Another World is Possible, a BYKids film, directed by Helena Marschall

Rationale: In her 2003 novel, *Oryx and Crake*, Margaret Atwood thrusts us into an apocalyptic nightmare. Snowman, known as Jimmy in an earlier life, struggles to survive as seemingly the last human on earth. Human-centered decisions decimated the climate, and now genetically mutated animals like wolvogs and pigoons travel in packs, scavenging for food in the wasteland. When Snowman thinks back to the time when he was Jimmy, the reader recognizes how humanity's lack of drive to care for the environment had dire consequences.

In Helena Marschall's experience, there is still a window of opportunity for humanity to mitigate damages from the climate crisis. Watch her film and imagine this 'other world' as she and other activists urge us to wake up and make a change.

Another World is Possible
Climate activist Helena Marschall, 20, takes us into a youth-led movement in Germany to get political leaders to act. And they are listening. At a fragile time, when inaction seems to bring us closer to an irreversible climate reality, young people are mobilizing to reverse global warming. ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE follows the work of Helena, who leaves no doubt that urgent action is imperative. But she also offers hope, and a roadmap to impactful activism. Helena organized one of Germany's first school strikes for the cause. Now 20, she coordinates strategies and national campaigns for Fridays for Future Germany when not studying economics at Leuphana University in Lüneburg. Fridays for Future emerged as a grassroots movement after teen activist Greta Thunberg held up a "School Strike for Climate" sign in 2018 at the Swedish parliament. Strikers in hundreds of cities have followed Greta's example, skipping Friday classes to go out to spur environmental awareness. Germany has hosted some of the world's largest Fridays for Future protests. In the biggest one, in 2021, Greta Thunberg led more than 100,000 marchers through the streets of Berlin. Helena's film takes us there. Young activists also regularly protest in Lützerath, an epicenter of coal extraction, where Helena talks to fellow activists while they protest plans to bulldoze the village to expand a lignite mine. Such protests are bearing tangible results.

Featured Individuals

- **Helena Marschall** - director and star of the film
- **Horst Marschall** - Helena's father and a Geologist
- **Fridays for Future**
    - **Clara Duvigneau**
    - **Linus Steinmetz** - also sued the government and won
- **Greta Thunberg** - teen climate activist
- **Mojib Latif** - Meteorologist and Oceanographer
- **Christina Schliesky** - Climate Activist
- **Vanessa Nakate** - Founder, Rise Up Climate Movement
- **Indigo** - Climate Activist
- **Nora Loehle** - Heinrich Boll Foundation, North America
- **Lauren Maunus** - Sunrise Movement USA
- **Cordula Weimann** - Founder, Grannies for Future

Discussion Questions

1. List out *as many ways* as you can think of that Helena is taking action to fight climate change.

2. While Helena and the other activists are fighting to save their planet, for what *other* intersectional societal issues are they also fighting? How is fighting the climate crisis a broader issue for social justice?

3. Why did Linus Steinmetz sue the government? What happened when he did?

4. Why are activists camped on the edge of a coal mining production in Lützerath? What do you imagine they are sacrificing in living in that space?

5. Helena introduces us to a number of climate activists from all over the world. Why are the majority of them women? What is the intersection between climate justice and women's rights?

6. The facts of climate change are horrific. Was there a data point that stood out to you as most frightening?