

diversiTINY
big change starts with the small

Learn with Us: Women's History Month



Teaching Guide for Kids:

- History
- Historical Figures/Heroes
- Book Recommendations
- Film/TV Series Recommendations



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A letter from **diversi**TINY

Dear Caregiver or Educator,

Welcome to diversiTINY - where big change starts with the small! We created this website brand for readers to teach their kids about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

diversiTINY was created and rebranded by two Digital Media and Design students from the University of Connecticut. It started as an unfinished site which was originally called Creation Station. We, the team, wanted to make this site to provide positive resources for elementary students to learn about DEI. There are several topics included, such as LGBTQ+, Black History Month, Women's History Month and more!

The main topic of this guide: ***Women's History Month.***

This guide features its history, such as how it started, important heroes, book/film recommendations, as well other resources.

We hope you and your diversiTINY friend enjoy this guide.

Sincerely,

The diversiTINY Team!



Let's grow BIG!

Learning about Women's History Month is a great opportunity to discuss about women's achievements and bravery. With this guide, you'll understand more about the celebration.

What is Women's History Month?

Women's History Month is the celebration on the achievements and history towards women. It is celebrated from March 1st - March 30th.



How did it start?

This celebration started out as a week, formed by educators in Santa Rosa, California on March 1978. They wanted to increase awareness of women's achievements in the country. They chose an early week in March because **International Women's Day** occurred on March 8th.

In 1980, US President Carter declared National Women's History Week on the week of March 8th. He believes women are never noticed for their leadership and achievements. He encouraged people to recognize the celebration.

In 1987, Congress passed a resolution by making the week into the entire month.

Currently, other countries, such as United Kingdom begin celebrating the month as well!



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Women's History Month Themes

Every March, there is a theme chosen for Women's History Month. The National Women's History Alliance (NWHHA), an organization that helped discover this celebration, choose a theme each year.

Previous themes:

2019: Visionary Women: Champions of Peace & Nonviolence

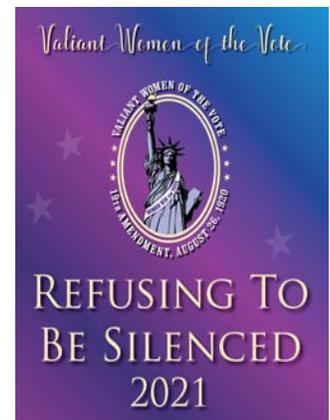
- Honors women who have led efforts to end war, violence, and injustice that made a big change to our society



National Women's History Alliance®

2020-2021: Valiant Women of the Vote

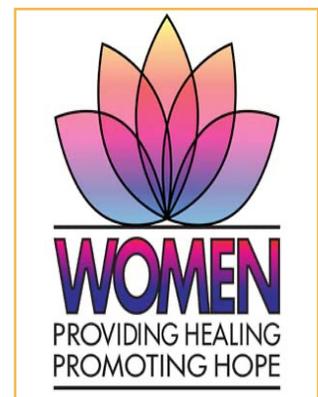
- Celebrates women who have fought for a woman's right to vote in the US, including women from the original suffrage movement that struggled to fight against taxes and voter purges to ensure voting for all



National Women's History Alliance®

2022: Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope

- A tribute to the work of caregivers and frontline workers during this continuous pandemic and recognizing women of all cultures that provided both healing and hope through history



National Women's History Alliance®

Historical Figures/Heroes

Amelia Earhart

- Born on July 24, 1897 in Atchison, KS
- American aviation pioneer and author
- First woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean
- When she was 21, she was attending an airshow and a plane almost went towards her. Instead of running, she stood there and didn't flinch
- In 1923, she earned her international pilot's license and she became one out of 16 women in the world to have one
- Amelia wanted to achieve something bigger. She and her navigator, Fred Noonan, took off from the US to fly 29,000 miles around the world. Once they were flying towards Howland Island, they were never seen again.



