

## Riley's Remarkable Movie Screening (2024)

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024, Girlguiding members across the UK travelled to their local cinemas for **Riley's remarkable movie screening**, a private cinema screening to watch Inside Out 2!

Inside Out 2 is a sequel to a previous Pixar film, Inside Out. The original was released in July 2015 and focused on an 11-year-old girl named Riley and her emotional development whilst moving house. It featured joy, anger, sadness, disgust, and fear, all appearing as 'living beings' inside Riley's mind. In the sequel, Riley turns 13, starts puberty, and gains some new emotions alongside this. We meet envy, ennui, embarrassment, and the main emotion, anxiety. During an ice hockey game, a high school coach selects Riley and her two best friends to attend a weekend hockey camp. After some shocking information is revealed to her, as well as meeting her dream future team, Riley's anxiety puts her under a lot of pressure to do well...

This is the second movie screening I have attended with Girlguiding. The first was Matilda the Musical, which I attended as a Ranger. For those who have read my previous blog about this experience, you may remember I mentioned how *'it was a little chaotic organising all of the Rainbows and Brownies'*. Well, this time I attended as an adult Rainbow leader, so there was no avoiding the chaos! To help speed the process up, I sent out and collected consent forms a few days before. On arrival, I instantly put pink neckers on all my Rainbows to make them easily identifiable from the other 3 Rainbow units attending. Once neckers were on, we entered the cinema, collected some snacks, and sat ourselves down near the front. I sat on one end of the row and our other leader sat at the other, ready to take on the toilet runs. Once the movie had finished we let other groups exit the cinema first, which worked out great because it meant we could watch the secret end-credit scene! We then filed out (doing plenty of headcounts along the way), had a quick toilet stop, and then slowly said goodbye to all the Rainbows. It was a successful trip!

Instead of travelling to an ODEON cinema, we attended our local one in a nearby shopping centre. I found this extremely accessible. Firstly, there was lots of space to move about around the seats and at the front of the cinema. A couple of leaders in the division sat at the front and all the fidgety Rainbows were free to wander over there when needed. The movie itself also wasn't extremely loud, the perfect volume for members of our group who struggle with noise (myself included). I was able to sit back, relax, and focus on the movie, taking a break from it every little while to do a quick headcount and check we still had every Rainbow.

The movie itself... Personally, I am a massive Inside Out fan. I've always said growing up that if I ever got to pick a movie to get a sequel, I would pick Inside Out, and Pixar did not disappoint with this one! This movie also came with some emotional factors for certain audiences. Being 9 years old when Riley was a child, and then being 18 when she was a teenager makes everything more realistic and relatable for me (and many others my age). Being 13 years old is definitely an extremely awkward stage in life, where everything is changing and you are still figuring things out. Yes, it's awkward and embarrassing and anxiety-inducing. Yes, you envy others and get jealous. Yes, these misguided emotions cause you to make mistakes and act in certain ways even though that isn't how you'd normally act. Becoming a teenager is the beginning of a transition to adulthood and finding yourself, which I feel this movie was great at displaying! Some scenes in the movie also hit hard, like the anxiety attack and Joy's speech about losing happiness... That made me tear up a bit, which I quickly had to shake off because embarrassment would press my control panel if my Rainbows saw me crying! It was also interesting to see the Rainbow's reactions to the movie. Being even younger than the first movie's release, they have never had these experiences before and therefore didn't relate like older audiences. Whilst I was busy enjoying the movie because it was both a good sequel to one of my favourite movies and also relatable, the Rainbows were enjoying it due to the jokes and fun characters. The way the mind was represented in this movie was brilliant also! Including things like a 'sar-chasm' and emotions literally 'spilling the tea' was so creative. The way they portrayed the imagination as an animation studio, with brain cells drawing everything was one of my favourite bits!

Overall, both me and the Rainbows enjoyed this movie screening, and we can't wait for the next one! Thank you so much to Girlguiding for giving us this opportunity, to the leaders in my division for organising the screening for us, and our local cinema for once again welcoming our sea of red and yellow and blue!