Karla and Katrine

©DANISH EMBASSY

Directed by: Charlotte Sachs Bostrup

Certificate: PG

Running time: 82 mins

Release date: 6th February 2009

Synopsis:
Karla invites Katrine to spend the holidays with her, hoping they might become best friends. As it turns out, nothing goes as planned. Karla meets Jonas and falls in love for the first time, and she nearly forgets all about Katrine. But the two girls are forced to put their difficulties aside for a while, as they join Jonas in exposing a local gang of thieves.

Suitable for:
These study notes address aspects of Literacy, PSHE and Citizenship for pupils between ages 10–13.

BEFORE SEEING THE FILM

■ Karla and Katrine is a Danish film. Denmark has a long history of making good films about and for children. Do you think we make good children's films in the UK? As a class, make a list of the last three films that you saw at the cinema. What connects these films? What makes them different? Do you feel like you can relate to the child characters in the film?

■ Karla and Katrine are two friends who go through a few difficult times. What advice would you give them about solving their differences?

■ Karla and Katrine come across a gang of thieves whilst on their summer holidays. What would you do if you witnessed someone stealing? How would you feel?

AFTER SEEING THE FILM

■ Films usually have a 'tag-line' to sum up the story. You can sometimes see this on the film's poster. The tag line need only be a sentence – or two at the most. Think up a tag line for Karla and Katrine. Think hard about the words that you include. Your tag line needs to be clear, concise and pithy.

■ Imagine that you are going to organise a film festival for your school and that Karla and Katrine is going to be the lead film. Design a poster for your Film Festival – which is called 'School Cinema'.

■ Karla and Katrine is special in that it is a live-action film about 'real' children. What would happen in a film about your life? How would you like it to be interpreted on the big screen? As an animation? As a comedy? Science fiction movie? Action/adventure?! Explain your choices.

SHOT-PAIR-SHARE Activity 1

We are going to decode an image from the film to find hidden clues about the story.

NB Teachers: pupils will need a copy of the film's poster in A4 or A3 size, plus some sticky notes.

Shot
With a partner, explore this film poster for clues about the film. Explore the image, and then talk about it with your partner for 5 minutes.

Success criteria:
MUST: describe the image in terms of what you can see
SHOULD: describe the image in terms of the character and what they are doing in the image
COULD: describe the image in terms of camera angle; lighting; use of colour (if possible) and mise en scene (all that you can see in the frame – where the character is positioned in the frame, their body language, any props, the setting etc.)

SHOT-PAIR-SHARE Activity 2

Pair
Using sticky notes, annotate the film picture with answers to these 'Who, What and Why?' questions:

- Who or what is included in this montage of images?

- What can you see in the picture? What is going on outside the frame?

- Why are these elements included and not other story factors like setting and plots?

- How does the shot show the personalities of the two girls in the picture?

- Who is the target audience of this film? Explain your choices.

- Create a poster in the same style using photos of you and your friends.

SHOT-PAIR-SHARE Activity 3

Share
Design a programme for your Fantasy Film Festival – featuring a premiere screening of Karla and Katrine. What would be your dream line-up? Which filmmakers and film stars would you invite? Share your programme, explaining your choices.

Success criteria:
MUST: you must include details of the films included at your Fantasy Film Festival and why you chose them
SHOULD: you should include details of any events happening during your Fantasy Film Festival
COULD: you should be able to explain the choices that you made when designing your programme.

NB Teacher: showcase the work of those who have come up with an original programme that strives to reach a new audience.

Written by Julie Green
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Storyboard template

Shot	Dialogue/Description