Greta Thunberg

- Born on January 3, 2003 in Stockholm, Sweden
- Swedish environmental activist
- When she was young, she started to learn more about climate change and was upset that she wouldn't stop talking about it
- She has Asperger Syndrome, a condition that affects how people socialize. She views it as a "superpower!"
- She felt inspired to be a part of the change and gave powerful speeches to the UK and appeared on many media platforms
- She was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize
- Thousands of students around the world ditched school on a Friday to join her climate change protest



Simone Biles

- Born on March 14, 1997 in Columbus, OH
- American gymnast
- In 2000, she and her sister were adopted by their grandparents
- At age 6, she learned about gymnastics on a school field trip. She began making the same moves as a gymnast which caught the eye of a gym instructor, asking her to enroll in gymnastics
- Biles has four gymnastics moves named after her which are *The Biles on Vault*, *The Biles*, *The Biles II*, and *The Biles on Balance Beam*
- She is currently the most awarded female gymnast with a total of 20 medals (14 gold, 3 silver, and 3 bronze)



Ruth Bader Ginsburg

- Born on March 15, 1933 in Brooklyn NY
- Former Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court
- She faced many challenges:
 - In 1956, she was 1 out of 9 women at Harvard Law School (with a total of 500 other students)
 - She and her female classmate were banned from using a library on campus
 - Had difficulty finding jobs at the time when men thought women weren't capable of work
 - Was paid less than other male professors when she started teaching
- She became the first Jewish and second woman to serve on the US Supreme Court, the highest court in the country
- Fought for equality at the court and never failed to disagree



Malala Yousafzai

- Born on July 12, 1997 in Mingora, Pakistan
- Pakistani activist for female education rights
- When she was 11, she spoke out against the Taliban, an extremist group that doesn't believe in a girl's right to education
- Survived an assassination attempt by the Taliban at age 15
- Youngest person to ever win a Nobel Peace Prize
- Recently graduated from Oxford University
- She quoted, *"I am only talking about education, women's rights and peace. I want poverty to end in tomorrow's Pakistan to go to school."*



Frida Kahlo

- Born on July 6, 1907 in Coyoacán, Mexico City, Mexico
- Mexican painter
- At age 18, she got into a bus accident which left her with two broken ribs, a broken leg, and a broken collarbone
- She gave up studying pre-med and began painting with some tools that her parents gave her, like the easel and brushes
- She has created 143 paintings, including 55 that are self-portraits. Her self-portraits often include her wounds
- Married with Mexican painter, Diego Rivera. They got divorced through an affair and got remarried later
- In 1953, Frida opened her first solo exhibition in Mexico
- After her passing, the rise of feminism in 1970s led to Frida becoming both a feminist and LGBTQ+ icon



Kamala Harris

- Born on October 20, 1964 in Oakland, CA
- Vice President of the United States, also the first female to run this position
- When she was younger, her parents were activists and brought her to civil rights demonstrations which inspired her to become a prosecutor
- In 1990, she became a prosecutor for child sexual assault cases in the Alameda County District Attorney's Office
- In 2003, she was elected District Attorney of San Francisco. With that role, she provided a program for first-time drug offenders with a chance to earn a high school degree and a job
- In 2017, she became a US Senate, representing California
- She is currently the Vice President of the US and works with President Joe Biden



Katherine Johnson

- Born on August 26, 1918 in White Sulphur Springs, WV
- American mathematician
- Began high school at age 10 & started college at age 15
- She was known NASA's "human computer" for having her calculations send astronauts to the moon and return home safely
- She broke racial barriers, like using the bathroom that was supposed to be for white women only
- In 2015, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama
- Passed away at age 101 in 2020

