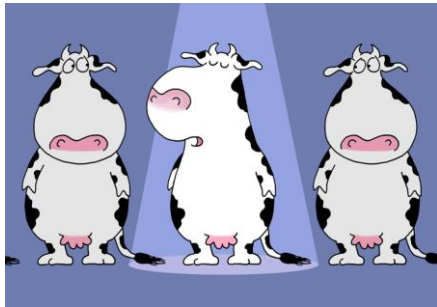


# Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rochester International Children's Film Festival!

This is the **11<sup>th</sup>** year we have honored the **Month of the Young Child** with the work of artistic filmmakers! This Festival collection includes eight films for children which creatively illustrate life and imagination. One of the films has even been made with children involved in the creative process! There are films from seven different countries, including one made in Rochester! 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 selections.

The Viewers' Guide is designed to enhance the learning and enjoyment of young viewers. The total program runs about 52 minutes. Use the DVD in a way that works best for your group – one or two films at a time or at one sitting with moments for introductions and discussion. Before viewing each film, pause briefly to introduce it using the vocabulary words and discussion questions as starters. Once the film is over, encourage discussion. What did the viewers and children notice? What was fun? What was thought-provoking? Book suggestions offer follow-up ideas; activity and movement suggestions add opportunities to learn and grow. We welcome your creativity and look forward to hearing about your group's experience! **Thank you!**



## COWS

US, Animated, 3 minutes

Directed by: Sandra Boynton

**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 and Barnyard Dance* by Sandra Boynton
- *Cows* by 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

**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!* by Wendy Cheyette Lewison
- *Rain* by 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 to be used by children to design 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

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

Vocabulary: Antiseptic, tidy

### Related Books:

- *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by 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

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

Vocabulary: knowledge, education

### Related Books:

- If You Take a Mouse to School* by Laura Numeroff
- Bailey* by Harry Bliss

### Activities:

Attach a large picture of a tree to the bulletin board. Summarize, with the children, one thing learned each day and attach it to the tree.

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

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* by Jan Brett

### Activities:

- Many ideas to match this are available at: <http://www.janbrett.com/index.html>
- Put the animals in the mitten at: [www.janbrett.com/put\\_the\\_animals\\_in\\_the\\_mitten.htm](http://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

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* by Leo Lionni

*Ant Bully* by John Nickle

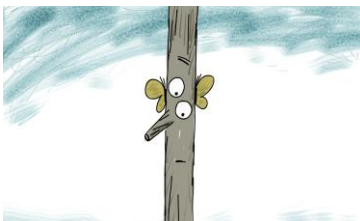
### Discussion question:

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

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

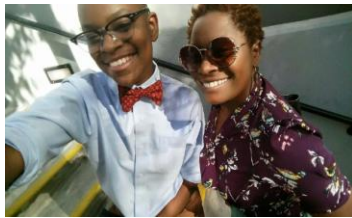
**Vocabulary:** forest, evergreen, deciduous

**Related Books:**

- *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss
- *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein

**Activities:**

- Draw all sorts of trees. 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. Have the children work together, using the collected items to make a "tree collage"



## **MO CAN TIE A BOW**

Germany, Live Action, 15 minutes

**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* by Tololwa M. Mollel

**Activities:**

- Ask if anyone has worn a tie. Where do people wear ties? Why do people wear ties?
- Make a template for paper ties to wear - each child designs own tie.
- Add a variety of ties to the dress-up area



*This project is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by Livingston Arts, a member supported organization.*

*The **Rochester International Children's Film Festival** is facilitated by the Rochester Association for the Education of Young Children (RAEYC), in collaboration with the following sponsors and collaborators: Spindler Family Foundation, Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library, Monroe County Library System, Rochester City School District/Office of Early Childhood, Spiritus Christi Church, 292-BABY, Animatus Studios, The Community Foundation, Ruth Cowing/Film Programmer, DeBergerac Productions, Genesee Valley Parent Magazine, Family Childcare Satellites of Greater Rochester and Rochester Childfirst Network, Gilbert Spirit Fund/First Unitarian Church.*