

## ADHD/Learning Disability: Happy Feet (Movie)

Est. Time: 2 Hours Viewing/45 Minutes Class

### Objective

Develop a better understanding of individuals with disabilities and how they are sometimes viewed by members of their families and communities.

### Synopsis

Unlike his fellow penguins, Mumble has no Heartsong, “[T]he voice you hear inside...who you truly are,” and the song that will one day help him to attract a mate. Instead, Mumble’s personality is reflected through his tap dancing, which he calls his “happy feet.” Though ostracized by the other penguins, Mumble sets off on a dangerous journey to save the colony from starvation.

### Activity

View the following movie and be prepared to discuss the questions below in class.

Title: *Happy Feet* (2006)

Studio: Warner Bros.

#### For Your Information

Mumble’s traits in the movie are sometimes compared to those of children with learning disabilities (LD) or attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). To learn more about each of these disabilities, visit:

#### ADHD

- [Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder \(AD/HD\)](#) (Center for Parent Information & Resources)
- [What Is ADHD?](#) (Understood)

#### LD

- [Learning Disabilities \(LD\)](#) (Center for Parent Information and Resources)
- [What Are Learning Disabilities?](#) (Understood)

### Questions/Discussion Topics

1. Compare at least two of Mumble’s traits in the movie to those of children with LD or ADHD.
2. Describe how Mumble was treated by his father and his peers. How does this compare to the treatment often received by students who have ADHD or LD?
3. As a future teacher or school counselor, how might you use this movie as a means to foster tolerance and understanding of individual differences among your students?