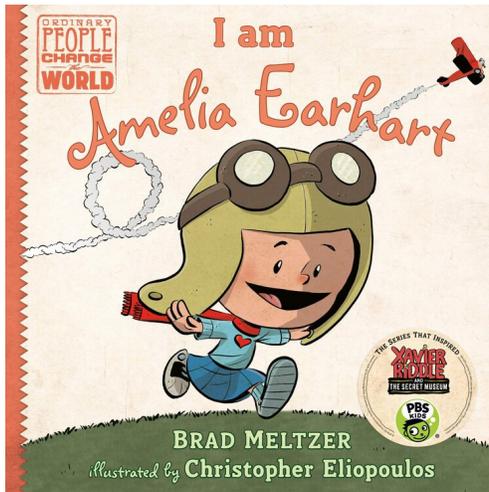


Rosalind Franklin

- Born on July 25, 1920 in Notting Hill, London, UK
- British scientist
- As a child, she was brightminded and won academic prizes
- She made an important contribution to the discovery of the DNA structure
- In 1946, she moved to Paris to gain skills in X-Ray Crystallography at a laboratory
- While working to find the structure of the DNA, she and her partner, Watson worked separately due to problems, such as sexism and distrust. She continued to use her skills to produce a perfect DNA image, *Photograph 51*
- Watson and his other partners used her photo without her consent and won the Nobel Peace Prize. Sadly, she never received the credit for the discovery. She contracted cancer and passed away at age 37



Book Recommendations



I am Amelia Earhart

By Brad Meltzer

Illustrated by Christopher Eliopoulos

Amelia Earhart dared to do what no one had ever done before and that was to be the first woman to fly a plane across the Atlantic Ocean. This biography follows her from childhood to her first flying lessons to a career as a pilot.

Ages 3 and up

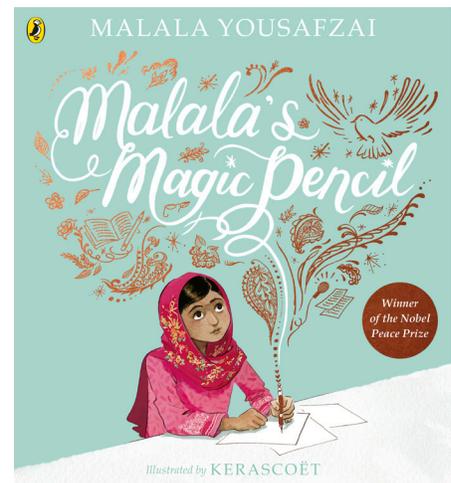
Malala's Magic Pencil

By Malala Yousafzai

Illustrated by Keroscoët

This tells the story of a young activist, Malala, who wished for a magic pencil to draw and create happiness for all. As she grew up, she realized there's a lot to wish for. She knew that she can work hard to make her wish come true, without a magic pencil

Ages 4 and up



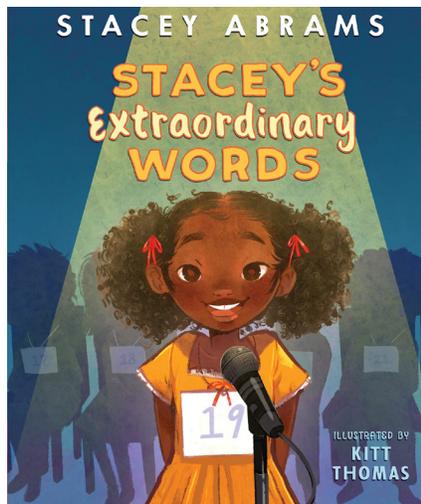
Stacey's Extraordinary Words

By Stacey Abrams

Illustrated by Kitt Thomas

Stacey is a young girl who loves words more than anything. She loves reading and sounding them out loud. When she gets chosen for the Spelling Bee, she feels nervous. What if she messes up and has to face bullies at school?

Ages 4 and up



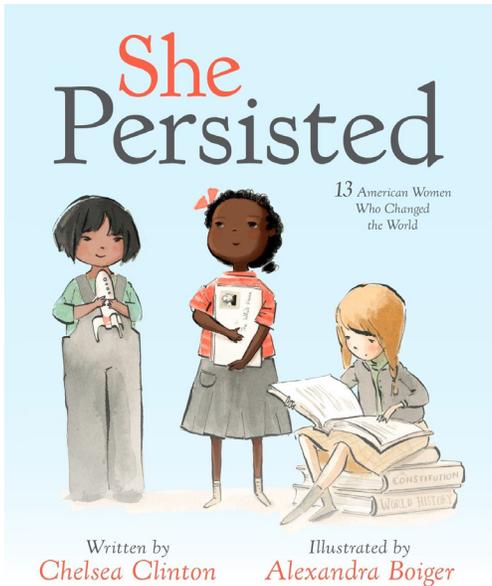
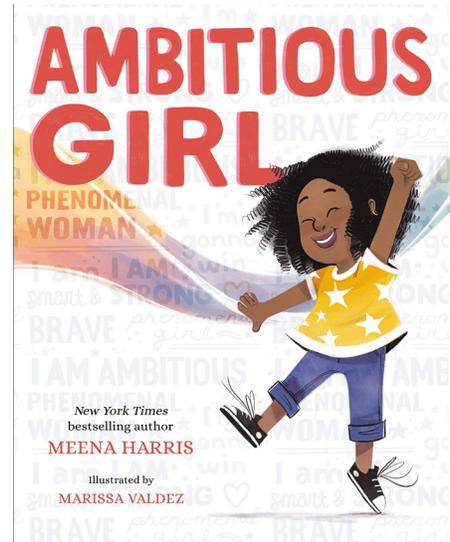
Ambitious Girl

