



FilmEd Classroom
**Films to Engage Students in
Meaningful Conversation**

FILM GUIDE

WELCOME TO MY LIFE

GRADES 6-8

Elizabeth Ito | United States

ANIMATED SHORT FILM | FICTION | 8:52 MINUTES | 2015

Subtheme: Difference, Inclusion, Bullying, Bias, Self-Identity

PART I

FIRST LOOK

INTRODUCE THE FILM

- We're going to watch **WELCOME TO MY LIFE**, by Elizabeth Ito.
- The film is about 8 minutes long.
- It's important not to talk or take notes during the first viewing, since it may cause you to miss something important! In a short film, every image and sound is important to the story being told.
- We will watch the film again later in the lesson.

ACTION!

Watch the film together and gather initial reactions using open-ended questions.

START THE CONVERSATION

Follow the film screening with a moment of pause for the group to gather their thoughts. Ask the open-ended questions below and record students' answers. Have students support their observations with evidence by asking, "What did you see that makes you say that?"

- What did you notice? What did you see?
- How would you describe the style of this film?
- What words come to mind when you hear the word **documentary**?
- In what ways was this film similar and/or different from a **documentary**?
- This film is considered a **mockumentary**. What do you think the word **mockumentary** might mean?

Visit the [Glossary](#) for definitions of these terms and be sure to note that a **mockumentary** is meant to be humorous and is different from a fake-documentary that might intend to mislead or misinform people.

TEACHING REMOTELY?

- You can watch the film as a group by sharing your screen, and selecting the "optimize for video sharing" option. Make sure all participants (including yourself) are muted while the film plays.
- Consider using breakout rooms for smaller group discussions.
- Try using Mentimeter on Zoom to collect responses.

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