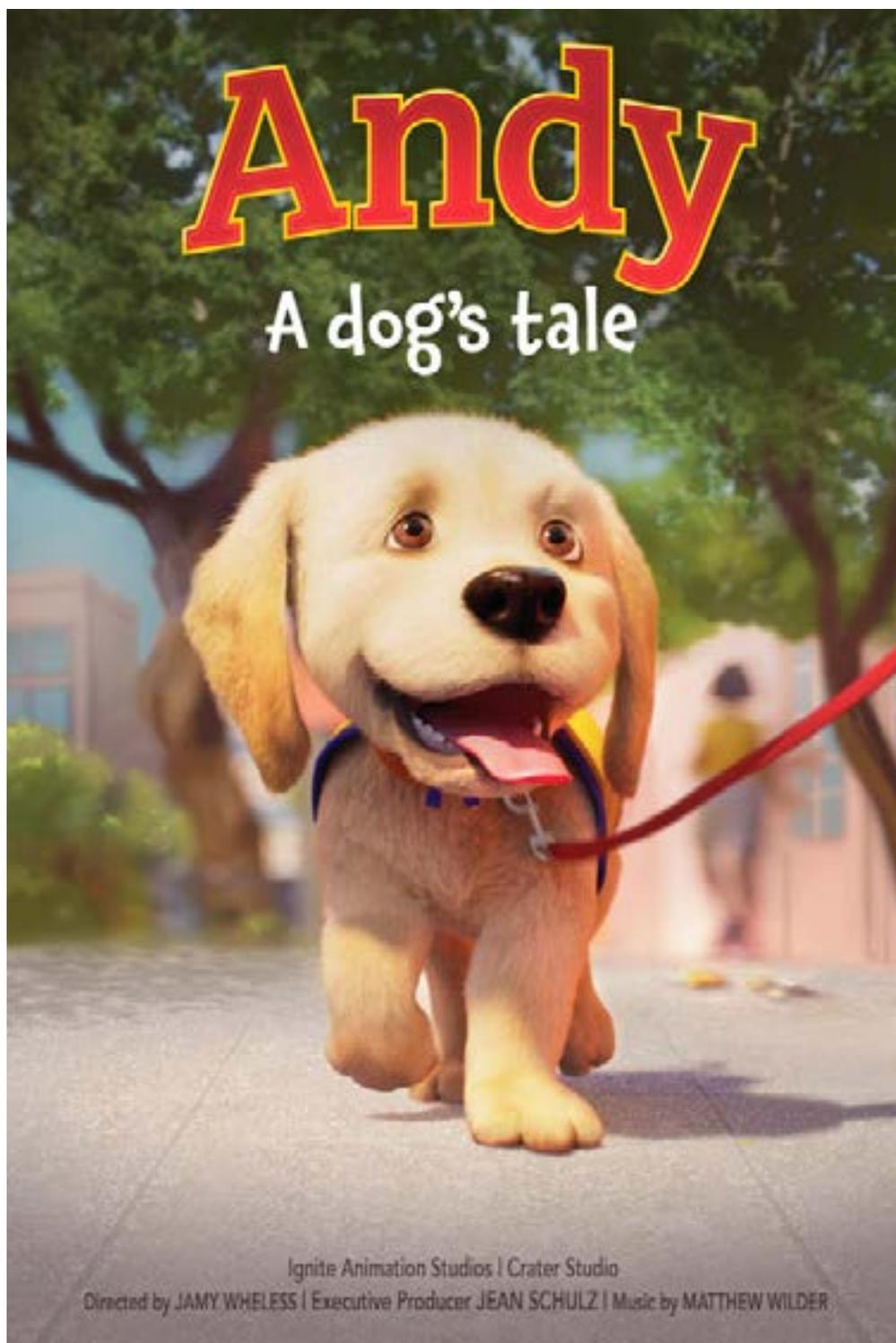


CAFILM EDUCATION

FILMMAKERS GO TO SCHOOL



CURRICULUM GUIDE
GRADES: 1-6

FILMMAKERS GO TO SCHOOL



ABOUT THE FILM

Andy A Dog's Tale
Jamy Wheless | US 2024 | 16 min
Grades 1-6

ANDY: A Dog's Tale is the inspiring journey of Andy, a puppy who overcomes challenges to discover his purpose as a service dog. With the help of others and a determined heart, Andy shows us that small beginnings can lead to heroic outcomes.

