

**Movie
Night with
the BBFC**

**My
Neighbor
Totoro**



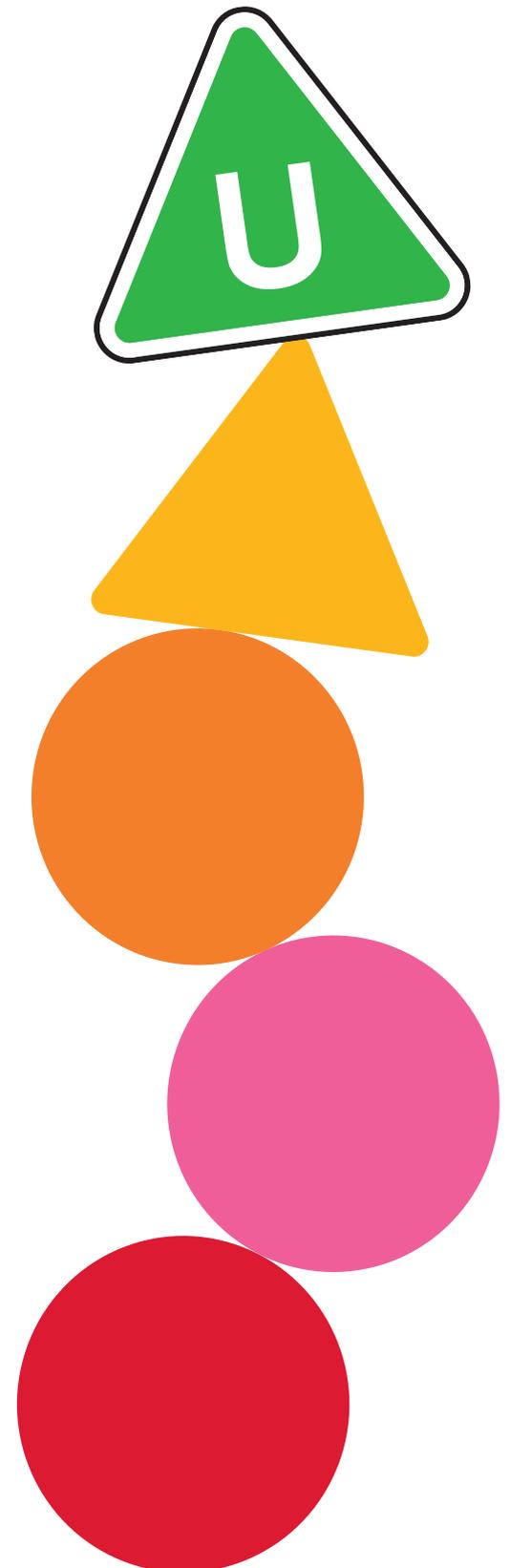
Coming together as a family is more important than ever, so why don't you grab some popcorn and a blanket, head to the sofa, and throw a good old fashioned movie night!

This pack will contain everything you need to set up a fun film night, which is suitable for all the family. We've included a film suggestion, along with information about the age rating and ratings info. This pack also includes a fun, film related activity section - and some discussion points at the end, so when the credits roll, you can have a discussion with your kids about what you've all just seen.

This pack will set you up to watch *My Neighbor Totoro*.

What you'll need:

- ▲ Popcorn, or another yummy movie snack, what's your family's favourite?
- ▲ A blanket, slipper socks, and PJs! You're at home on your sofa, so you might as well get comfy!
- ▲ Turn the lights down low, or even better turn them off completely to get that authentic cinema experience.
- ▲ Ask your family to design their own tickets, and hand them over to you at the door. They just need to include the film title, the age rating and ratings info, and the price that you'd like to charge. We've included a template for them in this pack to get you all started.
- ▲ You can also ask your children to draw a poster advertising the film night - including a drawing of the main character, the age rating and ratings info. Don't forget to advertise what time you're going to start your movie night!
- ▲ You can stream *My Neighbor Totoro* on Netflix or Amazon Prime. We've rated it U, which stands for Universal.



What do parents need to know?

Here's a round up of everything you need to know before you press play and watch the film with your children. It includes a short synopsis as well as the long ratings info that you can find on our website. This tells you all the category defining moments in the film.

Synopsis:

My Neighbor Totoro (1998) is an animated Japanese film set in postwar rural Japan which tells the story of two young sisters, 10-year-old Satsuki and her little sister Mei. The girls have just moved into their new home in the countryside with their dad whilst their mother is in hospital with a long term illness. As the two girls explore their new home and it's surrounding forest, they discover lots of magical forest creatures including the friendly Totoro, a large grey forest spirit, who aids them in their journey to visit their mother in hospital.