By Meena Harris

Illustrated by Marissa Valdez

This book sends an empowering message to girls by giving a new definition of the word "ambition". It helps littles, regardless of gender, overcome their doubts and fears, and they can achieve anything.

Ages 4 and up



She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World

By Chelsea Clinton

Illustrated by Alexandra Boiger

This book introduces American women like Helen Keller and Ruby Bridges who pushed thru barriers and followed their dreams

Ages 4 and up

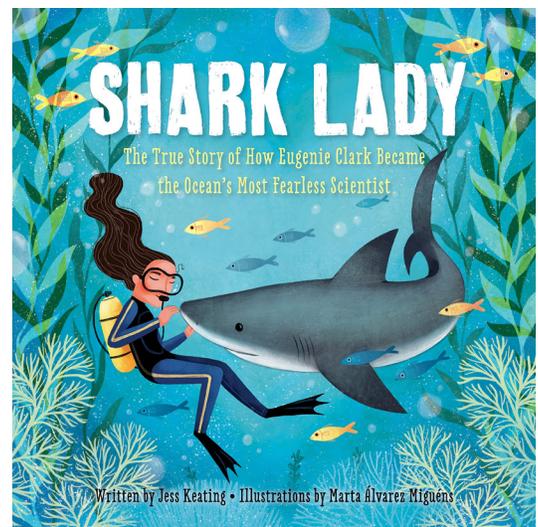
Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist

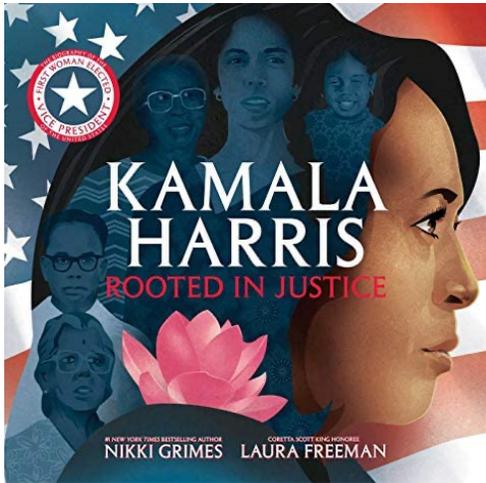
By Jess Keating

Illustrated by Marta Alvarez Miguens

When she was young, Eugenie loved sharks and wanted to learn about them. She disagreed to those who considered sharks to be mindless monsters

Ages 4 and up





Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice

By Nikki Grimes

Illustrated by Laura Freeman

When Kamala was young, she went to civil rights marches with her parents. She was asked what she wanted. She responded, "Freedom!" This story introduces her growing to Vice President today.

Ages 5 and up

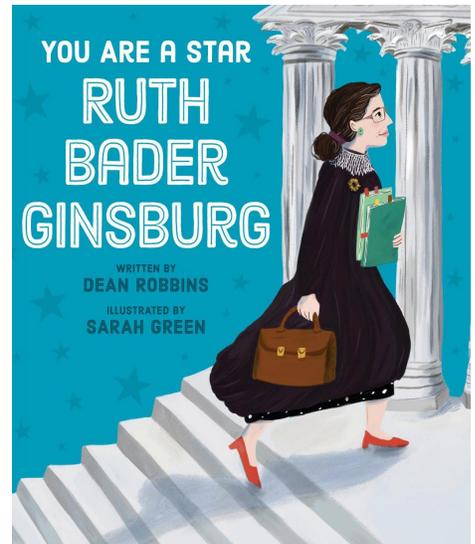
You Are a Star, Ruth Bader Ginsburg!

