

## "How to Train Your Dragon"

Overview: Jay Baruchel provides the voice of Hiccup, son of Viking chief Stoick (Gerard Butler), who despairs of his scrawny offspring ever taking his place as supreme dragon slayer. In fact, after helping heal a wounded dragon and secretly training him as a sort of pet, Hiccup becomes, in essence, a pacifist warrior. All of this is presented in a charming, generally amusing fashion. While generally family-friendly, the film deserves its PG rating for sequences of intense action and some scary images, and brief mild language.

Choose questions that might best fit your family, or the gathering of people discussing the movie.

- Why couldn't Hiccup kill the dragon he captured?
- What did Hiccup's Dad expect from him?
- "When you carry this axe, you carry all of us with you, you walk like us, talk like us." That's what Hiccup was told when he was learning how to fight dragons. What did that mean?
- A dragon will always go for the kill. What would Hiccup say about that?
- Both boys and girls are being trained to kill dragons. Did that surprise you? Why/why not?
- "Our parent's war is about to become ours, figure out whose side you are on." What kinds of other things become ours, given to us from our parents?
- As Hiccup meets the baby dragon, the dragon starts to smile, by watching Hiccup smile. He tries to draw pictures by imitating Hiccup. Compare the baby dragon, to a baby, who is just learning to do things—how are they the same or different?
- Hiccup touches the dragon, by putting out his hand, not meeting the dragon's gaze, letting the dragon move into his hand. How was that different from the way people had previously treated dragons?
- What kind deeds did Hiccup do for the dragon?
- What unique talents did Hiccup have, that worked well with training the dragon?
- Hiccup learned from Toothless, and then used the skills with the other dragons. What do we learn, that we transfer over that learning into other settings?
- Gobber said "He (Hiccup) has this way with the beasts." What did he mean by that?
- Why did Hiccup become famous on his island?
- What does Hiccup do differently, compared to the other people around him?
- Hiccup said, about the dragons, "Everything we know about you guys is wrong?" What did Hiccup learn that was new information?
- What convinced Astrid that Toothless was different?
- Hiccup said, "I'm not one of them. The dragons aren't what we think they are," as he was trying to convince everyone to stop fighting the dragons. How is Hiccup saved from his dragon fight?
- Why did Hiccup's dad, Stoick, say: "You throw your lot in with him (Toothless) and you're not my son."
- Why didn't Hiccup kill Toothless? (one of the things Hiccup said was that he looked at him, and he was as frightened as he was)
- How does Toothless help guide Hiccup's father?
- What did Toothless do to save Hiccup and vice versa?
- What made Hiccup's father proud of him?
- How did Hiccup change the people and their whole island? What was different about the island at the end, compared to the beginning of the movie?
- How are Hiccup and Toothless in the same predicament at the end of the movie?
- Why is it hard to be different from our friends and family? How have you ever been different?
- What did Hiccup do that nobody had ever done?
- What character did you most identify with?
- Where might we say, God's love was shown in this movie?
- One of the characters in the movie said: "Stop trying so hard to be something you're not." What does that mean?