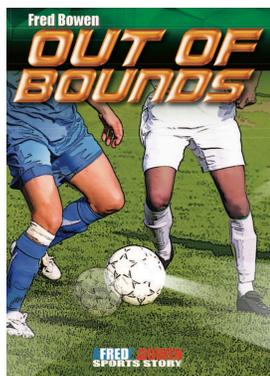


DISCUSSION GUIDE



Out of Bounds

Written by Fred Bowen

HC: 978-1-56145-845-5 | PB: 978-1-56145-894-3 | Also available in e-book

Ages 7–12 | Realistic Fiction | Series: Fred Bowen Sports Story
AR • RC • Lexile • F&P • GRL Q: Gr 4

ALIGNED with
COMMON CORE
STANDARDS

ABOUT THE SERIES

Fred Bowen’s fast-paced middle-grade stories offer readers themes of competition, cooperation, facing change, gender roles, overcoming challenges, and new experiences. In addition, they feature play-by-play action, snappy dialogue, and engaging plots. Bowen’s books are not the usual sports-fiction fare; each book loops in a little sports history and includes back matter with fascinating glimpses into that history and the heroes who made it happen.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Nate, an eighth grader, and the rest of his teammates are competitive, especially when it comes to playing against their rivals, the Monarchs. They want to win so badly that they’re willing to root against the Monarchs when they play other teams. Something happens though, and Nate starts feeling uncomfortable about their win-at-any-cost attitude. But what can he do about it? He’s just one guy on the team.

THEMES

Sportsmanship | Attitudes about winning
Friendship | Leadership
Peer pressure | Sports | Soccer

WRITING PROMPTS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

aligned with Common Core Reading Standards

DIRECTIONS

Use details from the text to support ALL of your responses.

CHAPTERS 1–3

How is Aunt Lizzie different from Nate’s parents? How does Nate act around Aunt Lizzie? How does Nate react to Aunt Lizzie’s play when she purposely kicks the ball out of bounds?

CHAPTERS 4–6

Describe the Strikers as a team. Compare Nate and Sergio’s attitudes toward winning and competition. Describe Hunter and the other Monarchs. Compare them with Nate and his teammates.

CHAPTERS 7–9

Compare Nate and Aunt Lizzie’s attitudes toward winning and competition. Lizzie tells Nate, “You want to win, but you want to win the right way.” What does she mean by that? What is Nate’s reaction to her advice? How does Nate feel about rooting against the Monarchs?

CHAPTERS 10–12

Why do you think Nate kicks the ball out of bounds? What is Sergio’s reaction to the play? What is the Monarchs’ reaction? How does Nate feel about the play?

after the game? How is his feeling about the play changing? How does Aunt Lizzie’s soccer video affect Nate’s feeling about the play?

CHAPTERS 13–15

Sergio does not think that the Monarchs will try to win their game against the Devils. Why not? Hunter tells Nate, “We want to beat you not cheat you.” What does Hunter mean by that? How does Hunter feel about Nate’s decision to kick the ball out of bounds?

CHAPTERS 16–17

Nate says at the end of the book, “Things turned out all right.” What does he mean by that? What are the “things” he is talking about?

OVERALL QUESTION

In just a few words, write down what this whole story is about (the overall theme or big idea). Explain your response.

“THE REAL STORY” FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

How does the information in “The Real Story” relate to the theme or the plot of the whole story?

REVIEWS

“Bowen tucks in plenty of soccer action—plus a chocolate chip cookie recipe—and closes with some real-life sports incidents that exemplify the principle he wants to highlight.” —*Booklist Online*

AWARDS

- Kansas State Reading Circle Recommended Reading List (intermediate) —Kansas National Education Association



ABOUT THE AUTHOR
 Fred Bowen is the author of Peachtree’s popular Fred Bowen Sports Story series. A lifelong sports fanatic, he has coached youth league baseball, softball, soccer, and basketball. His kids’ sports column “The Score” appears each week in the KidsPost section of the *Washington Post*. Bowen lives in Maryland.

www.fredbowen.com

**Available in the
Fred Bowen Sports Story series**

<p>BASEBALL: <i>Dugout Rivals</i> <i>The Golden Glove</i> <i>The Kid Coach</i> <i>Perfect Game</i> <i>Playoff Dreams</i> <i>Throwing Heat</i> <i>T.J.’s Secret Pitch</i> <i>Winners Take All</i></p>	<p>BASKETBALL: <i>The Final Cut</i> <i>Full Court Fever</i> <i>Hardcourt Comeback</i> <i>Off the Rim</i> <i>On the Line</i> <i>Outside Shot</i> <i>Real Hoops</i></p>
<p>FOOTBALL: <i>Double Reverse</i> <i>Quarterback Season</i> <i>Touchdown Trouble</i></p>	<p>SOCCER: <i>Go for the Goal!</i> <i>Out of Bounds</i> <i>Soccer Team Upset</i></p>

Peachtree Teacher’s Guide for
OUT OF BOUNDS
 prepared by Peggy Jackson

Copyright ©2017 by Peachtree Publishers. All rights reserved. For instructional uses only and not for resale. Except for the printing of complete pages, with the copyright notice, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other—without written permission. Requests for permission to use of any section of the work should be mailed to Permissions Department, Peachtree Publishers, 1700 Chattahoochee Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30318-2112.



phone 404-876-8761 • 800-241-0113
 fax 404-875-2578 • 800-875-8909
www.peachtree-online.com

updated 1/13/17