By Dean Robbins and

Illustrated by Sarah Green

Ruth was a fighter and determined advocate! This story introduces how she dedicated her life to equality and justice. She argued the law and helped shape it.

Ages 5 and up



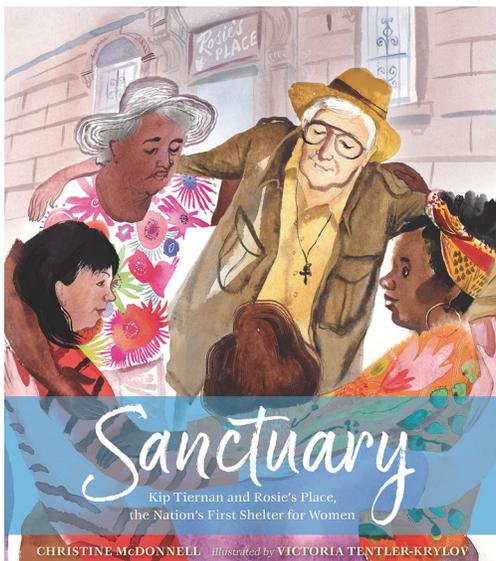
Sanctuary: Kip Tiernan and Rosie's Place, the Nation's First Shelter for Women

By Christine McDonnell

Illustrated by Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Kip grew up during the Great Depression and helped her grandmother feed the hungry and homeless who needed help. She noticed that some people who served were women dressed as men. They couldn't seek help at the men-only shelters, so she decided to open Rosie's Place, America's first shelter.

Ages 5 and up



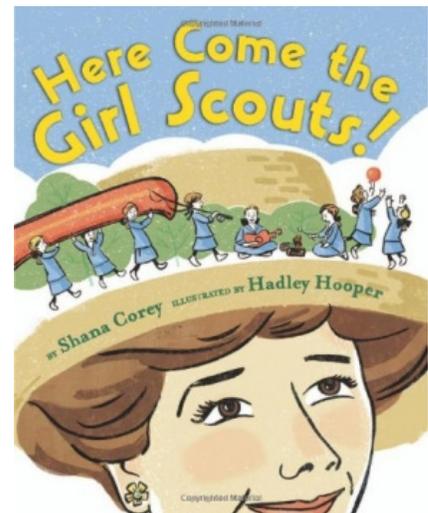
Here Come the Girl Scouts

By Shana Corey

Illustrated by Hadley Hooper

Juliette "Daisy" Gordon was born into a family of pioneers, she loved the outdoors and to make a difference in the world. She believed that girls could do anything, so she founded the Girl Scouts.

Ages 6 and up

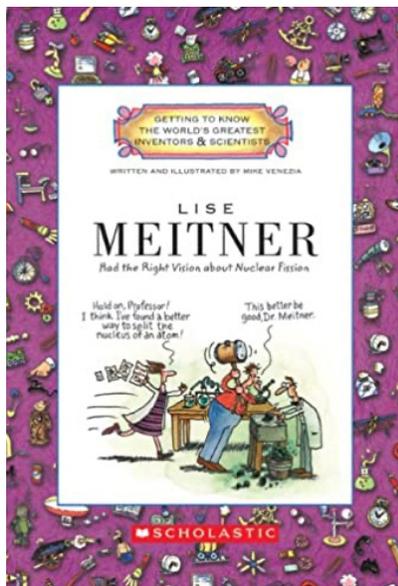


Lise Meitner: Had the Right Vision about Nuclear Fission

By Mike Venezia

Lise loved math and physics! Being born in the late 1800s, girls weren't supposed to be scientists. She didn't care, so she kept learning. Working with a chemist named Otto Hahn, he had a result that he couldn't explain. He turned to her for help. Meitner's equations proved what had happened: he had split a uranium atom and found nuclear fission.

