



# Shoot Your Shot!

By: Dr. Shemmicca Moore

Director of Secondary Instruction; Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, Gardner-Webb University

Sports  
Grades K-2



## Introduction

Persevering in accomplishing goals is fundamental to achieving academic success. In the children's book, *Long Shot: Never Too Small to Dream Big* by Chris Paul, the readers are taken on a journey of NBA Superstar Chris Paul persevering and achieving his dreams of making the basketball team.

## Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.2.1](#): Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

## Materials Needed

- [Video read-aloud](#) of *Long Shot: Never Too Small to Dream Big* by Chris Paul

## Procedure

1. Play the video recording of the children's book, *Long Shot: Never Too Small to Dream Big*, by Chris Paul.
2. Have the students jot down two ways that are displayed in the text that shows how Chris persevered to accomplish his goal of making the basketball team.
3. Pair students with a partner to discuss their ideas.
4. Utilizing evidence from the text, the students are to use their ideas to compose an opinion essay about why they believe Chris made the basketball team.

**Writing Prompt:** Perseverance and hard work are key to accomplishing all of our goals. Think about how Chris Paul preserved to accomplish his goal of making the basketball team. Do you think that Chris would have made the team if he did not push through the obstacles? Write an opinion essay using evidence from the text about why you believe Chris made the team.

## Evaluation

Use [this rubric](#) to grade each writing prompt; out of 20 points.