

Teaching package – Bend it like Beckham

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Target group: Brugklas HAVO/VWO / 1st year MBO

Materials needed: book, DVD

⚽ Lesson 1 ⚽

Warm-up

Ask students what their dreams are; their dreams/goals for the future, what they want to achieve. Have them get together in groups of 2 and ask each other. They can write it down on WORKSHEET 1. Then pick a couple of groups and ask them to tell the class about their dreams and goals. Ask them if they find it important to follow their dreams.

Pre-reading

Introduce the book. Tell them that it is about a girl who has a dream, but her parents do not support her in following her dream. Have the students take a look at the cover of the book, and the title. Can they guess what the girl's dream is?

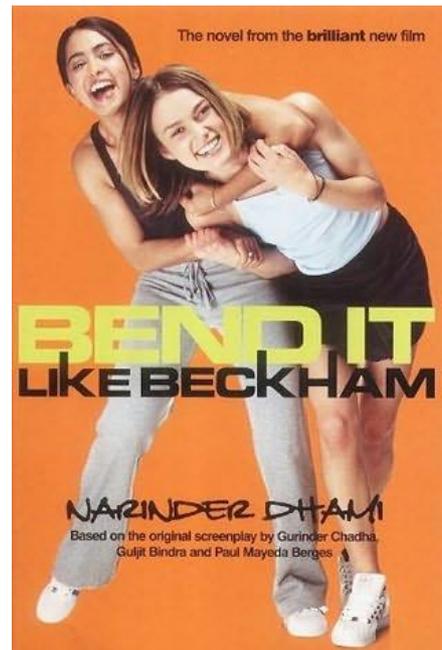
Watch the first 3½ minutes of the movie. It will give information about the setting, the characters and it reveals what the dream is.

After watching, the students will be able to answer the following questions and get an idea of what the book is about.

1. Where does the story take place?
2. Who is the main character? / who is the story about?
3. What is her great love/passion?
4. What do you think stands in the way of her dream?

Read the first chapter together in class.

Students go home and continue reading the book → chapters 2+3



Lesson 2

By now, the students should know all the characters in the book

In-class assignment:

Use WORKSHEET 2. Have students put the keywords in the right box next to the character they belong to.

Then split the class up into 7 groups. Each group will write a description of one of the characters, using the keywords. The students' character descriptions can be used during the following classes while dealing with the book.

Read chapters 4 + 5 in class / chapter 6 at home

Lesson 3

Read chapters 7 + 8 **or** watch the movie for this part of the book, in class.

In these chapters, it becomes clear that Jess has a crush on Joe, and when she secretly goes to Germany to play a match with her team, she ends up (almost) kissing Joe. Her friend and teammate Jules who has a crush on Joe herself, walks in on Jess and Joe, and gets very angry.

Homework assignment:

Jess and Jules are not on speaking terms –let them correspond with each other! Have the students write a letter pretending to be Jess, (while expressing her feelings), and write a letter back pretending to be Jules. The goal has to be for the girls to make up! The letters have to be a minimum of 200 words. Another option would be to split the class into 2 groups, and have one group write Jess' letter, and the other group Jules' letter.

Students read chapter 9 at home

Lesson 4

Choose a couple of students to read their letters. Now, let's watch the movie and see if the letters have worked! 😊

Chapters 10+11+12 in class (show the movie!)

In-class assignment:

The students have watched the part of the movie in which Pinky gets married (= chapter 12 of the book)

Have a group discussion in class about the differences in Indian/British culture –differences in expectations of women in Dutch society, how are they similar/different from the expectations Jess' parents have of their daughter? Do we have a similar situation in Holland with minority groups? Start by asking the students what they know about Indian culture, and ask them to share their experiences with cultural differences.

Homework assignment:

Now there is only one chapter left! How do the students think the story will end? How do they hope it will end? Have them write a 200-word ending to the book. Those who already know the book/movie write an alternative ending.

Ask them to read the last chapter of the book at home. Was it what they expected?

🌐 Lesson 5 🌐

Post reading

In-class assignment:

Let the students listen to Mel C's song Independence Day. This song is on the soundtrack of Bend It Like Beckham. Let the students answer the questions on WORKSHEET 3.

Ask students what they thought of the book!!

<p><u>Feedback form</u></p> <p><i>Did you enjoy reading this book? 1 is not at all, 10 is very much indeed.</i></p> <p>1. _____ 10.</p> <p><i>Was this an easy book to read?</i></p> <p>1. _____ 10.</p> <p><i>Would you recommend this book to a friend? 1 is definitely not, 10 is certainly.</i></p> <p>1. _____ 10.</p> <p><i>Explain why:</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

Possible post-reading homework assignments:

- Think of 3 alternative titles for the book and explain why you chose these
- Design an advertizing campaign to sell the book, this may contain a poster , advertisement etc.
- If you met the author of this book, what questions would you ask her? Think of at least 5 questions.

Worksheet 2

1. Look at the list of characters. Put the keywords in the right box next to the character they belong to. Key words may be used more than once. Try to write sentences instead of just keywords.

Indian	British	determined	
man	woman	boy	girl
parents of	friend of	daughter of	confident
footballer	trainer	teammate	
sister of	Irish	tomboy	sincere
engaged (to be married)	girly	ambitious	
traditional	married couple	understanding	
torn between two cultures	disappointed		

2. Write a description of one of the characters (your teacher will tell you which character), using the keywords. Add a quote by this character, or something funny/memorable they did.

Who is who in Bend it like Beckham?

Jess



Jules



Joe



Tony



Pinky



Mr & Mrs Bharmra



Mr & Mrs Paxton



Bend It Like Beckham Soundtrack

Melanie C - Independence Day Lyrics

I know I make mistakes, I will have to live and learn
Sometimes you play with fire and sometimes you get burned
I have my dream to live, following that star
It doesn't matter how long it takes, it doesn't matter how far

No time for make believing, and it's too late to turn back now

I've been dreaming about it
I can't live without it
I've got to find my own way
I'm not changing my mind now
Or looking behind now
This is my Independence Day
My Independence Day

I know it'll take some time, but I won't give up the fight
Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose, but that's alright, oh yeah
I've got to spread my wings and learn how to fly
'Cause this feeling drives me on, it's something I cannot deny

No time to make excuses, 'cause it's too late to turn back now

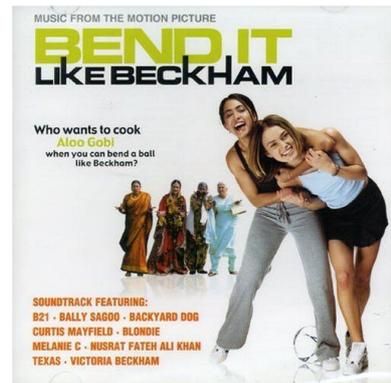
(Chorus)

No matter what comes my way, I'm gonna live for today
This is my, this is my Independence Day

(Chorus)

Wishing on that same bright star, I shouldn't wish my life away
Wish my life away
They say it's a small small world
They say it's a small small small small world

Independence Day
Independence Day



Worksheet 3

Before listening to the song:

1. Independence Day is celebrated in America. Do you know what Independence Day is? And what does the word "independence" mean? (you may use the Internet/a dictionary).



Listen to the song!

2. If you had to choose one of the characters of Bend It Like Beckham - who do you think this song is about? Why?
3. What is the song about?
4. Is this a good song to use in the movie and with the book? If so, why do you think this is so.
5. Now try to find a song that expresses the feelings of one of the other characters or would be a good theme song for the film.

Worksheet 1

What is your dream? What is your goal? What do you want to achieve?

