

*Language Arts Permission Slip for Life is Beautiful  
by Roberto Benigni*

Due **before** March 20, 2014

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I give my son/daughter permission to view the film *Life is Beautiful* rated PG-13.

\_\_\_\_ No, I do not give my son/daughter permission to view the film *Life is Beautiful*. I understand alternate learning experiences will be provided for my child while the movie is being watched.

Guardian approval: (by typing/signing your name you testify that you are the person written and you give permission to your son or daughter to watch the movie mentioned.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Dear Parents,

In seventh grade Language Arts this year, we've been reading The Diary of Anne Frank. Movies, along with our hands-on activities such as reading, in-class discussion groups, debates, and research projects, give students a well-rounded opportunity to discover the world of history. Movies go beyond dry facts and help bring events "alive."

I am notifying you that we will be watching Life is Beautiful (La Vita E Bella), an Italian film that won three Academy awards--best actor, best foreign film, and best music. In this film, an Italian man chooses to hide the atrocities of the concentration camps from his young son by pretending that they are playing an elaborate game. His intention is to ensure that, for his son, life will always be beautiful.

Much of the movie actually takes place in Italy, developing the main character and showing the love and happiness of their family before they are sent to the concentration camp. It is rated PG-13 for Holocaust-related thematic elements but because it is often viewed through the eyes of a child, there are not graphic depictions of violence or death.

It also presents several meaningful opportunities to discuss situational, dramatic, and verbal irony, which are challenging literary techniques for the students. This movie also meets the state standards in speaking, listening, and viewing. (<http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/year-long-planning/year-plan---english-language-arts-grade-8-sample.docx?sfvrsn=16>)

It is readily available at any video store or the public library if you would like to preview it yourself.

**Please return this permission slip by March 20, 2014 or sooner.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this permission form.

Sincerely,  
Maiwena Gadegbeku

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