

# Activity Idea

## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH VIRTUAL FILM FEST:

### ***Shoplifters* (R) Viewer's Guide**

Rated R for adult situations, some sexual content, and nudity.

Recommended for mature audiences, ages 17+.

*A poverty-stricken Japanese family makes ends meet through petty crime. After they take in an abandoned little girl, their lives are upended, and their family secrets revealed.*

Stream the film here: <https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/12303564>

#### MOVIE RESOURCES:

- IndieWire: Kore-eda Hirokazu's Masterpiece *Shoplifters* Is the Culmination of His Career <https://bit.ly/2X1EpvV>
- Slant Interview: Hirokazu Kore-eda on the Invisible People of *Shoplifters* <https://bit.ly/2TGfewR>
- LA Times: Hirokazu Kore-eda carries on through success and sadness with the release of his Palme d'Or winner, *Shoplifters* <https://lat.ms/2A8Qs1p>
- Video: *Shoplifters*: Family Dynamics in Poverty <https://bit.ly/2TGr0XW>

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What makes a family a family? What are your thoughts on the concept of a chosen family?
- Consider the morality presented in the film. Are Osamu and Nobuyo good people? Good parents?
- How does poverty motivate the Shibatas' actions?
- Society seems to give up on many people on the margins. Do you think Osamu had ulterior motives when he helped the abused little girl who was outside on a cold night? Or was he just helping someone in need?

**WATCH-A-LIKES:**

Other Japanese films about makeshift families

- *Tokyo Godfathers* on Hoopla <https://bit.ly/2TFnHjQ>
- *Sweet Bean* on Kanopy <https://bit.ly/2LZayhh>

Other Hirokazu Kore-eda Films

- *After the Storm* on Kanopy <https://bit.ly/2LZJaih>
- *The Third Murder* on Kanopy <https://bit.ly/3c5KbB0>

**SNACK RECOMMENDATION:**

**Japanese Fruit Sandwich**

Yields: 4 sandwiches

**Ingredients**

- 1 kiwifruit
- 1 mango
- 14 strawberries
- ½ pint heavy cream
- 3 ½ tablespoons sweetened condensed milk
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 8 slices Japanese sandwich bread (*Shokupan*) or any milk bread



Photo credit: [bohnenhase, Flickr CC](#)

**Instructions**

1. Slice and peel the kiwifruit into 3/4-inch thick rounds.
2. Peel the mango, trim off the tapered edges, and cut the mango into 3/4-inch thick batons.
3. Remove the tops from the strawberries. If they are very large, slice them in half.
4. Add the heavy cream, sweetened condensed milk, and vanilla extract to a cold bowl and whip the cream until firm peaks form.
5. Spread an even layer of whipped cream on 4 slices of bread.
6. Top the cream with the fruit. Be sure to arrange them along where you will cut the sandwich so that the fruit shows up evenly.
7. Fill in the gaps between the fruit with more cream, and then top the fruit with an even layer of cream.
8. Cover the sandwiches with the remaining four slices of bread, and then remove the crusts.
9. Slice the sandwiches into quarters and serve immediately.