Ratings Info:

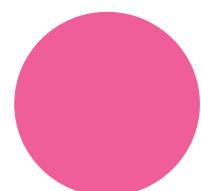
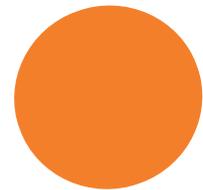
Threat

Infrequent scenes of mild threat occur in which two young girls encounter some large creatures that growl loudly and loom toward them with their mouths open, but they soon discover they are friendly.

There are brief scenes of mild threat when a young child goes missing, but this is quickly resolved.

About the age rating:

We've rated *My Neighbor Totoro* U. This means that we think the content is suitable for all ages, including children as young as four. But every child is different so it's always worth checking the ratings info for a U film if you are considering showing it to very young children. U films should have a positive overall tone. We think carefully about what very young children already know, what might scare, confuse or upset them, and the lasting impression the film might have. If there is any violence or threat it should be over quickly and reassure children that everything will be ok. U films should make clear the difference between right and wrong.



Activity Print Out For Kids



Can you find all the film related words in this wordsearch?

U	S	B	J	R	O	Q	X	U	B	H	S	P	Q	T	Z	L	S	Y	H
K	R	B	O	E	J	I	E	M	B	J	E	P	A	O	C	E	H	U	C
T	I	F	N	J	W	Y	J	B	N	W	A	Z	L	T	U	E	G	Z	B
S	A	T	S	U	K	I	O	R	Z	N	G	D	K	O	E	D	F	A	Q
I	H	T	I	S	V	J	W	E	V	L	T	H	D	R	W	C	O	R	N
P	W	Y	H	B	V	S	J	L	W	U	H	E	C	O	N	R	I	P	W
S	P	I	R	I	T	S	B	L	U	S	L	C	L	A	S	S	I	F	Y
F	H	I	R	B	J	F	Y	A	K	F	U	O	E	C	B	J	W	A	L
H	M	K	T	F	N	N	U	R	A	N	I	M	A	T	I	O	N	B	U
A	G	E	R	A	T	I	N	G	Q	I	B	R	N	U	Z	V	L	P	E
I	R	H	S	V	M	T	D	B	K	O	L	R	Q	D	B	U	K	E	S
B	N	E	C	Z	A	V	U	T	H	D	B	F	I	L	M	V	W	U	M
I	R	V	A	I	Q	R	N	I	I	F	I	A	R	K	I	D	B	N	E
B	Y	V	T	D	D	U	I	F	W	N	W	I	J	W	B	I	W	C	I
Y	G	O	B	N	I	D	V	A	B	I	H	O	A	I	T	Q	N	Q	Y
V	D	R	U	U	W	B	E	K	K	E	I	B	J	E	M	B	A	V	S
D	R	B	S	D	B	I	R	H	E	L	E	E	A	B	S	K	T	Q	O
N	S	W	I	W	U	W	S	E	V	E	B	Y	P	U	H	E	U	O	T
U	V	J	G	T	E	V	A	C	J	A	U	B	A	E	H	V	R	Y	V
W	U	C	B	K	C	J	L	N	T	F	B	J	N	V	E	B	E	F	W

- TOTORO
- ANIMATION
- CATBUS
- MEI
- JAPAN
- SATSUKI
- LEAF
- FILM
- UNIVERSAL
- SPIRITS
- UMBRELLA
- CORN
- AGE RATING
- NATURE
- CLASSIFY

You'll need a ticket for your movie night! Why don't you fill in our template.

Don't forget to include the film title, age rating, ratings info (which you can find in this pack), the time the film starts, and admission price:



Use this space to draw a character from the film, or you could also use it to draw a movie poster advertising your film night! Don't forget to use bright colours, and be as creative as you like! We'd love to see your creation, so your parents can take a photo of it and tag the BBFC in it on social media:



