

# Magic at the Movies

What do families spend more time, now than ever, doing together? Watching television of course. However, more and more books are being turned into movies; as teachers we can take advantage of the growing family trend by using the books read in the class in connections with the movies that families can watch at home together. By using the following lesson plan, children can better comprehend the books they are reading and more importantly, spend quality time with their families.

Grade Level: 6-7 (can be adapted for 3-5 as well)

Materials:

- Book of choice for class to read that has a corresponding movie.
- Story mapping pages (found at: [http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson\\_view.asp?id=46](http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=46) )
- Focused reading/viewing guide (found at [http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson\\_view.asp?id=46](http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=46) )
- Venn Diagram

Procedure:

1. Read the book in class together.
2. Every chapter, or every three or four chapters, use a story map to keep track of the characters, setting, conflict, and resolution. (Several pages of the character map or others may be needed, depending on the number of characters, conflict, etc. in the chapter or selection.)
3. If you decide to use the focused reading/viewing guide, help students to fill in the story side of the guide.
4. Have students keep a binder or folder with the story's map and/or the focused reading/viewing guide.
5. After completing the story and its map and/or the focused reading/viewing guide, have students take their binders home.
6. Send a note explaining that the family is to watch the movie of the story that the student just completed reading in class.

7. State that before watching the movie, the student is to share with the family the story map and/or the focused reading/viewing guide they finished in school so the family knows the main details of the book.
8. The family watches the movie together, making notes about differences they notice.
9. After watching the movie, the student and their family will complete the Venn diagram noting 4 differences in the book and 4 differences in the movie and noting 4 similarities they shared. If the focused reading/viewing guide was used, have them also complete the film side of the guide together, after completing the Venn diagram.
10. Have the parents sign the completed Venn diagram and/or the focused reading/viewing guide to signify that the family completed this together.
11. Finally, have the students present what their family noticed between the book and the movie with the class the following week.

Website used: [http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson\\_view.asp?id=46](http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=46)