Ages 7 and up

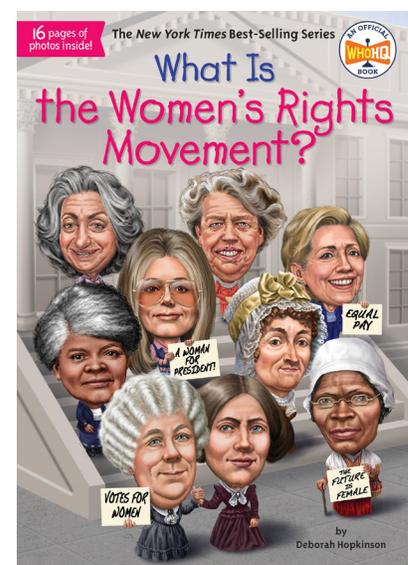


What is the Women's Rights Movement?

By Deborah Hopkinson

Women fought for equality in US History. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, women wanted the right to vote. In the 1960s, equal rights and opportunities for women were pushed even further. Recently, Women's Marches have taken place worldwide. Come and read on how far women have come!

Ages 8 and up

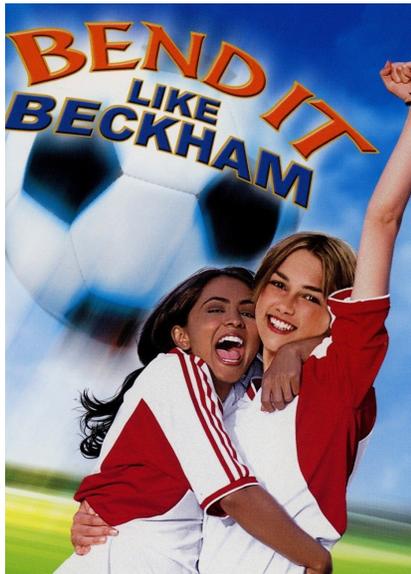


Film/Series Recommendations

Diary of a Future President

Comedy/Drama
Disney Plus Series

Elena Cañero-Reed will one day become president of the US, but for now, she's navigating her first year in the jungle that is middle school. As a sixth grader in Miami, she learns valuable lessons that will lay the foundation for her future success



Bend it like Beckham

Comedy/Sport
Directed by Gurinder Chadha
Distributed by Searchlight Pictures

Jess Bhamra, the daughter of a strict Indian couple, is not permitted to play organized soccer, even though she is 18. Another player, Julie sees Jess play then convinces her to play on her team. Jess uses excuses to hide her matches from her family and deals with her feelings for her coach, Joe.

Moxie

Drama/Music
Directed by Amy Poehler
Netflix

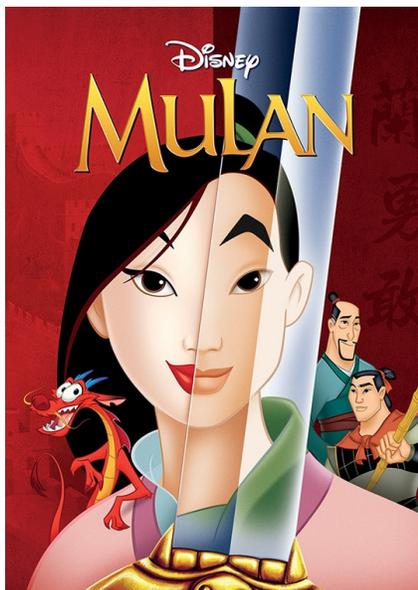
Inspired by a confident new friend and her mother's rebellious past, a shy teenager publishes an anonymous zine calling out sexism at school



Hidden Figures

Directed by Theodore Melfi
Drama/History
20th Century Studios

The true story of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson working for NASA in 1950s – doing mathematics and engineering to help the spaceflight program.



Mulan

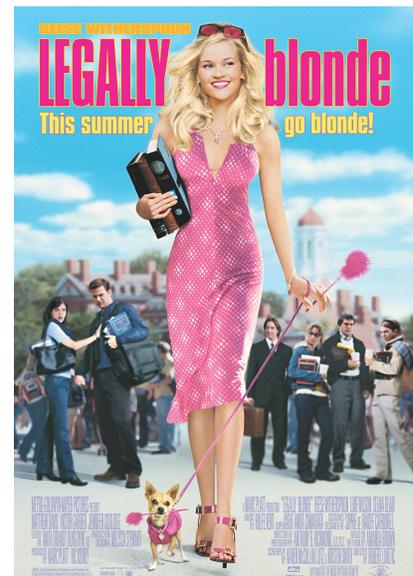
Directed by Tony Bancroft and Barry Cook
Musical/Family
Walt Disney Pictures

Fearing about her father attending the Chinese military, Mulan takes his spot, but women aren't equalified. She dresses like a man and goes off to train with fellow recruits. Accompanied by her dragon, Mushu, she uses her smarts to help fight against the Huns.