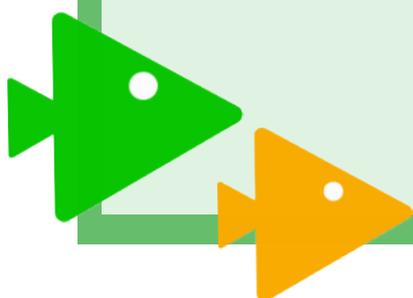
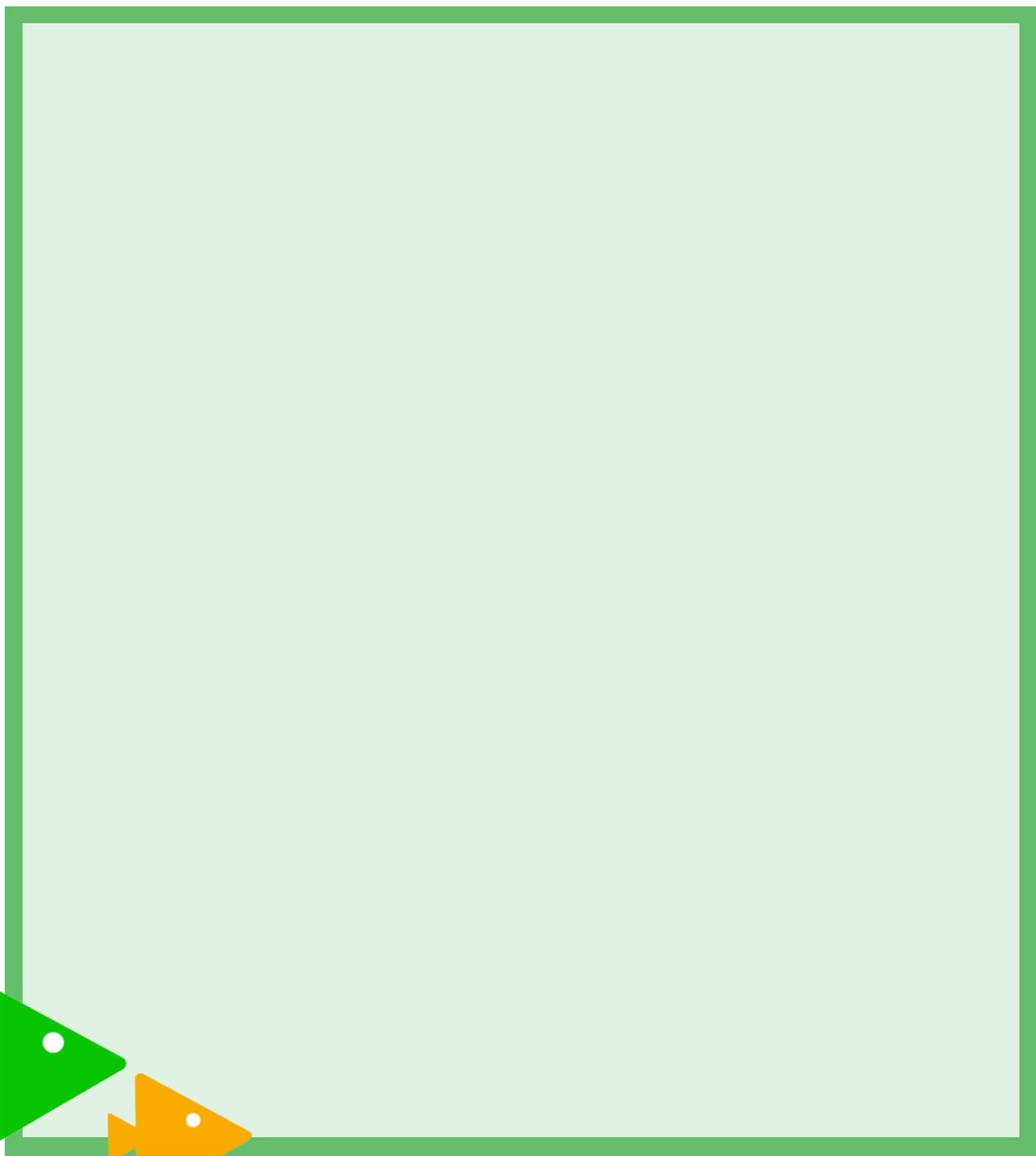
@BritishBoardofFilmClassification



@bbfc



@bbfc_ageratings





For the whole family: Now it's time to talk about the film

- ▲ Did you enjoy the film? How did the film make you feel? Were there any bits of the story that you didn't like? Who was your favourite character? Did you learn anything from the film? If so, what?
- ▲ The film you saw was the subbed version of the Japanese language film. Are there things about the story, setting, or characters that look or feel Japanese? Did you enjoy watching a film in another language?
- ▲ Do you think there are any heroes or villains in the film?
- ▲ Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? What about the info for parents? Would you add or remove anything? Is it helpful to know about what is in a film before you watch it?
- ▲ Do you think Totoro is real? If not, what do you think the spirits represent?
- ▲ How do Mei and Satsuki react to Totoro? Are they afraid of him? If not, why? How does the animation of the creatures tell you that they are friendly?
- ▲ In the film, the girl's mum is poorly and is in hospital. How does her illness affect the two sisters? Do they react differently?



Totoro and The Catbus only appear to the girls when they need them most and disappear the rest of the time. Why do you think this is?



Mei follows rabbit-like creatures through a tunnel to the base of a camphor tree and falls down a hole at the bottom of the tree. When she is found, she says she met Totoro. Does this remind you of anything?



The film is set in the countryside and the sisters spend lots of time exploring nature. How much nature is there where you live? Have you been in a park or anywhere with not a lot of people, cars, or buildings? Can you describe what it was like?



Satsuki and Mei bow to statues when they ask for permission to seek shelter during a rainstorm, and they can be seen again when Mei is lost. What does this film teach you about respect?



Have you seen any other Studio Ghibli films? How do they compare to My Neighbor Totoro? Do they share any themes?

