

BYkids



BYkids films are more than films made by kids and for kids. They are catalysts for internal reflection, important conversations and meaningful action. With so much wisdom in the stories shared by today's youth from around the world, we hope you will watch at least one BYkids film and use the **REFLECT AND SHARE** conversation starters and **ACT ON IT** suggestions to go deeper. Watch all the films here: bykids.org/our-films.

REFLECT AND SHARE: Conversation starters for ALL the films

1. What surprised you about the film? Why?
2. What did you learn from watching this film?
3. How is the filmmaker's life similar to yours? How is it different?
4. Did watching this film make you want to change your behavior or the behavior of others? How?
5. What can we learn from witnessing other people's stories?
6. What is your story? What would you like others to learn from you?



RETURN DATE: UNKNOWN / 2023 RELEASE

Tymur had to flee his home in Ukraine when Russia invaded the country in 2022. Tymur shares his struggle to make sense of the conflict as he finds solidarity and hope with family and other refugees.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Tymur sees that climate change and a lack of education enabled the war in Ukraine. How do these two factors touch your life?

ACT ON IT

What are your questions about a complex topic like climate change or the war in Ukraine? Explore reliable, truthful sources and share them.



SEEDS OF LIFE / 2023 RELEASE

Diya Payal shares sustainable farming techniques and seed banks as ways to make a positive difference against climate change in her home community in India.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Diya shows that farming sustainably is not difficult, but needs the community's buy-in. Why is regenerative farming important?

ACT ON IT

Talk with farmers and those who practice regenerative farming, perhaps at a greenmarket. Share what you learn with others.



BEEKEEPER / 2023 RELEASE

Keith Griffith III's life in Kentucky was in upheaval with both of his parents incarcerated. Beekeeping taught him about climate change and united his family in love and hope.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Keith learned that bees prioritize family and community, and that helped him with his mental health. What are your values and priorities? How are they like Keith's? How do they differ?

ACT ON IT

Explore activities that you can start or join to help yourself and others find a spirit of community and improve mental health.



ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE / 2023 RELEASE

Helena Marschall is an activist in Germany working to persuade political leaders to take action to address climate change before it is too late.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Helena and her friends rely on science to educate themselves about climate change. Why is it important to understand the science and facts, not just feelings, about climate change?

ACT ON IT

Research changes in your area to learn about the effects of climate change. How can you help reverse the negative changes? How can you organize your friends to make change?



FAITH'S WORLD / 2021 RELEASE

Faith has been disabled from birth with cerebral palsy. She takes joy in acceptance, perseverance, and living as a whole person, not just a disabled person.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Faith works hard to "reteach" her brain. What does she mean by that? Can you reteach your brain? How?

ACT ON IT

Thoughtful design improves the lives of both the disabled and nondisabled. Explore your home and neighborhood. Make two lists — Well-Designed Things that make life easier and Badly Designed Things. Share how you would change some of these to improve them for everyone.



L'CHAIM / 2021 RELEASE

Semon is Jewish and German, and chooses to deal with and learn from a history that is anti-Semitic and must never happen again.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Semon and his friends want to learn from history, even the horrific parts about the Holocaust and Nazism. What can you learn from history?

ACT ON IT

Create a poster, essay, story or song to explain something you learned from history that can help you and others become better people.



BUDDHISM, BHUTAN AND ME / 2021 RELEASE

In Bhutan, Rinzin's choice to become a Buddhist monk is a story of balancing tradition and religious choice with modernity.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Rinzin chose a religious life. What is good about that? Are there parts that would not be good, in your opinion or for you?

ACT ON IT

Reflect on the simple things that are special and wonderful in your life, home, and culture. Set aside some time each day, even a few minutes, to experience them and to share them with your friends or family.



AGAINST THE CURRENT / 2021 RELEASE

Daunnette is a member of the Winnebago Ho-Chunk tribe in Nebraska. She tells her story of belonging, balance, and historical trauma as the story of all Indigenous people.

REFLECT AND SHARE

What do you think it should mean for a child to "earn a feather" or become worthy of being a responsible adult?