IMPACT

"*Andy: A Dog's Tale* follows a young puppy learning perseverance, patience, and purpose on his journey to becoming a service dog. Through heartfelt storytelling and humor, the film introduces students to empathy, inclusion, and the importance of helping others." Director, Jamy Wheless.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Jamy Wheless is an American animation director, producer, and veteran animator with over 30 years of experience in film, independent animation, and education. He began his career at Industrial Light & Magic, contributing to iconic films including *Star Wars*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and *The Hulk*. Jamy is the CEO and Animation Director of Ignite Animation Studios and the creator of the award-winning short film *Andy: A Dog's Tale*. He also teaches character animation at Auburn University and through his online program, Animate Characters™, helping the next generation of animators build strong creative foundations. "Good animation entertains...great animation transcends."



THE HERO'S JOURNEY AS A VIEWING LENS

The Hero's Journey is a common story pattern where a character goes on an adventure, faces challenges, gets help, and learns something along the way. In the end the character has grown or changed in some way.

VIEWING GUIDE: PERSEVERANCE, PATIENCE, AND PURPOSE IN THE HERO'S JOURNEY

How to Use this Thinking Routine: The film you are about to watch tells the story of a dog who goes on a big journey. Like many stories, Andy's adventure follows a path - he starts in one place, faces a problem, meets challenges, gets help, and changes along the way. As you watch, use this notecatcher to follow Andy's story path. Pay attention to what happens at each stage of the journey. You can write words, phrases, or draw quick pictures to capture your thinking. At the end, you'll be able to see how Andy's journey fits together and what his journey might be trying to tell us.

THE BIG STORY PATH	
<p>Andy's World</p> <p>Where does Andy start? What is his life like at the beginning?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is Andy living? • Who is with him? • How does he seem to feel at first? • What makes this place feel safe and normal? 	
<p>Something Changes</p> <p>Where does Andy start? What is his life like at the beginning?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What big problem or surprise happens? • How does Andy react? • Why can't things stay the same? 	
<p>The Big Journey</p> <p>Andy encounters new places, challenges, and feelings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where does Andy go? • What obstacles or dangers does he face? • What emotions does he experience along the way? • What is the hardest moment for him? 	
<p>Paws of Help</p> <p>Someone - or something helps Andy keep going.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who helps Andy? People, animals, or even instincts? • How does this help change his chances? • What does Andy learn because of this help? 	
<p>Changed Andy</p> <p>Andy is not the same at the end of the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where does Andy end up? • How is he different from the beginning? • What has he learned about trust, survival, or love? • What message does Andy's story leave us with? 	

