

Welcome to the
11th Annual Rochester International Children's Film Festival
Viewers' Guide

This is the 11th year we have honored Rochester AEYC's Month of the Young Child with the work of artistic filmmakers! This year, the festival collection includes eight films for children, which creatively illustrate life and imagination. One of the films was made with Rochester children involved in the creative process! There are films from several countries! Many of the films have received significant awards.

In our effort to link quality work in literature and film, the festival will distribute, free to groups viewing the films, the delightful classic *The Mitten*, by Jan Brett, whose film adaptation is one of this year's selection.

The Viewers' Guide is designed to enhance the learning and enjoyment of young viewers. The total program runs about 52 minutes.

Please use the DVD in a way that works best for your group, such as showing one or two films at a time or at one sitting. Before viewing each film, pause briefly to introduce the film, using the vocabulary words and discussion questions (found in the guide).

Once the film is finished, encourage discussion with these or similar questions noted below for each film:

What did you notice?

How did you feel during the film?

What did the character feel?

Was there a problem the character tried to solve?

How did the character solve their problem?

What did you learn?

Below you will find book suggestions related to each film as well as activity and movement suggestions to enhance the children's viewing experience.

We welcome your creativity and look forward to hearing about your group's experience. To that end, please complete the questionnaire and return it with the DVD in a timely manner.

Thank you for sharing the films with children and families!!

COWS

US, Animated, 3 minutes

Directed by: Sandra Boynton

Summary:

Sit back and let these lovely bovines entertain you, as they perform the hit song "Cows" from the Grammy-nominated album "Philadelphia Chickens!"

Vocabulary:

synchronized

Related Books:

Moo, Baa, Lalala, Sandra Boynton

Barnyard Dance, Sandra Boynton

Cows, Robin Nelson

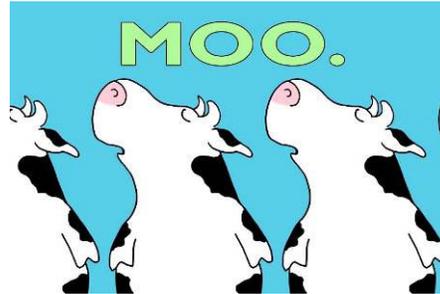
Discussion questions:

What makes these cows so funny?

Are cows in the Boynton books like real cows? What is the same? What is different?

Moving with the Movies:

Invite children to dance in a "Rockettes"-like chorus line like the cows do in the film!



RAINY

Croatia, Animation, no dialogue, 6 minutes

Director: Ivana Guljasevic Kuman

Summary:

The rainbow man takes us on a journey through the clouds, bringing us on a "behind the scenes" of rainy weather!

Vocabulary:

cumulonimbus (thunder cloud)

imagination

Related Books:

Raindrop, Plop!, Wendy Cheyette Lewison

Rain, Manya Stojic

Discussion questions:

How are storms really made? How about rainbows?

What colors are in a rainbow?

Activities:

On a bright sunny day, observe clouds - talk about what they look like.

Provide choice of art materials for children to create a cloud picture. Materials could include: construction paper, cotton balls, paint, crayons, special shiny paper and more!



PERFECT HOUSEGUEST

US, Animated, no dialogue, 2 minutes

Director: Ru Kuwahata

Summary:

We should all be so lucky to have this tidy fellow set things aright each night!

Vocabulary:

Antiseptic, tidy

Related Books:

Mouse Paint, Ellen Stoll Walsh

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, Laura Joffe Numeroff

Discussion Questions:

What made the mouse such a good guest?

Do you act like him at your house or at your friend's houses?

Moving with the Movies:

Pretend you are like the good guest mouse at clean-up time!



THE LEARNING TREE and... Meet the Animators!

US, Animated, 4 minutes

Animated by: Participants from the School #8 YMCA Afterschool Program: Samari Bones, Sha'mere Freeman, Nateya Pappin, Sincere Rivera, Kelie Rodriguez, Ja'Kobe Thompson, Keon Martin, Tanyleeiona Hampton-Williams

Directed by: Dave Puls, Animatus Studios

Hosted by the Rochester International Children's Film Festival

Summary:

Children enjoy the process of learning, as they grow in knowledge!

Vocabulary:

knowledge, education

Related Books:

If You Take a Mouse to School, Laura Numeroff

Bailey, Harry Bliss

Activities:

Attach a large picture of a tree to the bulletin board.

Ask the children one thing they learned that day and attach it to the tree. Repeat on following days.

Moving to the Movies:

Sing the song "The Learning Tree," and move to the music!



THE MITTEN

France/Belgium, Animated, no dialogue, 9 minutes

Director: Clementine Robach

Summary:

In the winter, a girl leaves her mitten outside in the snow. It becomes quite the cozy new home for an ever-growing number of woodland creatures.

Vocabulary:

knit, woolen

Related Books:

The Mitten, Jan Brett

Activities:

You can find many ideas to match this are available at:

<http://www.janbrett.com/index.html>

An activity where children can put the animals in the mitten at:

www.janbrett.com/put_the_animals_in_the_mitten.htm

Moving with the Movies:

Try to make yourself as small as a mitten, then stretch to accommodate all the animals!



BUNNY NEW GIRL

Australia, Live Action, 6 minutes

Director: Natalie van den Dungen

Summary:

Annabelle's manages her fears for the first day at her new school by masking her identity. That is, until the class bully reveals her secret. Can one gentle gesture of solidarity turn the crowd around?

Vocabulary:

Bully, whiskers

Related Books:

Swimmy Leo Lionni

Ant Bully, John Nickle

Discussion question:

Why was the little girl wearing a mask?

How did her classmate stop the little girl from being bullied?

Activities:

Have the children make a bunny mask



ONE TWO TREE

France/Switzerland, Animated, no dialogue, 7 minutes

Director: Yulia Aronova

Summary:

A backpacker's pair of snazzy red boots inspires one tree to go on a series of adventures, along with several new companions.

Vocabulary: forest, evergreen, deciduous

Related Books:

The Lorax, Dr. Seuss

The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein

Activities:

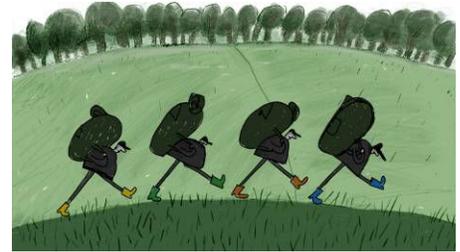
Draw all sorts of trees found outside the classroom. Attach red paper boots to each.

On a nature walk, collect parts of trees: leaves, small branches, small pieces or bark.

Examine the collection with a magnifying glass.

Collect the children's words and observations.

Ask the children to work together, using the collected items to make a "tree collage"



MO CAN TIE A BOW

Germany, Live Action, 15 minutes

Summary:

11-year-old Mo has created an incredible family business making bowties, and learns it's a 24/7 commitment!

Vocabulary: entrepreneur, business, commitment

Related Books:

My Rows and Piles of Coins, Tololwa M. Mollel

Activities:

Ask the children if they have worn a tie. Where do people wear ties? Why do people wear ties? Make a template for paper ties to wear.

Each child designs their own tie. Add a variety of ties to the dress-up area.



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