



BYkids films are more than films made BY kids and for kids. They open the door to meaningful conversations with YOUR kids about important topics.

By listening and communicating, we can all learn from the hope and wisdom of kids from around the world.

We hope you will watch at least one BYkids film and use the **Talk About It** conversation starters and **Act on It** suggestions to go deeper.

We also provide links to more resources. Most of all, we hope that this will help you talk with and listen to your kids and/or class.

**Talk About It** – conversation starters for ALL the films

1. What surprised you about the film? Why?
2. What would you change about the film? Explain.
3. How is the filmmaker's life similar to yours? How is it different?
4. What in the film did you agree with? Disagree with? Why?
5. Is it important to learn from other people's stories? Why?
6. What is your story? What would you like for others to learn from you?



### **HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT**

Alcides [al CEE dish], an AIDS orphan in Mozambique, explores the meaning of home and family when he must create a new life.

#### **Talk About It**

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.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-home-where-you-find-it/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-home-where-you-find-it/)



### **MY COUNTRY IS TIBET**

Trichen [TREE chun], the exiled king of Tibet, shares what his country means to him, even as the Chinese government forbids him to ever go there.

#### **Talk About It**

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 Talk About It question.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-my-country-tibet/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-my-country-tibet/)



### **FIRE IN OUR HEARTS**

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

#### **Talk About It**

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

#### **Act on It**

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

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-fire-our-hearts/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-fire-our-hearts/)



## **DISPLACED BUT NOT DEFEATED**

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

### **Talk About It**

María would like to be powerful enough to change the 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.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-displaced-not-defeated/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-displaced-not-defeated/)



## **POET AGAINST PREJUDICE**

Faiza [FEYE zuh] is a Muslim girl from Yemen who moves to the U.S. and experiences discrimination. She responds by creating an anti-bullying campaign.

### **Talk About It**

Faiza rejects violence, and stays true to her religious beliefs. How do you think that 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.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-poet-against-prejudice/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/films-bykids-poet-against-prejudice/)



## **MY BEAUTIFUL NICARAGUA**

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

### **Talk About It**

What can kids do to help stop or lessen 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, e.g., scheduling trips in the car to reduce gasoline consumption, recycling more, using less water, turning lights off when not in use, etc.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/my-beautiful-nicaragua-o6lvm6/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/my-beautiful-nicaragua-o6lvm6/)



### **I COULD TELL YOU 'BOUT MY LIFE**

Mike, an African American youth, was jailed at age 16 in a facility with hardened criminals, but overcame his life challenges to become an agent of change in New York City.

#### **Talk About It**

Mike overcame the issues he had growing up. How? What helped him?

#### **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 who really resonated with you.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/i-could-tell-bout-my-life-djyf6i/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/i-could-tell-bout-my-life-djyf6i/)



### **OUT OF ALEPPO**

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

#### **Talk About It**

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

#### **Act on It**

Choose an artistic way to answer the Talk About It question, and share your creation with others.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/out-of-aleppo-cs4cs7/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/out-of-aleppo-cs4cs7/)



### **WALK ON MY OWN**

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

#### **Talk About It**

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?

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/walk-on-my-own-ok6gnl/](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/walk-on-my-own-ok6gnl/)



## **AGAINST THE CURRENT**

Daunnette [DAW net] 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 peoples.

### **Talk About It**

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

### **Act on It**

As a friend, how can you be more accepting of the different 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. Think about actions to take in each instance.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/against-current-ycqmst/](https://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/against-current-ycqmst/)



## **BUDDHISM, BHUTAN AND ME**

Rinzin’s [RIN zen] choice to become a Buddhist monk is a story of balancing tradition and religious choice with modernity.

### **Talk About It**

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

### **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.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/buddhism-bhutan-and-me-ccskl6/](https://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/buddhism-bhutan-and-me-ccskl6/)



## **L’CHAIM**

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

### **Talk About It**

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.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/lchaim-ivd1su/](https://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/lchaim-ivd1su/)



## **FAITH'S WORLD**

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

### **Talk About It**

Faith works hard to “reteach” her brain. What does she mean by that? Can you reteach your brain to be better? How?

### **Act on It**

Thoughtful design improves the lives of disabled—and non-disabled—people alike. Explore your home and neighborhood, and make two lists—Well-Designed Things that make life easier and Badly Designed Things that need changing. Share the improvements you would like to see that are needed most.

VIEW FILM: [thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/faiths-world-ozblht](http://thirteen.org/programs/films-by-kids/faiths-world-ozblht)

## **MORE RESOURCES**

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

[bykids.org/for-teachers](http://bykids.org/for-teachers)

## **DONATE**

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

[bykids.org/donate](http://bykids.org/donate)

## **LEARN MORE**

[bykids.org](http://bykids.org)

A special thanks to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation for their generous support of BYkids.