

Who Gives You the Courage
to Face the World?



Unit 1

Kindness & Friendship

“Be kind, for everyone is fighting a hard battle!”



Warming-up Activity

Directions: Work in groups of four and discuss the following questions.

- 1) How would you choose friends? What would be your standards to make friends?
- 2) How would you feel if you had a facial difference that you can't hide from people? Do you know anyone like this? Would you like to make friends with him or her?
- 3) Which do you think is more significant, people's external beauty or internal beauty?



Section A: Movie Appreciation—*Wonder*

I. Background Information

Directed by	Stephen Chbosky		
Based on	<i>Wonder</i> by R. J. Palacio		
Starring	Jacob Tremblay	...	August Pullman (Auggie)
	Julia Roberts	...	Auggie's mother (Isabel)
	Owen Wilson	...	Auggie's father (Nate)
	Izabela Vidovic	...	Auggie's older sister (Via)
	Bryce Gheisar	...	Julian Albans
	Noah Jupe	...	Jack Will
	Mandy Patinkin	...	Mr. Tushman
Released by	Lionsgate (2017)		
Awards	2018—Won Saturn Award for Best Independent Film		
	2018—Nominated at the 90th Academy Awards for Best Achievement in Makeup and Hairstyling		
	2018—Nominated at the Teen Choice Awards for Choice Movie, Choice Movie Actor and Choice Movie Actress		
	And other 4 wins and 24 nominations around the world.		



Jacob Tremblay

Jacob Tremblay is a Canadian actor. He made his film debut as *Blue* in the live action animated film *The Smurfs 2* (2013). His breakout performance was in the dark drama *Room*

(2015), for which he received critical acclaim. In 2016, Tremblay played a supporting role in the comedy film *Donald Trump's the Art of the Deal: The Movie*, and in 2017, he co-starred with Jaeden Martell, playing brothers, in the drama *The Book of Henry*, with Naomi Watts as their mother.

He has also starred as children in jeopardy in the horror films *Before I Wake* (2016), *Shut In* (2016), and the bigger-budget *The Predator* (2018), played in the drama *Burn Your Maps* (2016) with Vera Farmiga, and headlined the blockbuster novel adaptation *Wonder* (2017), as Auggie Pullman.



Notes

debut	<i>n.</i> 初次表演; 首次亮相
acclaim	<i>n.</i> 赞誉, 高度评价
jeopardy	<i>n.</i> 危险
predator	<i>n.</i> 捕食者; 掠夺者; 食肉动物
blockbuster	<i>n.</i> 轰动; 大片; 重磅炸弹

II. Movie Story

Based on the *New York Times* best-seller, *Wonder* tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman. Born with facial differences that, up until now, Auggie has been home-schooled, but as he approaches fifth grade, his parents decide to enroll him in Beecher Prep, a private school. Before the school year begins, Auggie meets with Mr. Tushman, the principal, who arranges a tour for him with three other students: Jack Will, Julian Albans, and Charlotte Cody. When school starts, Auggie is initially ostracized by nearly the entire student body, but soon forms a close friendship with Jack. The situation comes to a head-on Halloween when Auggie, disguised in a costume, overhears Jack joining in with the bullying. As Auggie isolates himself from his classmates and family, his sister Olivia's frustration grows, fueled by years of feeling ignored by her family.

Returning to school, Auggie ignores Jack but admits to Summer that he had overheard the incident. Jack feels ashamed for his actions, and punches Julian in the mouth and he gets suspended from school. Jack writes a letter apologizing to Mr. Tushman for his actions, and Mr. Tushman, understanding Jack was defending his friend, suspends him for two days rather than expelling him. Jack later apologizes to Auggie and they reconcile. At the

nature retreat, Auggie and Jack are threatened by a trio of seventh graders from another school, but Julian's friends come to their defense. Auggie then becomes more accepted by his classmates. At the year-end graduation ceremony, Auggie is given the Henry Ward Beecher Medal for standing out among his classmates and receives a standing ovation. The movie ends with everyone applauding Auggie, and Isabel commenting on him being a "wonder".

Notes

ostracize	v. 排斥, 排挤
reconcile	v. 和解; 调和

III. Movie Watching

Directions: Search the movie *Wonder* online and watch it attentively.

IV. Movie Exploration

1. **Directions:** Focus on the following scenes, work in pairs and discuss the personality traits of the characters. Then fill in the blanks of the exercises.

August Pullman (Auggie)

Highlights:

- 1) When Julian keeps asking rude questions to humiliate Auggie, he fights back by pointing out directly the word "_____". Julian pronounces wrongly twice while talking to him.
- 2) When the science teacher asks the students "the bending of light is also known as...?" Auggie answers the question immediately that it is also known as "_____".
- 3) When asked about if he ever thought about having plastic surgery, Auggie answers the question firmly: "No. I've never thought about it. Why?" and proudly says: "Dude, this is after plastic surgery. _____!"

