



Foreword

In the following attachments you can find the educational material about the three nominated films of the EFA Young Audience Award 2021.

I hope this material can serve you as a guide through your YAA day, both online and in the cinema. Needless to say, it is written from my personal perspective, so the things and topics I took notice of may not cover all aspects of a film.

You have your own perspectives, experiences and knowledge and you may have seen totally different things in the very same films. I believe it is a good thing to get to know different perspectives and concepts on film education, different approaches to it and see the YAA films from different cultural perspectives to make the film discussions even richer and more diverse.

Feel free to use whatever is useful to you. Which means you can obviously change it and make it more suitable to your young film lovers.

A Happy EFA Young Audience Award to all of you!

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General tips for film discussions

- Make sure they understand that it is okay, and even super important, to have different opinions, emotions, and views about the movies
- It is much more fun *not* to agree on everything and to realize that our own perspective is not the only one you could have. There are as many (or more) versions of the film as there are people in the cinema (or on the couches...at home screenings)
- They do not need to agree on which movie is the best—everyone can decide for themselves.
- Remind them that voting is anonymous
- Try to build a safe and structured setting (virtual or in the cinema) that encourages your jury members to communicate with each other in an uplifting and friendly way, and to share their thoughts about the nominated movies. One of the best things that can happen is them not needing you (or any adults) at all for maintaining a good flow in their jury discussion
- But make sure to let them know you are there if they need you. Be prepared to provide some input or support for the discussion, make sure everybody has the chance to speak and be heard, help with emotional or technical support, and answer any questions that might come up about the subsequent steps of the jury work
- When you notice that fatigue is setting in you could combine it with some activating exercises, like cinema fitness, eye yoga, finding sounds for each film, etc. ... everything that activates the body and refreshes the brain is great
- Don't forget to inform them about other YAA activities on Sunday like the Q&A with the film directors, the voting process, the award ceremony.
- Make sure they can find all the special information about the Young Audience Award films, the participating countries on the YAA website and social media channels

Warm-up tips with the jury members

After welcoming your jury group and a basic introduction, you could do a quick round of questions to break the ice:

- What's your favorite film-watching snack? (popcorn, nachos, chewing gum, ice cream, ...)
- What kind of movies do you like most? Which genre? (comedy, drama, horror, animation, documentary, ...)
- How often do you go to the cinema?

They can write their answers on paper, use yes or no cards, emojis, ... or use gestures and quick hand signs on Zoom just to get them into communication mode.

If there's enough time and you have small groups (10 people or less), you can play a short game called: "*The three word film guessing game*" (I just made up the title).

This is how it works:

The participants have to individually tell their name, and then choose three words which serve as hints to describe their favorite movie, without revealing the title or mentioning actors. The others then have to guess the movie in question. For this game to work, the movies should be rather well known of course.

Example: blood - sea - teeth

-> Answer: JAWS (maybe a little bit too drastic and too old for the jury members, but you get what I mean).

Talking about the nominated films

A good and open way to start a dialogue about a film is always to ask:

- *What did you see?*
- *When you think about the movie, what is the first thing that comes to your mind?*

Go with the flow and work with the things they come up with. If you like, use the film poster in the shared screen to jog their memories a little and get things started. Ask them:

- *Was the film as you had expected it to be after seeing the poster?*

When your film discussion comes to an end you could try to find some topics that are popping up in all three nominated films, for example:

- *Missing/losing parents and you have to find your own way to solve your problems. This is a very common scenario in youth films and is a way to address growing up and getting responsible for your own actions.*
- *Being different (from each other, or from who society expects you to be) and finding a way to be together as friends.*
- *Sharing bread in a bonding moment and as a symbol for growing closer.*
THE CROSSING: The kids are sharing bread in the train.
PINOCCHIO: Bread is the first thing that Pinocchio is trying to eat as a puppet. It's a moment of friendship with a human boy.
WOLFWALKERS: The girls steal some bread, "town tasties", from some farmer and enjoy them together.