

Lucky Charm

Activity Guide

Table of Contents

Discussion Activity 1: Including Siblings

Discussion Activity 2: Cool Dog Tricks

Writing Activity 1: Poetry Corner

Writing Activity 2: Stuck Inside Box

Art Activity 1: Lucky Charms

Art Activity 2: Horseshoe Project

Research Activity 1: Autistic Difficulties

Research Activity 2: Team Mascots

Discussion 1: Including Siblings



“Katani was pleased that her sister had started to feel comfortable around the Beacon Street Girls. But at the same time, she really wished that she could have something all to herself.”

Lucky Charm p.15

Have you ever been told that you can't play with a sibling and his/her friends?

Have you ever told a younger sibling that he/she can't play?

Think and talk about the feelings you had when you were excluded.

Discussion 2: Cool Dog Tricks



“Someday, I’m going to teach you (Marty) how to wipe your feet on the welcome mat.”

~Lucky Charm p.18

Get into groups of 4-6 kids. Everyone shares the coolest trick he or she has ever seen a dog learn/perform. After hearing from everyone, each group votes to determine the all-time favorite trick. Then, all the groups rejoin as one big group so the best selected tricks can be shared with everyone.

Writing Activity 2: **Stuck Inside a Box**



“Yes, he needs a day out. Poor little guy has been stuck inside all week because of the rain,” Charlotte said.

-Lucky Charm p. 21

Prepare a list of things you can do when you are “stuck inside” due to bad weather or illness. Think of things you’ve wanted to do but never took the time required. Maybe you’ve wanted to find more information on a topic of interest, build something, call someone just to chat, create an art project, etc. Be specific. Cut out each individual activity and place all of them in a box for later use. Add new activities to your box when you think of them. Put the box in a handy place for the next time you are “stuck inside.” You’ll be able to search through the box of ideas and do something that interests you. No more “rainy day, what should I do” dilemmas!

Art Extension: Decorate the box with pictures from magazines or your own colorful drawings!

Art Activity 1: Lucky Charms



“Lucky Charms? Like the cereal? Maeve couldn’t believe a batting slump had anything to do with a box of cereal.”
-Lucky Charm p.115

Supplies:

- Variety of dry cereals with varying shapes
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Coloring books (optional)
- Additional breakfast items (milk, juice, spoons, bowls)

Have an artists’ breakfast party! Invite a group of friends (with parents’ permission, of course!) to bring a box of cereal that has an interesting shape with them to breakfast at your house. Serve juice, have milk on hand and plenty of bowls and spoons, and add toast or muffins to the cereal, if you wish. Hot chocolate would be nice also. After breakfast, draw pictures on construction paper (or you could use pictures from a coloring book) and glue on cereal pieces to add texture or decorate. Share your cereal with your friends and you can all go home with a work of art!

Art Activity 2: Horseshoe Project



“Katani had personalized each horseshoe by painting each Beacon Street Girl’s name in bright pink letters and the phrase, “May all your high hopes come true.” She had adorned the writing with designs to fit all of her friends: notebooks and pencils for Charlotte, dance shoes and musical notes for Maeve, paintbrush and easel for Isabel, and baseballs for Avery with the words Red Sox.”

-Lucky Charm p. 229

Supplies:

- Craft materials of your own choosing
- Sturdy paper, such as cardstock

Cut out the shape of a horseshoe from the cardstock. Decorate the horseshoe to reflect your own personality. One option is to get together a group of friends. Have each friend bring some craft materials to share. Make your horseshoes and try to guess which person made each horseshoe.

Research Activity 1: **Autistic Difficulties**



“Autistic people have a faulty filter system.”
-*Lucky Charm* p.10

Supplies:

- Use the *Lucky Charm* book as a reference, rereading for specific information

Select and use sentences from the book or other research materials that describe some difficulties autistic people have adjusting to their surroundings.

Example: Katani loved colors, but too much color made Kelley jittery.

How many can you find?

Research Activity 2: Team Mascots



“When I went four for four against the Yankee ace, I began to think that the dog had something to do with it. I named him Lucky Charm, and he has brought me luck, I’m sure of it. So you understand how important it is for me to keep him,” Mr. Flores told her.

~Lucky Charm p. 151

Supplies:

- Internet access
- Sports teams' literature

Find out about team mascots in some sport you like. Do you enjoy watching the Wally the Green Monster character help cheer at Red Sox games? What is your favorite football team’s mascot? Sometimes live animals are used as mascots, and other times mascots are people dressed in costumes to represent the team. Use an Internet search to learn about your favorite team’s mascot.