Personality Traits: _____

- ✧ Born with a genetic abnormality, Auggie has a significant facial difference. But he is a normal, smart, and funny boy on the inside. He has an aptitude for science and a great

sense of humor. Throughout the entire movie, Auggie is up against some pretty difficult challenges. He has to deal with bullies as well as constant stares and go through a life looking “different” than everyone else. He is really a strong-willed boy.



Olivia Pullman (Via)

Highlights:

- 4) On Auggie’s first day to school, Via encourages her younger brother by saying that “If they stare, let them stare. _____!”
- 5) Via knows that her mom makes Auggie the center of every universe she draws, and that her mother has a great eye. But she just wishes that at one time, _____.
- 6) Even though Via is upset that her mom has to rush to school for Auggie in the middle of their precious time together, she still tries hard to cheer Auggie up and encourages him to go _____ on Halloween night.

Personality Traits: _____

- ✧ Via is the most complicated character in the movie. She has grown up in a family so organized around Auggie that her own needs can never come first. As the older sister of Auggie, she loves him and is also protective over him. She is in an extremely difficult position, wanting to be treated as a more important part of her family but also feeling guilty about her desire for attention, since Auggie has gone through worse struggles than she has. She is an understanding daughter grown up before her time. But whatever complicated feelings Via might have, they don’t stop her from being a wonderful big sister to Auggie.



Jack Will

Highlights:

- 7) Trying to fit in with Julian and his followers, Jack talks about Auggie behind his back

and mocks Auggie's appearance by saying that “_____”.

- 8) In order to defend Auggie, Jack punches Julian in the face and gets in a fight with him when the latter says that Auggie is a _____.

Personality Traits: _____

- ✧ Jack Will is one of Auggie's best friends. He is courageous and good-hearted. He is the one who wants to be kind but gets distracted by the easy road sometimes. In the end, he isn't just going to get his dear friend Auggie back—he is also going to grow more comfortable in his own skin and be honest to himself, and that's something no one can take away from him.



2. Directions: Read the following monolog or dialog, and answer the questions.

- 1) Auggie: “For me, Halloween is the best holiday in the world. It's so awesome, when I'm wearing the costume! I usually walk with my head down to avoid being seen. But on Halloween I walk with my head up high. I don't even know who that was. He didn't even know who I was. It's so cool. Especially because people don't like to touch me because they think I'm contagious.”

Question: Why does Auggie consider Halloween as the best holiday in the world for him?

- 2) Grandmother: “I know you. I love you more than anything in the world.”

Via: “What about Auggie?”

Grandmother: “I love your brother. But he has a lot of angels looking out for him. And you have me. Yeah. You are everywhere. And...you are my favorite.”

Via: “You are my favorite, too, Grams.”

Question: Why does Grandmother say that she loves Via more than anything in the world?

- 3) Mrs. Pullman: “You really are a wonder, Auggie. You are a wonder.”

Question: Why does Mrs. Pullman say that Auggie is a wonder?

3. **Directions: Watch the movie clip and then choose the best answer to each of the questions.**



- 1) Auggie feels that meeting kids is harder than meeting adults because _____.
 - a) adults and kids tend to make different faces
 - b) adults and kids have different feelings
 - c) kids are likely to tell lies
 - d) kids are not good at hiding their real feelings as adults
- 2) Auggie feels that he can learn a lot about people from their shoes, and Julian is a _____.
 - a) trust fund kid
 - b) hand-me-down kid
 - c) crazy kid
 - d) none of the above
- 3) Julian asks if Auggie eats special food because _____.
 - a) he shows great interest in what Auggie eats
 - b) he worries that if Auggie can eat well at school
 - c) he wants to eat with Auggie in the school cafeteria
 - d) he tries to humiliate Auggie by asking that kind of question
- 4) Which of the following statements is true?
 - a) Auggie has never learned anything at home before going to a real school.
 - b) Auggie has been home-schooled before going to a real school.
 - c) Auggie hates to learn anything at home before going to a real school.
 - d) Auggie is not able to learn anything at home before going to a real school.

- 5) Auggie says that maybe his mom can home-school Julian because _____.
- a) Julian learns a lot at school and wants to learn more
 - b) Julian doesn't like studying at school
 - c) Julian prefers to be home-schooled by Auggie's mom
 - d) Julian fails to pronounce the word "supposedly" correctly

V. Exercises for Listening Comprehension

Directions: Listen to a review on *Wonder* and complete it by filling in the blanks.

Based on R. J. Palacio's award-winning novel of the same name, *Wonder* follows a year in the life of August Pullman, Auggie, for short. He was born with a(n) (1) _____ that has required him to (2) _____ since his earliest days. He loves *Star Wars* and Minecraft. He has a(n) (3) _____, a great sense of humor, and an active imagination that helps him (4) _____. It's decided that middle school is the perfect time for Auggie to start attending classes with other children. Auggie meets both (5) _____ and good friends as he attends school for the first time and his supportive family is always there for him—even when he tries to push them away.

