

Movie Night with the BBFC

My Life As A Courgette

PG



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 Life As A Courgette*.

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 Life As A Courgette* on Amazon Video, Apple iTunes, Sky Store & on BFI Player. We've rated it PG, which stands for Parental Guidance.

About the age rating:

We've rated *My Life As A Courgette* PG. That means that anyone can watch a PG film, but it's different from a U rating because children under eight, or more sensitive children, might find something about the film upsetting. PG films can be more complex or intense, but we still focus on avoiding content and tone that might make younger children feel anxious. We pay particular attention to scenes and issues that tap into real life worries. So while PG films might include tough ideas like crime, racism or bullying, they would never suggest that these are acceptable.



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 Life As A Courgette (2016) is an animated drama about a boy who goes to live in a children's home after his alcoholic and abusive mother dies. He (wrongly) blames himself for his mother's death as she had an accident when drunk. At the care home he meets other children who have also experienced abuse, some whose parents are dead or have left them, and sees how they all have different ways of coping. He's initially bullied, but also makes a strong friendship with one of the other children. A kindly police officer comes to visit him and they also start a tentative friendship. Courgette must deal with trusting adults to care for him, and working out how to feel secure when it seems like others are abandoning him.

Ratings Info:

Sex

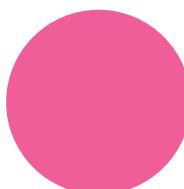
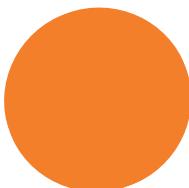
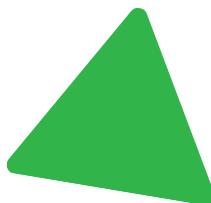
There are comic conversations between child characters regarding their limited and inaccurate understanding of what goes on between adults. These include brief and comic references to adults 'wriggling around' and to 'willies exploding'. Some boys gasp when they glimpse a woman's underwear as she ascends a staircase beneath which they are hiding.

Theme

The main character is placed in a care facility after an incident in which he accidentally causes the death of his alcoholic mother, who behaved in a threatening manner towards him. At the care facility, he meets other children from troubled backgrounds and there are undetailed references to adults taking drugs, committing murder and taking their own lives. One girl's father is referred to as a 'creep' who is now in prison and about whom she had nightmares.

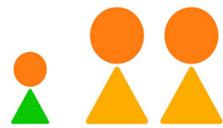
There is very mild bad language such as 'butt' and 'hell'. One character is referred to as a 'tramp' by her abusive aunt.

This film contains flashing images which may affect viewers who are susceptible to photosensitive epilepsy.



Activity Print Out For Kids

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



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

COURGETTE
MOVIE
POPCORN
KITE
CLASSIFICATION
FRANCE
CAMILLE
ICARE
AGE RATING
CINEMA
BULLY
FRIENDSHIP
SIMON

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:



