

Movies for Musing and Using

Have a movie marathon and share your perceptions with friends and family.



On the three pages you'll see called Movies for Musing and Using is a list of suggested watching along with guide sheets to fill in your musings. I've also included links and information about my students' favorites that we would watch in class: *Searching for Bobby Fisher*, *Little Man Tate*, and *Akeela and the Bee*. This is by no means a perfect or complete list, but the guide sheets could help you think about favorite movies you see.

Not with this project, but included because my 8th graders think everyone must see this movie (I do too), is info on *The Great Debaters* which we watch and discuss in class.

Movies for Musing and Using

Here is an assortment of movies to watch with giftedness in mind. On the back of this page are qualities of gifted individuals which you will see in various characters. (You will be interested to see yourself described as well.) Please complete the handout as you watch the movies in class, with family, with friends, of solo.

Searching for Bobby Fisher

Little Man Tate

Charly

Pay it Forward

Freedom Writers

Akeelah and the Bee

Chariots of Fire

The Cure

Simon Birch

Billy Elliot

Powder

IQ

War Games

ET

Phenomenon

Awakenings

Rain Man

Clueless (and Emma)

Legally Blonde

Little Women

The Little Princess

The Secret Garden

Anne of Green Gables (series)

Harry Potter (series)

Mr. Holland's Opus

Music of the Heart

Shine

The Competition

Oliver Twist

Great Expectations

Dead Poet's Society

Finding Forrester

Song of the South

Sound of Music

The Private World of Henry Orient

The Milagro Bean Field War

Ghandi

Amadeus

Contact

Patch Adams

Hoop Dreams

Remember the Titans

Glory Road

Fearless

Good Will Hunting

A Beautiful Mind

National Velvet

Stand and Deliver

My Left Foot

Edward Scissorhands

Rudy

Forrest Gump

Radio

Castaway

Pursuit of Happiness

John Q

A Bug's Life

Happy Feet

Catch Me if You Can

The Right Stuff

Apollo 13

Shakespeare in Love

Renaissance Man

Little Voice

October Sky

The Last Mimzy

Others I've missed? New releases?

N.B. Not all of these movies are G or PG.

Please get parental guidance and permission before watching any movie. Better still, watch and discuss and complete the forms with your parents. You could also have Movies for Musing and Using parties with friends where you watch, comment, and complete the forms. You could perhaps watch portions of some of the PG-13 or R movies if parents edit for you.

Movies for Musing and Using

1. Title, date of release, main characters, actors, any other pertinent information you wish:
2. Tell which character appears most gifted and jot down a few descriptors of why he or she seems so to you.
3. What seem to be this character's main concerns?
4. How is this character different in action, ideas, or degree of response from others around him or her?
5. In what ways is this character somewhat like you?
6. Who/what seems to help him/her most? Give examples from the movie of this help.
- 7.

8. Who/what do you think hinders him/her most? Give examples.

9. Does this gifted character seem to have influence on others or on society as a whole?
When? How?

10. To what degree did this gifted individual make a difference in your thinking or attitudes
about some aspect of life?

11. Can you think of other real or literary characters similar to this one, or other incidents
similar to some important scenes in the movie? Of course you can! List one or several.

12. What did you like most about this movie?

13. What concerns you most about this movie?

14. What line(s) or scene(s) do you think you want to remember most about this movie?

15. Having seen this movie, what do you want to know more about?

16. Having seen this movie, what more do you know about yourself?