

The Boat

Viewing Recommendation



Recommendations before viewing in the classroom:

Teachers are encouraged to watch THE BOAT and the associated clips before showing them to students. The content addresses the politically and emotionally sensitive concepts of asylum seekers, refugees, conflict and human rights. This content may be confronting to students, particularly those with refugee backgrounds.

The resources have been designed to help teachers feel confident to engage students in safe discussions within the classroom. Some ideas to consider are:

- Speak with students, staff, families and/or community members before screening THE BOAT and using the learning resources in order to pre-empt possible responses.
- Set classroom ground rules: Create a safe space and help to develop mutual respect and understanding between the members of the classroom community.
- Be respectful: Each person has their own beliefs and values.
- Value diversity: Each person has their own world views, experiences and opinions.
- Listen politely: Each person has a right to contribute without pressure or intimidation.
- Act with honour and courage: Be brave in sharing experiences, ideas and opinions.
- Appreciate privacy: Each person has the right to uphold their privacy.
- Act responsibly: Share feedback with thoughtful consideration and a positive attitude towards others.
- Work collaboratively with students to create a contract that outlines the expected standards of behaviour around using THE BOAT.
- Encourage students to frame discussion comments as their own (as in “I think”) and avoid forceful language (such as “you should”).
- When responding to others in classroom discussion or within the associated activities, encourage students to challenge ideas rather than people.
- Allow adequate time at the end of each viewing session to debrief the content, associated activities and discussion.