Legally Blonde

Directed by Robert Luketic
Comedy/Romance
MGM/20th Century Studios

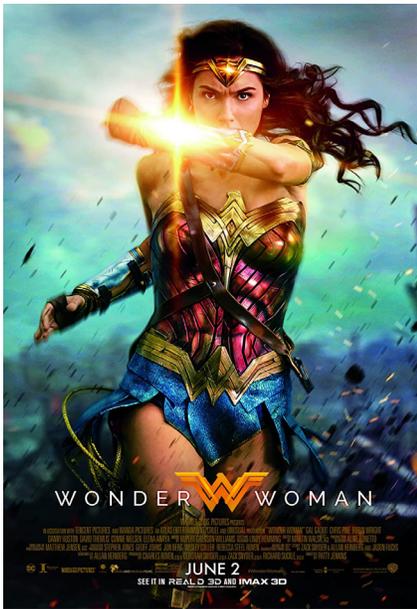
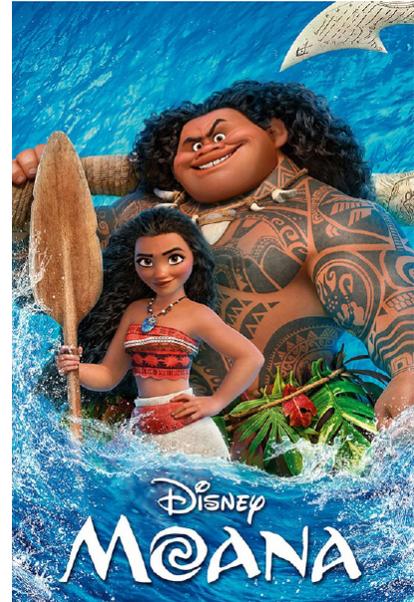
Elle Woods wants nothing more than to be Mrs. Warner Huntington III. But there is one thing stopping him from proposing: she is too blonde! Elle rallies all of her resources and gets into Harvard, determined to win him back.



Moana

Directed by Ron Clements and John Musker
Family/Musical
Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures

In Ancient Polynesia, when a terrible curse caused by the Demigod Maui reaches Moana's island, she answers the Ocean's call to seek out to set things right for her land.



Wonder Woman

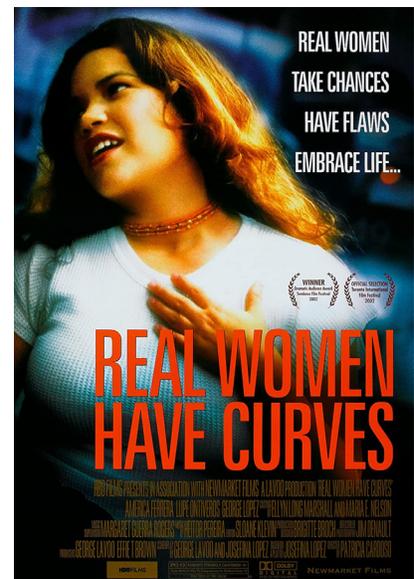
Directed by Patty Jenkins
Action/Fantasy
Warner Bros. Pictures

When a pilot crashes in the outside world, Princess Diana, an Amazonian warrior in training, leaves her home to fight a war, discovering her powers and true destiny.

Real Women Have Curves

Directed by Patricia Cardoso
Drama/Comedy
HBO Films

The coming-of-age story of a Mexican-American girl and her passage to womanhood. She struggles between her ambitions of going to college and the desires of her strict mother for her to work and get married.



Research

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**“Like what you do, and then
you’ll do your best.”**

– Katherine Johnson

Thank you for learning with us.

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