ECHOES OF AN EPIGRAPH

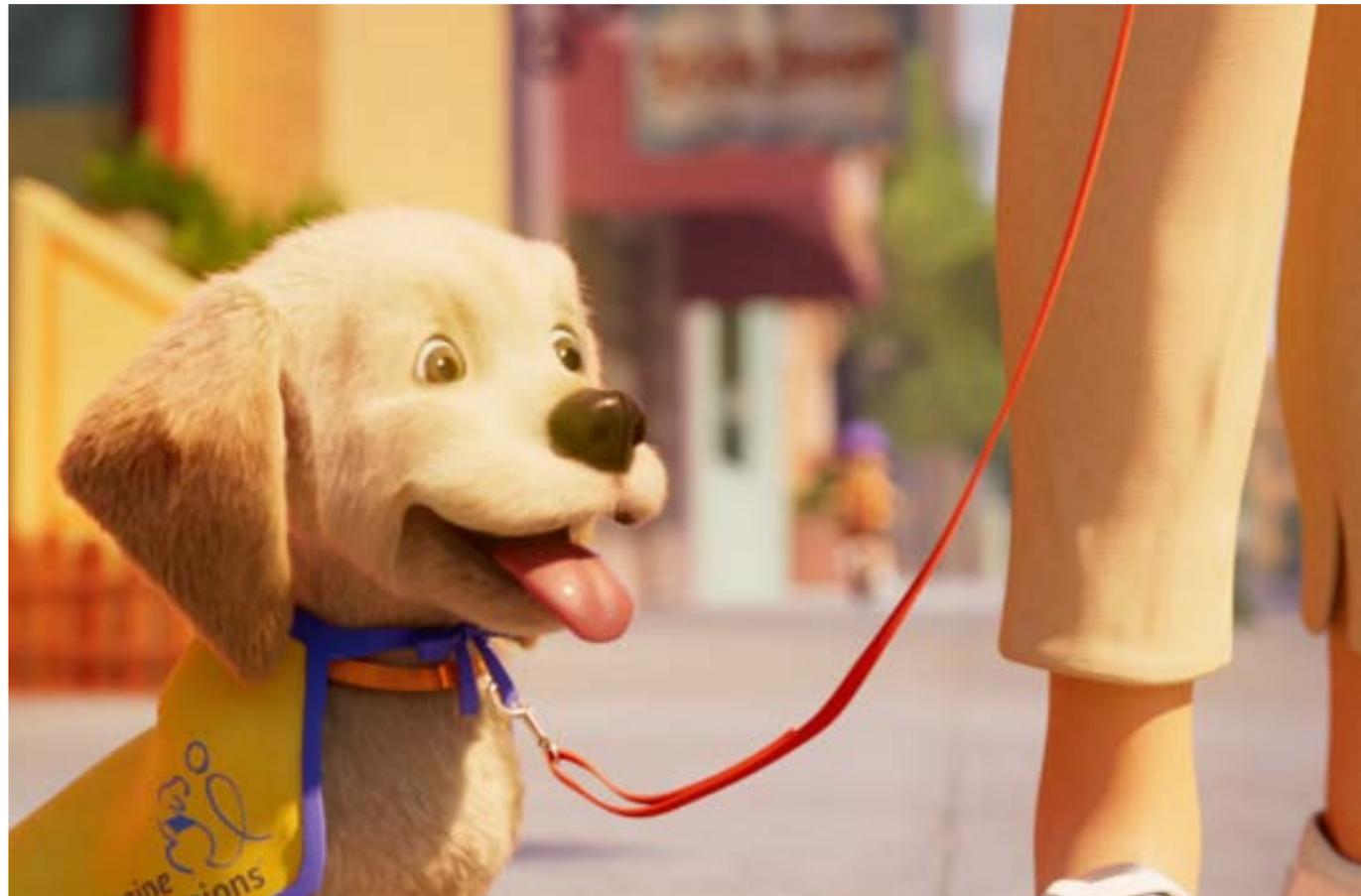
YOU ARE THE HERO OF YOUR OWN STORY

How to Use this Thinking Routine:

An epigraph is a short quote meant to set the mood, theme or context, sometimes from another work. Today, you tracked the Hero's Journey in *Andy: A Dog's Tale*. Now you'll echo the epigraph to explain why this story matters to you and others. The objective is to make your thinking visible and give the filmmaker some feedback.

Discussion Prompts: Think about the film you watched and the Hero's Journey you followed. Discuss the following questions in small groups.

- **SEE - UNDERSTANDING THE STORY**
 - Who was the hero?
 - What made them brave even if they were scared?
- **FEEL - CONNECTING TO THE MESSAGE**
 - What was the biggest challenge they faced?
 - Who helped them along the way?
 - What was the moment they changed?
- **DO - TAKING ACTION**
 - How do dogs help people through the Canine Companion Program?
 - How can you be a hero in a small or big way?



ECHO THE EPIGRAPH

YOU ARE THE HERO OF YOUR OWN STORY

- This story shows that you are the hero of your own story because . . .

- If you were the hero in a movie about your life, what challenge would your story show right now?

- My Hero Promise. I can help others by . . .

Exit Ticket - Final Echo. Write one sentence that shows what you think this story leaves behind.

ADMIT ONE		ADMIT ONE
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