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HATCH DISCUSSION GUIDE

Hatch Discussion Guides suggest questions and exercises to promote critical thinking around media literacy, digital citizenship, and social issues. Rather than impose specific points of view, the guides are designed to provide parents and educators the tools to facilitate discussions on complex issues.

MOVIE REVIEW WORKSHOP: ANNIE 2014

http://www.sheknows.com/parenting/articles/1065789/parents-share-their-thoughts-on-new-annie-movie

Workshop Mission:

To get kids to think critically about the media they consume, in this case movies, through discussion and activity.

Background:

SheKnows' Hatch teamed with Sony Pictures for the release of ANNIE (2014), to help promote family discussion around key themes in the film. The Hatch workshop continued our emphasis on media literacy, by having our Hatchlings think critically about messages and content they consumed.

Discussion Starters and Questions:

Give your child or student a foundation of information before viewing the movie, in this case ANNIE (2014). It's important that your child or student forms their own opinions on some of these topics before they are influenced by the film.

Discuss key themes the film will touch upon a day or two before you head to the theater so it's top of mind for your child or student. Focus on themes that interest you and that you are comfortable discussing with your child or student.

ANNIE DISCUSSION QUESTION SUGGESTIONS (BEFORE VIEWING)

- 1. What does "Family" mean to you? How would you define it?
- 2. How would you handle life's "hard knocks" or tough situations in your life?
- 3. If you could create a kid character for a movie, what traits would they have and why?
- 4. Do you think kids can teach adults lessons? If so, what lessons can kids teach adults?
- **5.** What do you value the most in your home and why? (Think about everything from people, to toys, to furniture!)

Just before the viewing, remind your child or student of these questions. We found that keeping these ideas fresh in their mind makes for a very engaged audience!

ANNIE DISCUSSION SUGGESTIONS (POST VIEWING)

1. Follow up – Make sure to follow up on your pre-screening questions. For our exercise and discussion we reminded each child of their answer beforehand and asked if their feelings had changed. If there was a change of heart, be sure to ask what the "aha!" moment in the movie was that triggered this.

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2. Be nimble – You may find that you want to add questions post-screening or that your child or student want to discuss additional topics. For example – during our discussion exercise, several children discussed the importance for them to see a diverse cast in ANNIE. While not on the original list of topics, it sparked a lively conversation!

About Hatch:

Hatch was launched in 2014 in response to a SheKnows Media study that revealed moms often feel tense about their kids' use and exposure to technology, understanding its benefits while also worrying about the digital footprint their children leave behind. Never before has a group of young people come of age with the ability to create and share content at scale.

Hatch's mission is to empower kids to use media and technology to express themselves in productive and positive ways. Emphasizing media literacy, digital storytelling, and social issues, Hatch enables kids to create content that is responsible and represents their unique perspectives. Education is a key component of Hatch. Parents and educators are welcome to use the materials from Hatch workshops to facilitate discussions with their own teens and tweens.