

This Issue

Discussion on *Big Miracle* and the importance of the ocean

Editor's Note: This week the children watched the movie *Big Miracle* and were asked the most difficult questions to date. As evident in the answers below, the children's ability to think critically about what they are viewing has improved volumes since the first issue. This exercise focused on the importance of the ocean, and its creatures, in hopes of raising awareness of problems like pollution and temperature change.

–**Lucy Harnish**

I think the moral of the movie is do what is right and stand up for the world.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because it gives us life and animals.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that helps the planet by fighting for what is right.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they help all animals and the planet.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because they let you know stuff that is happening around you and globally.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because they don't understand that it's a different way of life.

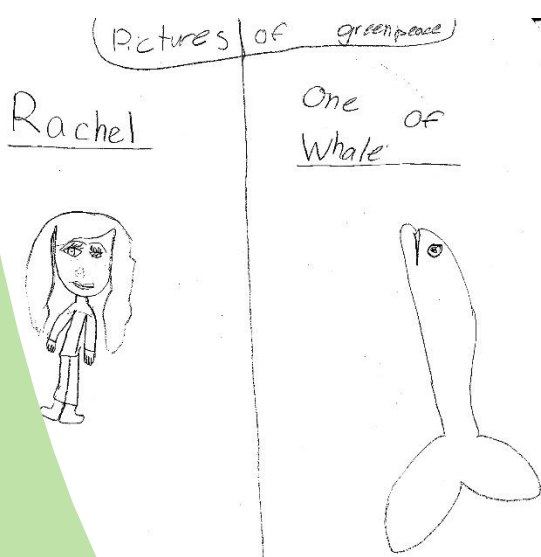
I think it is important to protect Inuit's rights to a subsistence economy because instead of buying food and clothes they make them out of animals.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because the whales are great, big, and beautiful creatures.

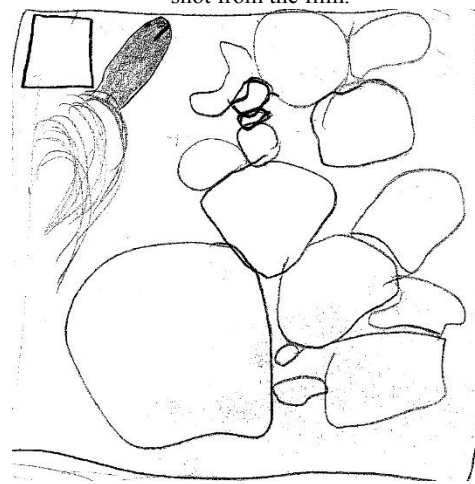
I gave the movie a rating of 4.5 / 5 stars because it is a sad movie

My favourite memory of the ocean is when I was 3 or 4 I went to the beach and I was standing in the water and my mom was watching me. My mom was smiling at me and I was having a blast until my mom's face stopped smiling and her face looked worried. All of a sudden a wave came crashing down on me and it pulled me on to the beach and that was my most remembered memory of the ocean. P.S. It might not be the best memory but to me it's the best one.

–**Article & below picture by Carlie Hurshman, Age 9.**



Above picture: *Big Miracle*. Dir. Ken Kwapis. Universal Pictures. 2012. Still shot from the film.



I think the moral of the movie is to not hurt our animals and to save them instead.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because without the ocean we would die.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that saves the environment and tries to keep animals alive.

I think organizations like Green peace are important because they try to save animals and keep them alive.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because they let you know what's happening to prepare you for a new day.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because they don't know that it is different where they live.

I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because it allows them to protect and feed their family.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because it was hard for them to come up and breathe.

I gave the movie 3/5 stars because it had a lot of action in it so I didn't really like it. I think it wasn't the best movie.

My favourite memory of the ocean is when I stayed overnight on an island next to the ocean and had to sleep in a tent with my mom and dad. The tent was so filled with bugs in the morning I had bugs down my back. When I found out I had bugs down my back I freaked out. That's my favourite memory of the ocean.

–**Article & above picture by Lauren Fleet, Age 9.**

I think the moral of the movie is love wild life.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because without water animals will die.

–**Brianna Manuel, Age 10.**

I think the moral of the movie is protect the environment.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because we need to live.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that helps save animals and earth.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they will save the world.

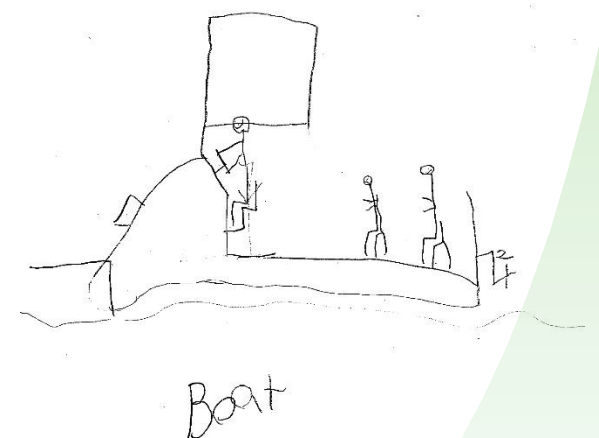
The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because you know what it's going to be like the next day.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because the Inuit people help save the whales.

I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because they need to survive like anyone else.

The world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because they saw them as a family.

