2021 MILWAUKEE FILM FESTIVAL
May 6-20

Rated K: For Kids
Family Activity Guide

Associated Bank PRESENTS
# Rated K: For Kids Family Activity Guide

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Jackie & Oopjen
Netherlands / 2020 / 90 min / Dutch, English, French with English subtitles
When Oopjen steps out of a Rembrandt painting to find her sister, 12-year-old Jackie is determined to help this conspicuously dressed new arrival, taking her in as a houseguest without her museum curator-mom’s knowledge. Will these BFF’s be able to navigate their tweens and teens in 21st Century Amsterdam and keep Oopjen’s identity secret long enough to reunite Oopjen and her sister? Boisterous, stylish, and sweet, Jackie & Oopjen will delight the entire family. AGES 8+
DIR Annemarie van de Mond
PROD Chantal van der Horst, Annemieke van Vliet
SCR Myranda Jongeling

Kids Shorts: Size Medium
Total running time: 64 min
These live-action and animated shorts closely follow young people (and one fantastical being) who demonstrate bravery, curiosity, and joy in the face of inner struggles and outer adversities. In turns triumphant, exhilarating, and pensive, these stories reveal a depth and strength in children too often taken for granted. AGES 6+
Colza Victor Chagniot, Camille Broutin, Matthieu Daures, Victoria De Millo Gregory, Maxime Jouiniot, Jade Khoo
The Last Supper Michael Risley
Louis’s Shoes Marion Philippe, Kayu Leung, Théo Jamin, Jean-Géraud Blanc
Matilda and the Spare Head Ignas Meilūnas
Ramon Natalia Bernal
Talia Cara Bamford
Umbrellas José Prato

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Umbrellas José Prato

Kids Shorts: Size Large
Total running time: 76 min
This collection of shorts spotlights protagonists actively shaping their futures. From a mother and daughter coming to terms in a post-apocalyptic landscape, to a girl given an extra head to keep up her grades, to a stunning father-daughter collab, to a woman transformed by a promise to care for a bag of seeds, these shorts highlight the courage it takes to be yourself. AGES 10+
Ice Breakers Sandi Rankaduwa
Joychild Aurora Brachman
Kapaemahau Hinaleimoana, Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson
Matilda and the Spare Head Ignas Meilūnas
Mother Didn’t Know (Mor visste ingenting) Anita Killi
Otanimm/Onnimm (Daughter/Father) Terrance Houle, Neko Wong-Houle
The Promise Chi Thai
Sol Andy Alvarez
For the Grown-Ups: Family Guide Introduction

Discussion questions are a simple tool to explore films with the children in your world. Talking about films develops critical media literacy, exercising empathy, creativity, and critical thinking as viewers. Below are some perennial questions you can apply to any film in our Rated K: For Kids program.

What happens in each film? What important events occur? What is the resolution? Who are the important characters? Who are the “good” characters or “bad” characters?

These questions help children start to talk about plot, story, narrative structure, character development, and conflict. For example, how would children define Kiko in “Kiko and the Animals”? Was Kiko’s behavior good or bad? Why? How and why did Kiko’s treatment of animals change?

What is each film about? What themes, morals, or messages come up in these films?

These questions help children start thinking about a film’s themes, messages, and morals – seeing them as different from the story itself. In other words, a film can be about a main character who’s bullied for being different and later finding a friend, but also about the nerves that appear when going to a new school. Themes from the shorts might include natural habitats, animal and human behavior, animals acting like humans, creative problem solving, friendship, bullying, being courageous, and growing and changing as people (often for the better) as we learn and gain awareness.

Do different people see different messages in each film? What differences do they see? Why?

Discussing how children read a film differently from others helps them understand that films often express more than one message, and these messages speak differently to different viewers. This discussion is helpful when implementing other activities.

Some of the short films you saw had similar stories. Sometimes when films start to repeat stories, they form a collection of films with similarities called a genre. What other films have children seen, or books have they read, that have a similar story? What are the similarities and differences?

These questions help children think about genre and identify similarities and differences between films. This awareness creates a basis for further media study.

Have you ever been to a movie that you thought was so long you couldn’t stay in your seat? Did it affect whether or not you liked the movie? These films (in Kids Shorts: Size S/M/L) are all considered short films. Did you like that the films were short? Why or why not? How do you think the length of the film affects the story? Were there pieces of the story that made you wonder, like holes that needed to be filled?

Opinions about films are important and help us develop our own personal interest. These responses can be used to help with other activities.

We hope these questions help lead to rich discussions with your children.

Happy viewing!
My Favorite Short Film: The Best of the Best!

You’ll need:

- *Kids Shorts: Size Small and/or Medium*
- Discussion questions and instructions (below)
- “My Favorite Short Film: The Best of the Best!” activity sheet

Discussion questions for adults to guide with:

- Discuss personal reactions to each film (what they liked, didn’t like, comprehension)
- Discuss animation styles (CGI, hand-drawn, mixed media) and live-action
- Review each short film briefly
- Discuss by emotion: “Which films made you feel happy? Which made you feel sad?
- Were any surprising? Scary? Humorous?
- What was your favorite film and why?

