The Wolfpack

US | 2015 | Cert. 15 | 86 mins
Director: Crystal Moselle

Raised and home-schooled by their over-protective parents, the six Angulo brothers live in close quarters in the family’s small New York apartment. With virtually no access to the outside world, their life experience is largely gleaned from the films they watch together. This documentary provides access to lives led in seclusion, shining a light on the extraordinary creativity and resilience of the self-proclaimed ‘Wolfpack’.

You will like this film if you liked
Me and Earl and the Dying Girl (2015, 12)

Talk about it
Why do you think this documentary is called The Wolfpack? Are there any clues? What cultural items could this title be referencing?

Make a list of everything you expect from a typical documentary. Compare and contrast with the group. Are there common answers? Do you envisage this film will comprise of these features?

Discussion points
• How would you describe the mood and tone of The Wolfpack?
• What are your impressions of both parents after viewing the film? What are the ethical implications of the brothers’ upbringing?
• What films did the Angulo brothers make their own versions of? Do the films have anything in common? Can you tell anything about their lives from the type of films they watched?
• How do you think the filmmakers acquired such intimate access to film the family? What, if anything, does this tell us about the documentary production process? How does it compare and contrast from fiction filmmaking?

Write about it
Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs’ website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it’s similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities
Research the real story of the Angulo family – what are the differences between the true story and the documentary? Why do you think there are differences? How does this affect your assessment of the documentary?