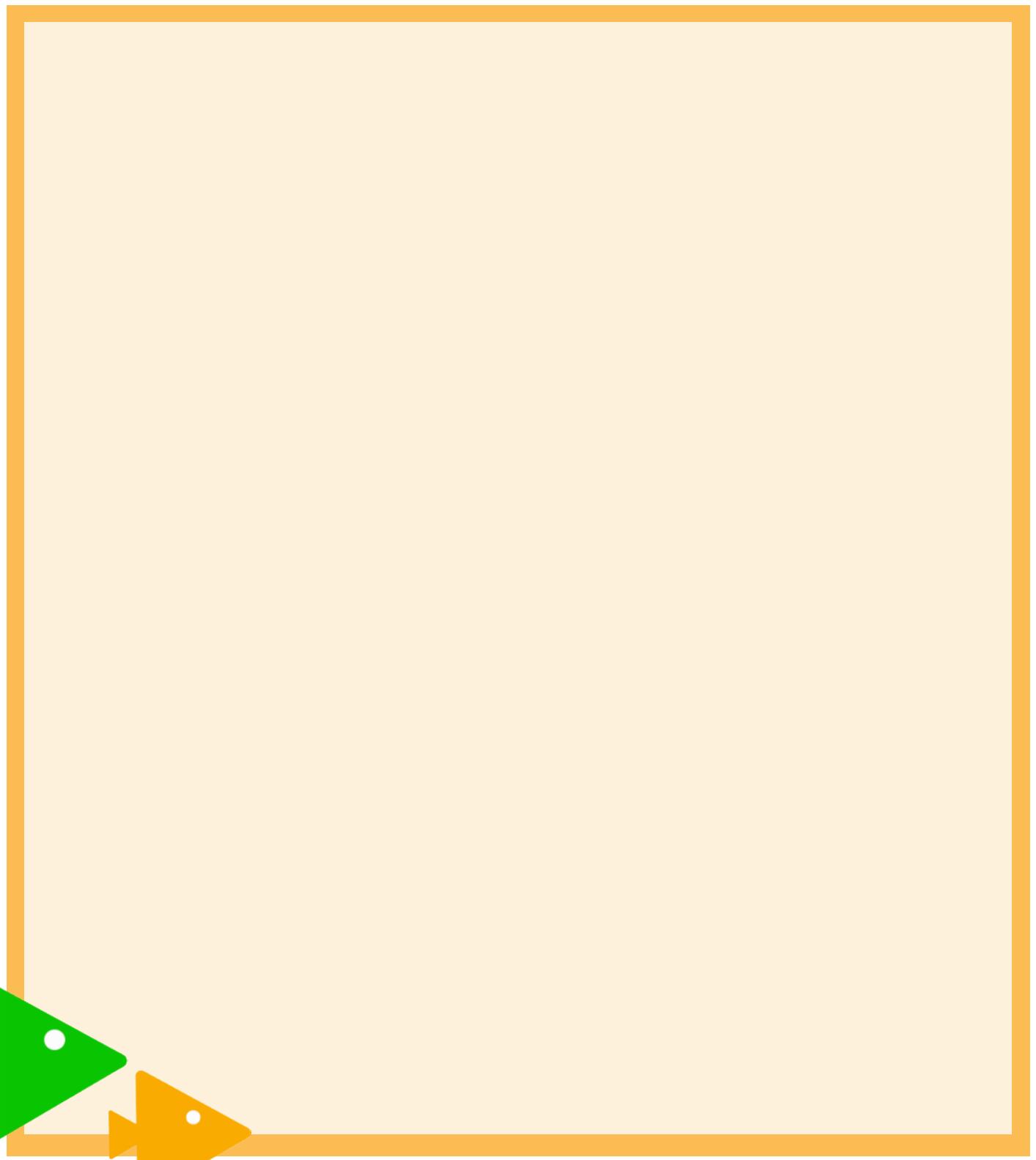
@BritishBoardofFilmClassification



@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?

All known versions of this work were passed uncut. Is there anything you would have removed from the film?

Do you think there are any heroes or villains in the film?

The film you saw was the dubbed version of the French language film. Are there things about the story, setting, or characters that look or feel French? Or that are maybe different from the way British teenagers would talk or behave? Do you think it is useful to watch films made in different countries?

The film is animated - does this affect how realistic it feels? Have you seen other animated films which looked at complicated subjects and ideas?

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?

In the film characters cope with their worry and anxiety very differently, some of them even resort to bullying. Do you think this is accurate?



- ▲ What did you think about the film's depiction of childhood? In what ways do you think Courgette and his friends grow up over the course of the film? Have they been robbed of their childhood?
- ▲ Many characters hold prejudices against others. What kind of prejudices do you think are highlighted in the film? Who do you think is a victim of prejudice?
- ▲ The film focuses on the main character's sense of loss, and his reactions to a new home living with foster carers and other children who have been abused or neglected. Is it good or bad to make films for children which explore these more upsetting aspects of children's experiences?
- ▲ At the end of the film, Courgette and his friend found love and a new kind of family. Do you think this is realistic? Does it matter if it isn't? Is it important for films to have a happy ending?
- ▲ The main characters in the film are children in the care system. It isn't common for films to explore their experience and backgrounds. Can film have an important role to play in giving voices to people whose lives are not often shown in art or the media? Do you think the film gets those voices right?