Find your favorite film in the Milwaukee Film Festival program guide. Then, write about why that film speaks to you. Why was it your favorite? Why was it so memorable? Write about specific aspects of the film, like:

- Characters
- Setting
- Plot
- Events
- Animation Style
- Tone
- Beginning/Ending

Complete an illustration for your writing to show a favorite scene, a character, or something else memorable about a particular film.

ADAPTED FROM OUR EDUCATION SCREENINGS CURRICULUM PACKET FOR GRADES 1-3, WRITTEN BY ALIZA WERNER
My Favorite Short Film: The Best of The Best!

Name:

ILLUSTRATION

My Favorite Short Film’s Title:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Piece By Piece For Peace: Working Together To Build A Better World For Each Other

You’ll need:

- Earth outline activity sheet (Image courtesy of Clipart Library)
- Scissors
- Coloring and writing materials
- “Cracks in the Pavement,” “Kiri & Lou - Air,” “The Boy and the Owl,” “Talia” (Kids Shorts: Size Small and Medium); “Sol,” “The Promise” (Kids Shorts: Size Large)

Discussion questions for adults to guide with:

- Many films in our Rated K: For Kids program explore nature and the environment. Do you remember which ones?
- What lessons do you think these films were trying to share with us about the environment?
- What are ways we can we take care of ourselves? (Examples: Eat healthy food, brush teeth, bathe, get exercise)
- What are ways we can take care of each other? (Examples: Make friends, help people when they need it, listen)
- What are ways we can take care of the planet? (Examples: Plant trees, use alternative energy, skip the plastic, recycle)
- What are ways we can make our planet safe and secure for everyone?

Think of ONE way of caring that means a lot to you. It can be something we just talked about or a new idea you want to use. Then,

1. Find the illustration of Earth on the next page. Cut out Earth on the outer border.
2. On the opposite blank side, write and illustrate your idea (ex: “We should take care of the Earth by recycling and reducing how many resources we use and waste.”)
3. On the Earth outline side, color in the planet either with traditional greens and blues, or what you think Earth looks like and feels like when it is well cared for.
4. Share your work! You can hang it up on a bulletin board, hole punch the top and tie string or yarn… and whatever else you imagine!

ADAPTED FROM OUR 2019 EDUCATION SCREENINGS CURRICULUM PACKET FOR GRADES 1-3, WRITTEN BY ALIZA WERNER
Name:
Recipes: Watermelon Pizza, Ladybug Sandwiches, and Caterpillar Sandwiches

Inspired by: Kids Shorts: Size Small

The wizards in “a film by m + m” bring some delicious road snacks on their journey, including watermelon and sandwiches. Taking inspiration from this magical rolling duo and the insects in “Kiko and the Animals” and “Tulip,” try your hands at watermelon pizza, a ladybug sandwich, or a caterpillar sandwich!

Watermelon pizza

Ingredients:
• Whole watermelon
• Yogurt
• Mixed fruit (try blueberries, strawberries, kiwi fruit and banana)

Instructions:
1. Slice the center from a whole watermelon. Make the slice thick enough so it doesn’t fall apart once the toppings are placed on top – about 1 inch thick.
2. Using yogurt, cover the top of the slice of watermelon and then place this into the freezer to cool and set.
3. Top your watermelon pizza with whatever fruit they like. Try blueberries, sliced strawberries, kiwi, and banana!

Ladybug sandwich

Ingredients:
• Bread
• Cream cheese
• Jam
• Blueberries

Instructions:
1. Cut bread into circles; two large circles for the body and one small circle for the head.
2. Spread one large circle with cream cheese.
3. Spread one large circle with jam and cut in half to make wings. Place atop cream cheese circle.
4. Add blueberries on top of jam to make spots.
5. Add smaller circle for the head.
6. Add blueberries to head to make eyes.

Caterpillar sandwich

Ingredients:
• Cheese
• Avocado
• Cherry tomato
• Cream cheese
• Chives
• Melon slices

Instructions:
1. Make two cheese and avocado sandwiches and cut four circles from each.
2. Arrange in caterpillar shape.
3. Add a cherry tomato for the head.
4. On the head, affix two pieces of chive with cream cheese to make eyes.
5. Cut holes out of melon slices and serve with the caterpillar.

ADAPTED FROM FAMILYGARDENLIFE.COM
ADAPTED FROM TASTE.COM.AU
ADAPTED FROM TASTE.COM.AU
Craft Project: Leaf Rubbings

In the short film “Leaf” (directed by Aliona Baranova, Belarus & Czech Republic, Kids Shorts: Size Small), a larger-than-life sailor receives an autumn leaf from a small girl. The leaf reminds him of home, and inspires him to embark on a brand-new journey.

