NYPL After School
Activity Guide

4th–6th Grade

ACT BOLDLY

In this packet you'll find tips, books we love, and activities all about acting boldly. Acting boldly means taking action to do something that will make a difference, help you confront a fear, or showcase your talents. Explore more at **nypl.org/afterschool**.
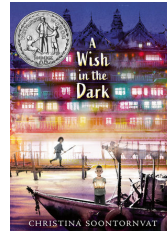
BOOKS WE LOVE

These books are some of our favorite titles that give us examples of acting boldly. To check them out, place a hold online at **nypl.org** or call Ask NYPL (917-275-6975). If you are at a branch, ask a librarian how to place a hold. Books marked with a 🖥 are available as e-books.
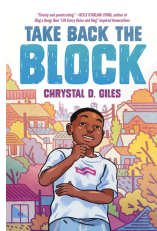
Take Back the Block
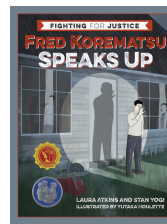by Chrystal D. Giles
🖥

Brave
by Svetlana Chmakova

A Wish in the Dark
by Christina Soontornvat
🖥

Go with the Flow
by Lily Williams & Karen Schneemann
🖥

Maya and the Rising Dark
by Rena Barron
🖥

Fred Korematsu Speaks Up
by Laura Atkins & Stan Yogi, illus. by Yutaka Houlette
🖥

Efrén Divided
by Ernesto Cisneros
🖥
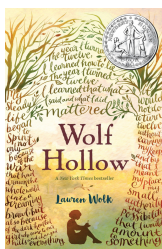
Wolf Hollow
by Lauren Wolk
🖥

Finish the Fight!
by Veronica Chambers and the staff of The New York Times
🖥

Marley Dias Gets It Done: And So Can You!
by Marley Dias
🖥

How to Change Everything
by Naomi Klein with Rebecca Stefoff
🖥

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky
by Kwame Mbalia
🖥

New York Public Library

nypl.org/afterschool

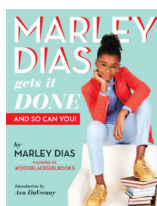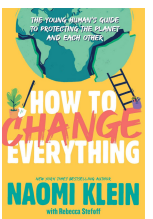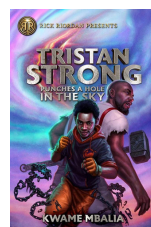# ACT BOLDLY AND THINK LIKE A SCREENWRITER!

Movies tell stories in pictures—they show rather than tell. In order to make a movie, directors, storyboard artists, and screenwriters work together to create what we see at the movie theater. We want you to start thinking like screenwriter!

Use the blank storyboards on the next page to create your own visual story, where you are the main character ready to ACT BOLDLY and make the world a better place. In each box you'll sketch out a visual moment, emotion, or action. Then, add more details in the boxes to the right, like dialogue and scene descriptions. But don't forget: every scene needs a beginning, middle, and end!

Setting
the beach

Action
leading a beach cleaning project

Dialogue
"Hello all! Thank you for coming out today."

Here's an example of a completed storyboard!
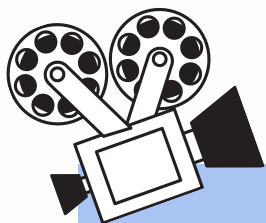
QUICK TIPS

Storyboards can be quick doodles. Don't worry about perfect drawings.

You can even take it one step further and write a full story to accompany your storyboards.
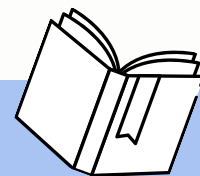
READ MORE

How to Make a Movie in 10 Easy Lessons
by Robert Blofield

Who Is Steven Spielberg?
by Stephanie Spinner

Lights! Camera! Alice!: The Thrilling True Adventures of the First Woman Filmmaker
by Mara Rockliff, illustrated by Simona Ciraolo

Beginning

Setting

Action

Dialogue

Middle

Setting

Action

Dialogue

End

Setting

Action

Dialogue

Has someone ever said to you:

Hate to tell you, kid, but the world's not fair!

This is true — the world isn't fair. The good news is: you and every other empathetic, smart, creative person has the power to try to change the world to make it a good place to live for everyone.

ONE OF THE WAYS PEOPLE CHANGE THE WORLD IS BY WRITING.

STEP ONE: Think about a change that would make your city, school, home, or world more just, safe, or pleasant.

NOBODY SHOULD BE HOMELESS.

STAIRS

ALL THE SUBWAY STATIONS SHOULD HAVE ELEVATORS!
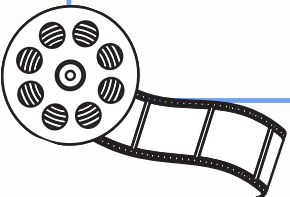
MY PARENTS SHOULD LET ME STAY HOME FROM SOCCER WHEN I'M HAVING A BAD DAY.

STEP TWO: Think about who has the power to change the thing you want changed.

Who could give houses or money to people without homes?

City council? The senate?

STEP THREE Write a letter, making it clear why change is needed. Why is the current way of doing things wrong?

People have wheelchairs and strollers and grocery carts and babies and we deserve to use the train.

You can do research by reading books or articles online! This will make your argument stronger. Ask a librarian to help you find information.

STEP FOUR DON'T BE QUIET! SEND YOUR LETTER!

If you see something wrong, chances are that other people do too. Find people who care the way you do.

END HUNGER 4 MICE

Problems aren't solved overnight, but that makes it even more important to keep our voices LOUD.