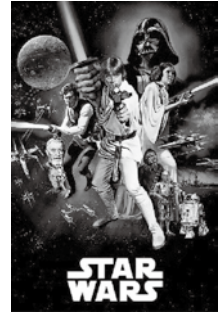
The movie has clear positive messages about choosing kindness, appreciating everyone for who they are (rather than what they look like), and true friendship, (6) _____ are also strong themes. There's some bullying, some teen romance, and emotional moments involving Auggie's beloved dog. This is not the first time a movie has tackled this subject—the need to see beyond a person's (7) _____, ugly or not, to (8) _____ and hopefully beautiful (9) _____. However, *Wonder* may be the first Hollywood movie to deliver the message directly to kids, especially the bullying kids who've lately been making news. Auggie's (10) _____ will make you laugh, cry, cheer and ultimately want to be a kinder person.

Notes

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|------------|-------------|
| tackle | v. 处理, 解决 |
| ultimately | adv. 最终, 最后 |

VI. Culture Reflection

Star Wars (released in 1977), also known as *Star Wars: Episode IV—A New Hope*, is one of the original trilogy directed by George Lucas among the *Star Wars* series. The movie tells about the adventurous journey of a simple farm boy—Luke Skywalker into a Jedi Knight, as he and his newly met allies (Han Solo, Chewbacca, Obi-wan Kenobi, C-3PO, R2-D2) attempt to rescue a rebel leader, Princess Leia, from the clutches of the Empire. The conclusion is culminated as the rebels, including Skywalker and flying ace Wedge Antilles make an attack on the Empire’s most powerful and ominous weapon, the Death Star.

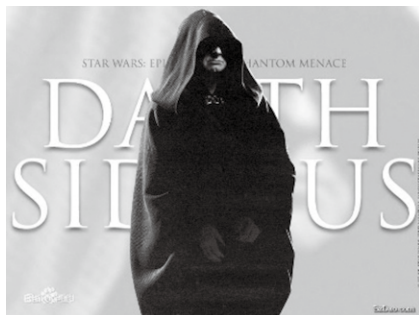


Padawan, a fictional character in *Star Wars*, also known as a Padawan learner, Padawan apprentice, Jedi apprentice, or apprentice, is the stage of Jedi training where a Force-sensitive of the Jedi Order trained under a Jedi Knight or Master. A Padawan’s master is meant to choose their apprentice, although, during the galactic Clone Wars, the Jedi High Council begins to assign Padawans. In order to become a Knight, the Jedi in training need to complete their time as a Padawan and the Trials.

Boba Fett, a fictional character in *Star Wars*, is a clone of Jango Fett, the human male bounty hunter whose genetic code spawned an army of clone troopers during the final years of the Galactic Republic. With his customized Mandalorian armor, deadly weaponry, and the fearsome slave as his starship, Boba carries on his father’s legacy by becoming one of the most feared bounty hunters in the galaxy during the reign of the Galactic Empire. Trained in combat martial skills from a young age, he becomes a legend over the course of his career, which includes contracts for the Empire and the criminal underworld.



Darth Sidious, a fictional character in *Star Wars*, born Sheev Palpatine and also known simply as the Emperor, is a human male Dark Lord of the Sith and Emperor of the Galactic Empire, ruling from 19 BBY to 4 ABY. Rising to power in the Republic



Senate as the senator of Naboo, the secretive Sith Lord cultivates two identities, Sidious and Palpatine, using both to further his political career. He orchestrates the fall of the Galactic Republic and the Jedi Order through the Clone Wars, and then establishes his reign over the galaxy which lasts until his death at the Battle of Endor. However, the

dark side of the Force gives rise to powers which allow the Emperor to return from the grave.

Chewbacca, known affectionately to his friends as Chewie, is a fictional character in the *Star Wars* franchise. He is a Wookiee male warrior, a tall, hirsute, bipedal, intelligent species originating from the fictional planet of Kashyyyk. He fights in the Clone Wars, the Galactic Civil War, and the “Cold War” and subsequent First Order/Resistance War. Chewbacca is the loyal friend and first mate of Han Solo, and serves as co-pilot on Solo’s spaceship, the Millennium Falcon; together they help the Rebel Alliance defeat the Galactic Empire and restore freedom to the galaxy.



Minecraft is a puzzle-adventure game in which players mine pixelated landscapes to harvest stylized cube-like materials. From a first-person perspective, players traverse an “open-world” environment, avoid hazards, build new structures, and craft weapons (e.g. swords, axes, bows) to occasionally defend against

monsters (e.g. zombies, skeletons, spiders). Though not encouraged, players can engage in violent acts, such as lighting animals on fire and harming animals with weapons. Mild explosions are occasionally heard as players use dynamite to fend off creatures and mine the environment.

Our Town is a 1938 meta-theatrical three-act play by the American playwright Thornton Wilder which won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The play tells the story of the fictional American small town of Grover’s Corners between 1901 and 1913 through the everyday lives of its citizens. Throughout, Wilder uses meta-theatrical devices, setting the play in