Robert Zemeckis' The Witches Movie 2020

Guided Discussion Questions

These are guided discussion questions for you to reflect on with your children after watching the 2020 release of Robert Zemeckis' *The Witches* movie. It is paramount that we engaged our children in conversations discussing the authentic story of disability vs how disability is often told in our stories. This will correct the damage inflicted on our communities and help empower children both with and without disabilities to build a more inclusive society.

- 1. What are the messages of this movie? What do you think of these messages?
- 2. Do you think they are good messages? What would be better messages?
- 3. Who are the protagonists? (The heroes/heroines)
- 4. What are their goals?
- 5. Who are the antagonist? (The villains)
- 6. What are their goals?
- 7. What makes a character a hero?
- 8. What are the characteristics of a hero?
 Help direct the conversation to emphasize the personality traits, actions, and intentions.
- 9. What makes a character a villain?
- 10. What are the characteristics of villains?
 Help direct the conversation to emphasize the personality traits, actions, and intentions.
- 11. Who are the heroes in your life?
- 12. What makes them a hero?
- 13. What is a disability?
- 14. Who are people you have seen and know who have disabilities?

Help to establish that people with disabilities are people. They can be both heroes and villains. Help establish that sometimes people look different and act differently - and that is ok! Help to integrate positive images of disability throughout your daily routines. Use a 5:1 ratio - for every negative image of disability try to show 5 positive images of disability. This helps reinforce that people with disabilities exist and are a part of our communities.

Some suggested phrases to Google are: "Limb difference", "Ectrodactyly", "Amputee", and "Alopecia."

15. What are things you can say and ask someone with a disability when we meet them? Help to model a conversation that when we meet someone with a disability (set up the expectation that we will meet someone) and say things like "Hi. my name is ______, what is your name?" Continue by aksing about things they like to do- as this is the same conversation you would have when you meet anyone new.