

# Book 4: Out of Bounds Activity Guide

BEACON STREET GIRLS®



out of bounds

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## Out of Bounds

Intermediate Reader, 257 pages

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The Abigail Adams Seventh-Grade Talent Show is coming up, and the Beacon Street Girls are hard at work on their magic act. Isabel and the rest of the BSG learn to take things out of bounds in order to deal with the Queens of Mean and an out-of-control soccer mom and to save the Movie House.

### Themes

- boundaries
  - talents
  - financial difficulty
  - community involvement
  - deception
  - priorities
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## Beacon Street Girls - Book 4 Activity Guide

### Discussion:

1. Good Sportsmanship
2. A Little Bravery Goes a Long Way

### Writing:

1. Be a Word Nerd
2. Sweet Fifteen

### Research:


1. Mystifying Magic
2. Hot Chocolate

### Art:

1. Talent Show
2. Home-style Cooking Extravaganza

These activities may be used in your classroom and/or after-school program. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to email us at: [info@beaconstreetgirls.com](mailto:info@beaconstreetgirls.com).

**Get FREE Bonus Materials for your class:** Go to the books section of our site: <http://www.beaconstreetgirls.com/Books/tabid/62/Default.aspx> to download posters for your classroom. You will also find: Book Club questions for each book, quizzes, and activities.

 Discussion Activity 1: **Good Sportsmanship**



**“It was easy to tell which girl was Meghan. She was the Twister who’d had the ball stolen from her in the final seconds of the game. Even if Charlotte hadn’t seen the play, she would have been able to tell from the embarrassed look on the girl’s face as she listened to her mother rant on and on ... Charlotte could tell that Meghan wished she was anywhere but on that field.”**  
~*Out of Bounds* p. 14

In Book 4, Meghan’s mother’s behavior is definitely “Out of Bounds.”

**Have you ever seen a parent get carried away at a sporting event? What happened?**

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**What does it mean to be a good sport?**

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**Name some famous historical good sports.**

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 **Discussion Activity 2: A Little Bravery Goes a Long Way**



**“As she passed Anna and Joline’s desks, she noticed that they were drawing little princesses with tiaras and funny faces all over their notebooks. Isabel wished she had some paint with her now, something she could accidentally spill on their drawings. That was the thing about Anna and Joline. They sometimes made you feel like being mean, too.”**

**~*Out of Bounds* p. 31**

If only people really did always treat others the way they want to be treated. Unfortunately, that is just not always the case. In Book 4: *Out of Bounds*, the BSG see Anna and Joline behaving not-so-nicely quite a bit.

**Describe a time when you’ve seen not-so-nice behavior.**

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**What do you think causes this kind of behavior and what can you do to prevent it?**

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**It takes a lot of courage to stand up for someone. Can you share a story of bravery, either of yourself or someone you know?**

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**Can you site any famous acts of bravery in history where someone has stood up for what they believed in?**

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## Research Activity 1: **Mystifying Magic**



**“Charlotte introduced the next trick. She gave some background history on Harry Houdini, the escape artist. Then she told the audience that it was rumored that Avery Madden was a long-lost relative of Harry Houdini. And now, to demonstrate, Avery was going to do one of the escapes that Houdini had made famous.”**

**~*Out of Bounds* p. 238**

In your group, go to the library and do a little magic research. Either put together a presentation about a famous historian, or make a mini magic show of your own, in which each person gets a chance to perform an illusion. Be sure to remember the Magician’s Code: a Magician never reveals his tricks!

**What is the most amazing magic trick you’ve ever seen performed? What techniques do you think might have been used?**

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**Name some famous magicians and what tricks they were best known for.**

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## ☀ Art Activity 1: Talent Show



“Isn’t this so cool? A talent show,’ Maeve enthused. ‘I went to one at my cousin’s high school once. It was super fun.’”

~*Out of Bounds* p. 33

Make your own talent show! Think of a talent that you’d like to showcase. Tap-dancing, hula-hooping, singing, rapping, acting, juggling ... whatever you can imagine that you enjoy doing is fair game. Rehearse your acts in a small group and perform for the class. Don’t forget—teamwork can make a great routine!

**Use the space below to design a flyer and tickets for your show:**



## Art Activity 2: Home-style Cooking Extravaganza



**“Katani didn’t get home until right before dinner. When she did, her whole family was in the kitchen, even her sister Candice, who was home for a few days from college. They were all working together to make a salad, with everyone doing their part. Kelley was hard at work making garlic bread—her favorite.”**

**~*Out of Bounds* p. 142**

Cooking can really bring a family together. When everyone contributes something, the meal just tastes better. Put together a family cookbook of classic recipes—the best recipes—that you have in your household. Have everyone suggest what they like the best or something they are good at. Put the book together and save it forever.