–**Article & below picture by Warren Harnish, Age 7**



I think the moral of the movie is that pollution is a problem and we need to stick up for it.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because it produces over half the oxygen in the atmosphere.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that helps the environment.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they protect the environment.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because if they did not pick up the story the whales would die.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because they do not understand.

I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because they do not over fish or hunt. They normally under fish.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because they help each other and it helps the Cold War.

I gave the movie a 5/5 because it has a good moral and it raises awareness for the environment.

My favourite memory of the ocean is I used to sail in little boats called oppies and at the sailing club we had a party and after we went out to the bay we played games.

David Smith, Age 10

I think the moral of the movie is to protect the ocean.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because if we don't the animals will die.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that saves animals that need help.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they can help the animals that live on land or water.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because people that are not there can watch it on TV.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because they tried to save the whales.

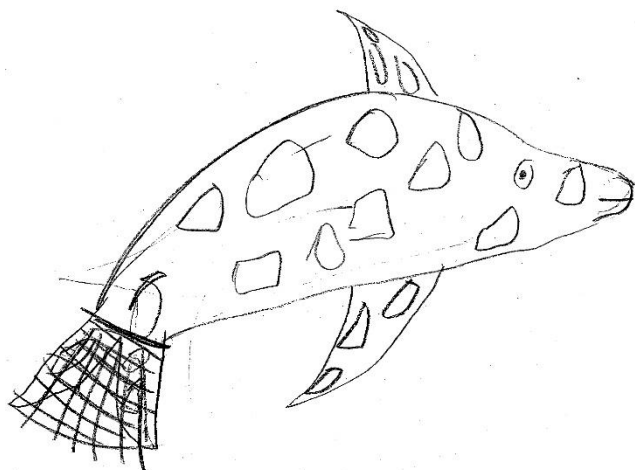
I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because they rely on hunting and fishing.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because they want the whales to live.

I gave the movie 5/5 stars because I really like all of the movie.

My favourite memory of the ocean is the show The Little Mermaid.

-Mya Coulstring, Age 9.



I think the moral of the movie is to protect the ocean and the environment.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because it controls the world's temperature and it makes up more than 70% of the earth.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace, which is an organization that protects the environment and helps animals.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because we need to take care of the environment and stop pollution that will hurt the animals of the land and sea.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because they show the news and can show what is happening around the world.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people of Alaska are afraid they will be portrayed as killers by the media. The media is wrong because they are hunting the whales for food and not for sport. Whales are one of the only foods they have!

I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because they deserve rights and freedoms to live in any they want.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because of the Cold War they both want to make their country look better.

I give the movie 4.5/5 stars.

I wrote two poems reflecting on the ocean:

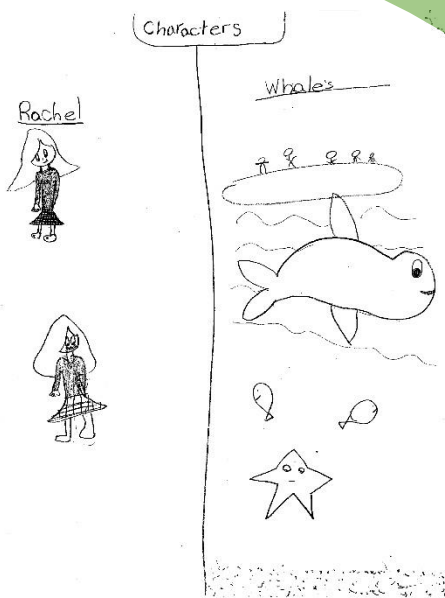
The Ocean

The ocean is quite vast
And it might be a thing of the past.
But it is very beautiful
And the aquatic life is plentiful.
So if we protect it
And we do not wait,
We can keep it alive
So all its life can thrive.

The Colour Blue

You skate in the winter
Also in fall
We swim in the summer
After the winter call.
Some can skate
Some just fall
Some can swim
Or just call.

-Jack Laws, Age 12.



I think the moral of the movie is saving whales.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because you might kill animals.

Rachel, the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that helps animals.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they help animals.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because they tell you important information.

I think it is important to protect Inuit's rights to a subsistence economy because it protects their family by providing necessary things for feeding them.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because it is important.

I gave the movie 1 / 5 stars because it is sad.

My favourite memory is when we went to the ocean and we went whale watching.

-Article & above picture by Kaylyn Beswick, Age 8.

I think the moral of the movie is to protect the ocean.

I think it is important to protect the ocean because there are sea creatures and we need them to live.

Rachel the main character, is part of Greenpeace which is an organization that helps all living creatures by standing up for them.

I think organizations like Greenpeace are important because they help living critters.

The media has a big role in the movie. I think reporters are so important because they make sure that everyone knows what is happening.

At the beginning of the movie the Inuit people are afraid they will be portrayed as monsters by the media. The media is wrong because they love the whales.

I think it is important to protect Inuit's right to a subsistence economy because it helps them protect and feed their family.

The whole world (primarily Russia and USA) become emotionally invested in saving the whales because they were family like people.

I give the movie 3/5 stars because I did not like the movie. It was sad.

My favourite memory of the ocean is when I was 6 I went to my nanny's house and we went on her boat. We went to an Island and I saw lots of fish and lots of shells. When we went back to my nanny's house I got to drive the boat and sit on the front of the boat. The end.

-Article & picture on left by Rachel Birrett, Age 8.