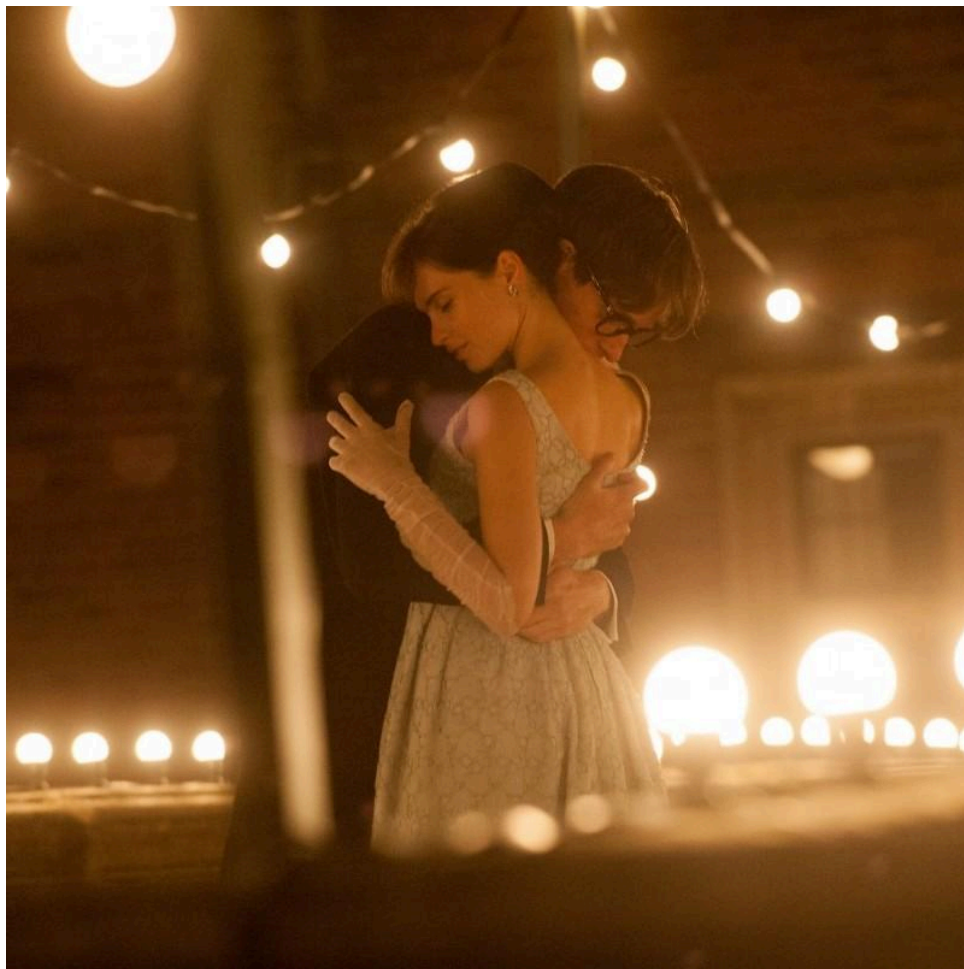


5 Must-see Inspirational Movies For Every Teenager.



Average movies entertain. But great movies educate, provoke deep thought, and inspire. That's why a great film is one of the best gifts you can give your kids.

Think about it: if your kids are typical, they already watch TV regularly. So why don't you wring more value out of their leisure time by slotting in movies that could potentially lead them towards a higher quality of life?

Additionally, watching movies with your kids enables you to connect better as a family. Imagine the unforgettable memories you could create!

Without further ado, here's a carefully curated list of 5 biographical dramas with gripping plots, impeccable acting, and most importantly, incredible role-model characters that you and your teenagers will love.

1. The Theory of Everything

This Oscar-winning movie chronicles the life of Stephen Hawking, a world-renowned physicist. It tells of his lifelong battle with a debilitating condition and how this illness affected his personal and professional life.

Hawking and Jane Wilde fell in love as graduate students at Cambridge University. They had a promising professional and love life ahead, but tragedy struck. At 21, Hawking was diagnosed with ALS, which caused him to lose control over his voluntary muscles progressively. Despite his diagnosis, Jane decided to marry him.

