



THE PALEY CENTER FOR MEDIA

PALEY EDUCATION @Home
presented by **citi**
What We're Watching



Greetings from The Paley Center for Media's Education Department!

Welcome to the latest installment of "What We're Watching," a weekly Paley Education@Home guide. During this unprecedented time, we are continuing to reach out to our community with tips and ideas for consuming media with kids! We know that screen time has increased and so we're here to help. Each week we are highlighting a different theme that connects to selected programs for younger and older viewers, with related activities and resources.

Consuming media with your kids is a perfect jumping-off point to making media literacy a part of your everyday lives. Familiarizing yourself with the basics is a great first step. In case you missed it, you can view [our first edition about](#)

[media literacy best practices](#). We also recommend the National Association for Media Literacy Education's Parents Guide—it's a terrific introduction!

Weekly Zoom Meet-up

Thursdays, 3:00 to 3:30 pm ET

Students Grades 3+ can join us for a weekly Zoom Meet-up, Thursdays from 3:00 to 3:30 pm ET, to chat about the week's theme and engage in some hands-on learning led by a Paley Educator. Parents and teachers are welcome to join as well!

For connection details, please RSVP to eduny@paleycenter.org.

What We're Watching: Climate Action Heroines!

This week our recommendations are stories of young women taking action to protect the environment, both fictional and in the real world. The storytelling styles cover a lot of ground; first, there's a fantasy allegory about how humans interact with the natural world and then, there's an intimate documentary portrait of one of our world's most fervent climate activists. By spanning genre and style, we believe there is something resonant for everyone. We hope these films will inspire you to take action and do what you can to weave climate activism into your everyday life.

This Week's Recommendations for Younger Viewers

Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, directed by Hayao Miyazaki (1984)

Recommended for Grades 5+

Available to stream on HBOMax

Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind is a stunning animated epic by the master Hayao Miyazaki. Like many of Miyazaki's films, *Nausicaä* is a story that deals with the fraught relationship between humankind and nature. Set in a dystopian future, the film follows Princess Nausicaä as she tries to keep her kingdom safe from the toxic aftermath of a great and terrible war. Princess Nausicaä's unique respect and understanding of the natural world puts her at significant odds with others but may be the only chance for survival.

Viewing Questions

- Notice everything you can about Princess Nausicaä. What kind of character is she? What does she care about? What are her powers?
- What has happened to the Earth? How does the Toxic Jungle and its inhabitants impact the surrounding land and the people?
- How do the Tolmekians and their leader Princess Kushana behave? What is their goal?
- What has Nausicaä discovered? What does her discovery mean? What does her discovery tell us about what happened to the Earth in the past? How can it be fixed?
- Does Princess Kushana's plan work? What does this tell us about the relationship between people and nature?

- How does Princess Nausicaä save her people and the land? What does this tell us about the relationship between people and nature?

Extension Activity

[DIY Terrariums](#)

Additional Resources

Read

It's Your World: Get Informed, Get Inspired & Get Going by Chelsea Clinton

Love in the Time of Global Warming by Francesca Lia Block

Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind manga series by Hayao Miyazaki

The Tantrum that Saved the World by Megan Herbert and Michael E. Mann

Winston of Churchill: One Bear's Battle Against Global Warming by Jean Davies Okimoto

Watch

David Attenborough: Life on our Planet (2020)

WALL-E (2008)



This Week's Recommendations for Older Viewers

I Am Greta, directed by Nathan Grossman (2020)

Recommended for Grades 8+

Available to stream on Hulu

This powerful documentary about teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg is told through compelling, intimate footage captured by Swedish director Nathan Grossman. Starting with her one-person school strike for climate action outside Swedish Parliament, we follow Greta in her reluctant rise to prominence as she inspires school strikes around the world and meets with global leaders. The film ends with her extraordinary sailboat voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to speak at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York City last year. One thing

is clear from watching this film: Greta cannot do this alone, more people need to join the fight to save our species.

Viewing Questions

- What is a climate strike? How is it different from a climate protest?
- Do you think young people should miss school for important causes?
- How has Greta Thunberg helped galvanize young people to take action on climate change?
- What additional personal challenges does she have to deal with on top of exhaustion, and her commitment to traveling and eating with a low carbon footprint?
- What moments in the film helped you empathize most with Greta and her father?
- Why do you think adults and political leaders are not doing more to reduce emissions and stop climate change?

Extension Activity: Climate Museum Resources for Action

[The Climate Museum has great action opportunities for students of all ages!](#)

Additional Resources

Read

Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming by Paul Hawken

No One is Too Small to Make a Difference by Greta Thunberg

This is Not a Drill: The Extinction Rebellion Handbook by Extinction Rebellion

The Water Knife by Paolo Bacigalupi

Watch

An Inconvenient Truth (2006)

Before the Flood (2016)

Listen

[How to Save a Planet](#)

[NPR: Climate Cast](#)

As always, if you have any questions, thoughts, or ideas, don't hesitate to reach out to us at eduny@paleycenter.org.

Happy viewing,

Rebekah Fisk, Director of Education

Caroline Quigley, Senior Manager of School & Family Programs

Support The Paley Center for Media

We hope this inspires you to watch and learn together in a new way at home! The Paley Center is here for you and, now more than ever before, we would deeply appreciate your support. Please consider making a donation:

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$250



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