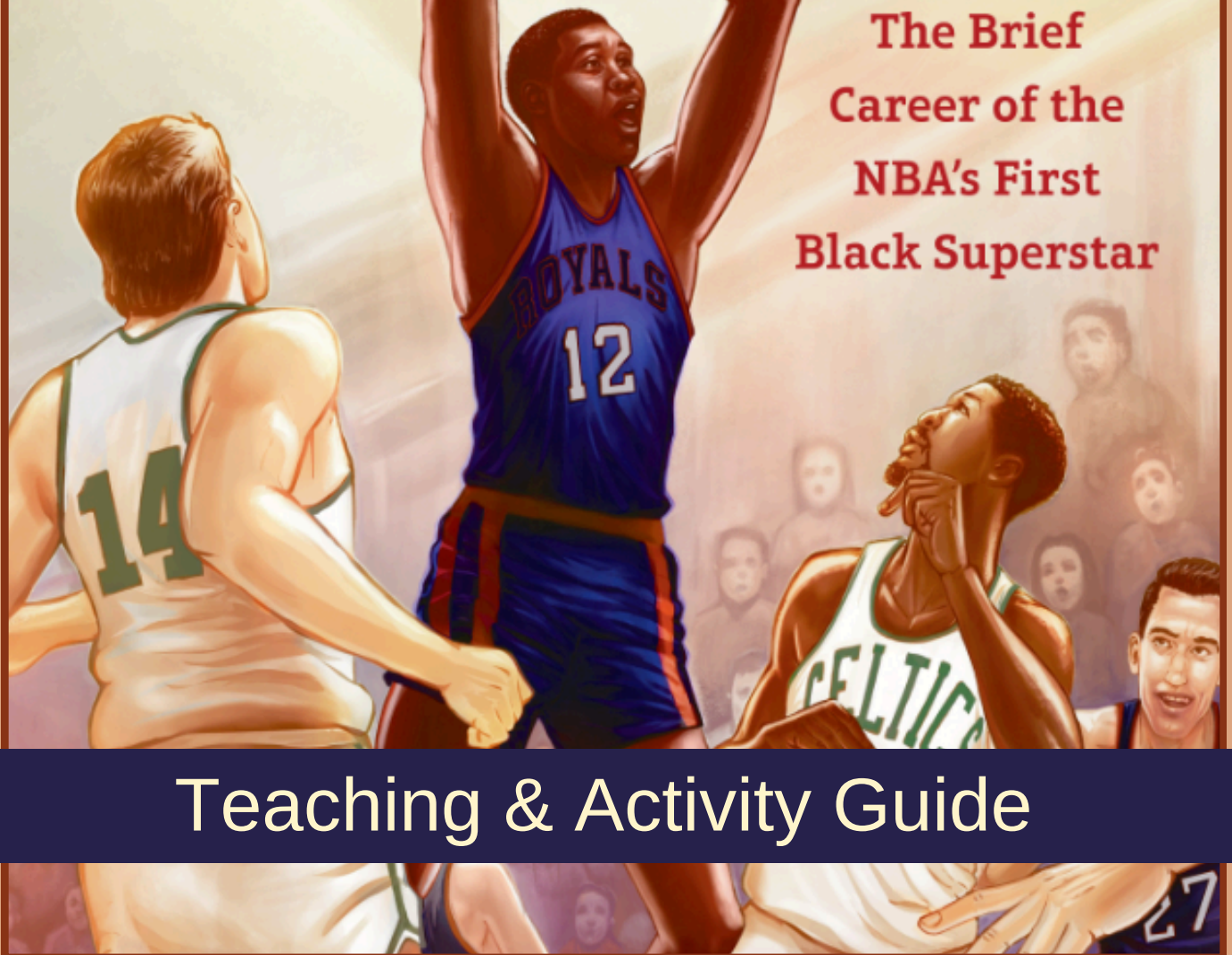


TY CHAPMAN AND JOHN COY • ILLUSTRATIONS BY LONNIE OLLIVIERRE

# STOKES

The Brief  
Career of the  
NBA's First  
Black Superstar



## Teaching & Activity Guide

# Discussion Guide Questions

1. Had you heard of Maurice Stokes before reading this book? If yes, from where did you hear about him? If not, why do you think that was?
2. Why was Maurice Stokes such a good teammate?
3. Why did he become the NBA's first Black superstar?
4. How did Maurice Stokes change the NBA?
5. Why and how did NBA players rally to help Maurice Stokes after his injury?
6. How has the treatment of head injuries changed since Maurice Stokes played?
7. What were some things Maurice Stokes enjoyed doing after his injury?
8. Why do you think so many people wanted to visit Maurice Stokes in the hospital?
9. Which current NBA player reminds you most of Maurice Stokes?
10. Who are people in your school, community, or neighborhood, who are good teammates?
11. How can you be good teammate in your daily life?



