



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

FILM GUIDE

THE MAGIC OF CHESS

GRADES K-2

Jenny Schweitzer Bell | United States

LIVE ACTION | NONFICTION | DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM | 4:44 MINUTES | 2019

Subtheme: Identity, Inclusion, Perseverance

PART II

A CLOSER LOOK

PROMPTS TO MOVE THE CONVERSATION FURTHER

Select a question to ask in advance of watching the film again, but this time have students take notes while viewing.

FOCUS ON CHARACTER & IDENTITY

The film **THE MAGIC OF CHESS** includes interviews with 23 young chess players competing in a national competition.

Ask the questions below, taking a pause to give students time to think about their answers.

Encourage them to support their answers with evidence from the film.

- Is there someone in the film you could relate to? Why is that?
- Does anyone in the film remind you of anyone you know or have met?
- What are some things the kids in the film have in common? What are some ways that they are different from each other?

- Were you familiar with the game of chess before seeing the film? Did the film change the way you think about chess? How?
 - In the film one of the young players says: *"It doesn't matter how old you are or how small you are. Chess is a game for everybody."* What do you think they meant by that? Do you agree or disagree with that statement?
 - Describe a moment in the film that showed you something you did not already know.
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