ACT ON IT

As a friend, how can you be more accepting of the problems and issues of others? Make a chart with two columns — Things I Can Be More Accepting Of, and Things I Cannot Be a Part Of. What actions will you take for each?



WALK ON MY OWN / 2019 RELEASE

Ndèye Fatou's community in Senegal was among the first in the country to reject child marriage and female genital mutilation, and she tells this story of cultural change with compassion and insight.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Ndèye does not hate those who had, in the past, hurt women and girls. Why do you think that is, and how do you think that approach can be effective — or not?

ACT ON IT

If you had a change buddy and an opportunity to make improvements in your school or community, what would you want to do? Why?



OUT OF ALEPPO / 2018 RELEASE

Mohammad and his family fled war-torn Syria to build a new life in Germany. He uses the arts such as film to foster hope and expand awareness of immigrant issues.

REFLECT AND SHARE

How do political strife and authoritarian rulers squander the lives and talents of people who must leave a country in order to live free?

ACT ON IT

Choose your own artistic way to answer the Reflect and Share questions, and share your creation with others.



I COULD TELL YOU 'BOUT MY LIFE / 2018 RELEASE

Mike was jailed at age 16 in a facility with hardened criminals in New York City, but overcame his life challenges to get an education and become an agent of change for others.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Mike worked hard to overcome the issues he had growing up. How? What and who helped him? How can you help others?

ACT ON IT

Mike tells his story in rap and song. Tell a story of your own in a song, rap, or poem. It could be your story or the story of someone else that really resonated with you.



MY BEAUTIFUL NICARAGUA / 2017 RELEASE

Edelsin sees the devastation from climate change in her country and on her family's once-thriving coffee farm. She tells her story to bring awareness to the gravity of the earth's climate situation.

REFLECT AND SHARE

What can kids and communities do to help stop or mitigate the negative effects of climate change?

ACT ON IT

With your family or friends, make a pact to change some habits that hurt the environment, such as scheduling car trips to use less gasoline, recycling more, using less water, and turning lights off when not needed.



DISPLACED BUT NOT DEFEATED / 2014 RELEASE

In Colombia, María and her family were displaced from their home by drug cartels and civil war, and are working to build a new life.

REFLECT AND SHARE

María would like to be powerful enough to change life in her country. What do you think she would want to change first? Why?

ACT ON IT

Make a song or other performance to present what you would most like to change in your country. Include your reasons why.



POET AGAINST PREJUDICE / 2013 RELEASE

Faiza is a Muslim girl from Yemen who moves to the U.S. and experiences discrimination at school. She responds by creating her own anti-bullying campaign.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Faiza rejects violence, and stays true to her religious beliefs. How do you think her rejection of violence and her beliefs helped her become strong and start a campaign against bullying?

ACT ON IT

How can you take a stand against bullying? Make a list or plan of some actions you can take at your school or with your friends.



FIRE IN OUR HEARTS / 2013 RELEASE

Jayshree, along with many girls in India, refuses to be denied an education. Instead, she finds power in activism.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Why is education important? What would you like to change about your education to make it better?

ACT ON IT

Identify some topics you would like to add to your own education. Write about them and explain why it's important to learn as much about the world as possible.



MY COUNTRY IS TIBET / 2012 RELEASE

Trichen, the exiled king of Tibet, shares what his country means to him, even though the Chinese government has forbidden him to ever go there.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Trichen misses a homeland he has never seen. How can a person miss what they have never had?

ACT ON IT

Make your own short video or podcast to answer the Reflect and Share question. Maybe you “miss” a future home – one you want in your own life.



HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT / 2011 RELEASE

Alcides, an AIDS orphan in Mozambique, explores the meaning of home and family when his parents die and he must somehow create a new life.

REFLECT AND SHARE

Alcides says he is lucky. What does he mean by that? What do you think?

ACT ON IT

How can you help orphaned children in your community? Research organizations that focus on this issue and make a plan for how you might help, for example, becoming a better friend to them.

MORE RESOURCES

Download the “School Guide” and “Take Action Guide” for each film:

bykids.org/for-teachers

DONATE

Help us bring the films and education materials to more students and teachers:

bykids.org/donate