

## Lesson Plan

### Biography Timeline

**Book:** *Courtney Vandersloot*

**Series:** WNBA Superstars

**Level:** Navigator

### Objective

To help students use a biography of Courtney Vandersloot to create a timeline of key events in her WNBA career.

### Supplies

- *Courtney Vandersloot* book
- Paper and pencils

### Before the Activity

Pass out paper and pencils to students.

### Activity

Courtney Vandersloot's WNBA career has been filled with awards and achievements. The *Courtney Vandersloot* book describes some of these important moments. Read this book out loud to the class, including the "At-a-Glance" feature at the end. As you read through the book, ask students to take notes on key moments in Vandersloot's basketball career. They should listen for awards, achievements, and other important events. Students should also record the year each event took place.

Then, have students use their notes to create a timeline of major events from Vandersloot's WNBA career. The timeline should include 10 entries. Each entry should begin with a date. It should also include a short sentence describing what happened that year. Students should arrange their timeline entries in chronological order. (Note: It's okay if some entries have the same year.)

### Evaluation

Collect the timelines at the end of class. Give students 2 points for each entry (1 point for the year and 1 point for the description), for up to 20 points total. Use the following sample events as a guide:

- 2011: Courtney Vandersloot is the No. 3 pick in the WNBA draft.
- 2011: Vandersloot is named a WNBA All-Star.
- 2013: Vandersloot helps lead the Chicago Sky to their first-ever winning season.

- 2013: Vandersloot helps the Sky make the playoffs for the first time.
- 2014: Vandersloot and the Sky reach their first WNBA Finals.
- 2015: Vandersloot scores her 1,000th career point.
- 2018: Vandersloot records the first triple-double in Sky history.
- 2019: Vandersloot is named a WNBA All-Star for the second time.
- 2019: Vandersloot sets a WNBA record with 9.1 assists per game.
- 2020: Vandersloot and her teammates live and play games in Florida during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2020: Vandersloot sets a new WNBA record for most assists in a single game.
- 2021: Vandersloot is named a WNBA All-Star for the third time.
- 2021: Vandersloot and the Sky win their first WNBA championship.

### **Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 5 (RI 5.3).