ALS paralyzed Hawking's body but not his mind. His mind remained super sharp, and he made several genius-level contributions to the field of astrophysics. This movie shows what one can accomplish regardless of what life throws at them.

2. A Beautiful Mind

A Beautiful Mind tells the story of John Nash Jr., a Nobel Prize-winning mathematician. Speaking of awards, this biopic won 4 Oscars!

Nash became a superstar in the academic world when he wrote a revolutionary paper at the young age of 21. However, his promising career was tragically aborted after being diagnosed with schizophrenia.

"Imagine if you suddenly learned that the people, the places, the moments most important to you were not gone, not dead, but worse, had never been. What kind of hell would that be?"

Dr. Rosen in "A Beautiful Mind"

It turned out most of Nash's life was a giant hallucination. His best friend Charles existed only in his imagination. And his special undercover mission for the US Department of Justice was a delusion. How can genius and crazy co-exist in Nash's mind?

From the storyline to the acting, *A Beautiful Mind* tells a compelling story of a man whose mind blessed humanity but drove him nuts.

3. The Imitation Game

Alan Turing is popularly considered the founder of computer science and one of the most brilliant mathematical minds of the 20th century.

During WWII, British cryptologists worked hard to manually decrypt intercepted German messages. The Nazis encrypted their secret messages with the Enigma machine. And since Enigma's settings changed every 24 hours, the codebreakers needed to work extremely fast.

Despite their best efforts, they couldn't deliver decrypted information fast enough. Their frustration persisted until ingenious Turing developed *Bombe* — a machine that rapidly sped up the decryption process.

Turing's *Bombe* helped the UK crack Enigma's encryption settings, contributing significantly to the allies' victory over Germany. Historians estimate that Alan's wartime efforts cut the war by more than 2 years and saved over 14 million lives.

Sadly, the country he saved betrayed him — the British Government ignored Turing's heroic acts and punished him because he was gay. Among other things, this movie relays the importance of accepting other people, regardless of their differences or perceived abnormalities.

4. The Man Who Knew Infinity

This film is based on the real story of Srinivasa Ramanujan, an extraordinary 20th-century mathematician of Indian origins.

Ramanujan's natural mathematical ability is primarily what made him different. Although he wasn't formally educated, this self-taught genius is considered one of the greatest mathematicians ever, right up there with Euler and Newton.

Legend has it that theorems appeared in his mind fully formed, just as Mozart composed full symphonies from his head.

This movie explores Ramanujan's adult life and journey towards becoming a world-acclaimed mathematician: how he got mentored by G.H Hardy, a famous English Mathematician who helped polish his crude but exceptional mathematical ability; the pain of living his wife and family to pursue his mathematical interests in England; his battle with racial prejudice, and eventually, tuberculosis. Such a refreshing story!

5. Hidden Figures

Hidden Figures tells the untold story of three African-American women who, despite the odds stacked against them, played crucial roles in America's space race win.

In 1962, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth. But without the inputs of Katherine Jackson (played by Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer), and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe), America wouldn't have achieved that illustrious feat.

As with other women of color who lived in that era of intense racial and gender segregation, these women had to work ten times as hard to earn their spot at NASA. Had it not been for their extreme brilliance and work ethic, they'd have been relegated in the backseats of history.

Racial and gender imbalance continues to thrive today. And movies like this create a better world by teaching the younger generation about the virtue of treating everyone equitably, regardless of their color. The success of these women also emphasizes that anyone can succeed, regardless of the odds stacked against them, if they're willing to work hard enough.

Hidden Figures is comedic, thought-provoking, and inspirational — a must-watch for everyone.

Wrap up

It's worth stating that none of these movies accurately represent the stories of their real-life counterparts. As typical of biopics, the screenwriters amended certain portions of the story to make them more palatable.

Still, if you want movies that'll push your kids' imaginations, raise their standards, and doze them with great entertainment, here are our top 5 picks.

Looks like the plan for your next weekend or holiday is all set!