# Writing Prompts

1. What are the qualities that make a good teammate?

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2. How did Maurice Stokes change the NBA?

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3. What do you think it would be like to go from being one of the best athletes in the world to not being able to move?

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4. What does it mean to be a good teammate on a sports team, in a classroom, or even at home?

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[illegible]

# Opinion Writing

Which sport is the most fun to play?  
Give 3 reasons for your opinion and sum  
it up in the conclusion.



Reason 1

Reason 2

Reason 3

Conclusion

# RESEARCH IT!

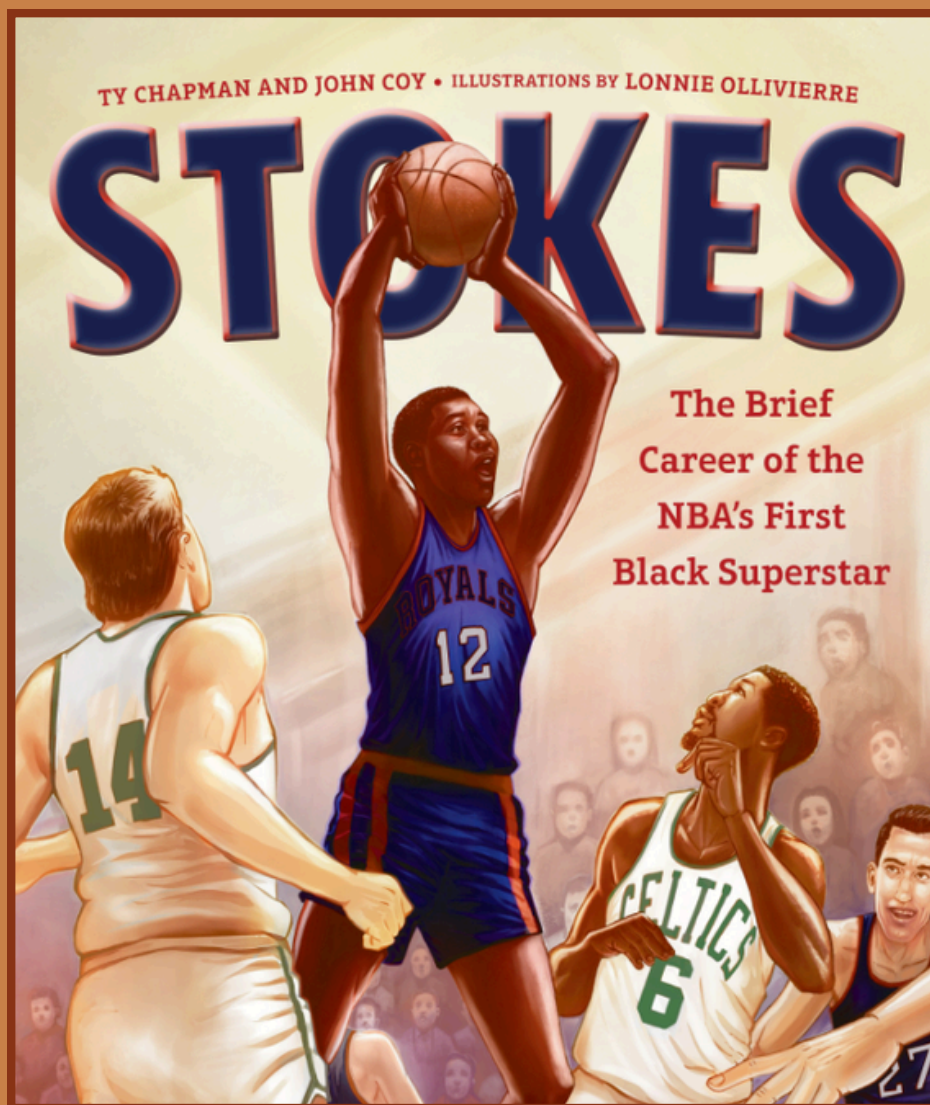
Research a sports figure in history who may not be well-known. Your goal is to learn about their life, achievements, and the challenges they faced.

Impact 1:

Impact 2:

Impact 3:





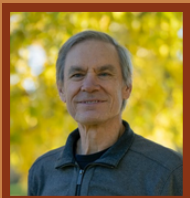
***Stokes: The Brief Career of the NBA's First Black Superstar***

Ages 7 - 11 LB: 978-1-7284-9249-0 • \$19.99 (list) • \$14.99 (S&L)

EB: 979-8-7656-3852-1 • \$33.32 (list) • \$24.99 (S&L)



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Lonnie Ollivierre is an artist and illustrator based in Georgia. His illustrated work includes the picture book *A-Train Allen* by Lesley Young, which was the inaugural Own Voices, Own Stories Grand Prize Winner.