A simple leaf can hold memories of a beautiful autumn walk, the first day of school, a gift from a friend, or a special tree you love. Leaf rubbings are a fun way to cherish those memories while adding your own artistry. Here’s how!

You’ll need:

- Crayons (at least one you don’t mind removing the wrapper from)
- Plain white paper
- Leaves (try to find some already on the ground). Simpler shapes will be easier for a rubbing. Take a walk outside and gather a few more than you think you’ll need. A single leaf can last 2-4 detailed rubbings.

Let’s get started!

1. Choose the color for the leaf rubbing.
2. Peel the wrapper off the crayon you’ll be using. (Helpful hint: Shorter crayons are especially easy to control.)
3. Place leaf under the paper, vein side up. You want to run the crayon over the bumpiest side of the leaf.
4. Lay the crayon on its side and rub gently back and forth over the leaf. Work slowly, and play close attention to the edges of the leaves.
5. Move the leaf, or choose a different one. Find a new spot and continue steps 1-4.
6. Have fun with layering and overlapping, using different colors, and other ideas that may arise while you create your rubbing!
7. You can add watercolor paint, washable marker (light colors work best), or colored pencils to make your leaf rubbing even more colorful. You can enhance the leaves themselves or create a vibrant background.

While making the leaf rubbings, you could discuss:

What objects or places in nature have special memories for you, or remind you of home? Remind you of particular family members? Remind you of a friend?

A neat etymological note:

We might have strong memory associations with certain objects, songs, places, scents, foods, and so on, because they left a powerful impression on us. The word “impression” means, “mark produced by pressure,” but also, “image produced in the mind or emotions by something external,” from Old French and Latin words from the 13th and 14th Centuries. The words “print” and “imprint” also come from this word, “impression.” When you make a leaf rubbing, you’re making an impression of the leaf on paper by adding pressure with your crayon, but you’re also letting the leaf make an impression on your memory by taking the time to really pay attention to it.

ADAPTED FROM KITCHENTABLECLASSROOM.COM
Kiko and the Animals: What Does Nature Teach Us?

In the short film “Kiko and the Animals” directed by Yawen Zheng (France, Kids Shorts: Size Small), animals and insects reveal many abilities and lessons from the natural world to their human companion Kiko, proving that every being has something important to share.

List as many as you can find in the film below. You can use another piece of paper if you need:

**Animal:**

**What they can teach us:**

---

**Animal:**

**What they can teach us:**

---

You can find other examples out in nature and make your own list. To start you off, here are some lessons a goose might teach Kiko:

*Have you seen geese fly in a “V”? When the goose in the lead gets tired, another goose takes over the position. If a goose gets sick or is wounded, a couple of other geese may drop out of formation to help and protect them. When they lose their mating partner or their eggs, geese also express a mourning behavior.*

**What does this tell us about geese (example, are they caring? Loyal?), and how can we learn from them? Write your answer below:**

**Animal:**

**What they can teach us:**

---

**Now go outside and find a place where you’ll see animals, insects, marine life, or plant life. Find an animal, plant, fish, insect, or other being in nature that has an inspiring ability or lesson humans can learn from. Draw and write about it below.**

**Name of animal, insect, or plant:**

**What they can teach us:**

---
“Running Up That Hill,” directed by Jo Roy (United States, Kids Shorts: Size Small) is inspired by a song written by British musician Kate Bush. This music video was hand-colored by over two thousand children!

When you watch “Running Up That Hill,” notice:

- How does the song make you feel?
- What do you think “Running Up That Hill” is about? Why?
- What media, or forms and tools of expression, does Jo Roy use to tell the song’s story? (Examples could include: shapes, colors, drawing materials, movement)

The plot of a film includes a character, problem and solution. Think about:

- Who is the **main character** of the film?
- What is the **problem** shown in the film?
- What **solution** (how the problem is solved) is shown in the film?

Now pick a song you love and listen to it a few times. Imagine the music video you would make for that song. What would be its plot? What media would you use (Dance? Stop-motion animation with clay? Pencil drawing?) Sketch a storyboard illustrating the **main character, problem, and solution**.

You can find some examples of storyboards and storyboard templates at Creately: [https://creately.com/blog/examples/storyboard-templates-creately/](https://creately.com/blog/examples/storyboard-templates-creately/) (The storyboard template below will also do fine.)

Now you’re ready to turn your storyboard into a film!
An Ode to Air

In the “Kiri and Lou” episode Air (dir. Harry Sinclair, New Zealand & Canada, Kids Shorts: Size Small), Kiri sings a hauntingly beautiful ode to air. An ode is a poem or song written to praise and celebrate a person, thing, time, or event. Odes go all the way back to ancient Greece (that’s over 2,700 years ago!), where they were performed in public accompanied by music and dance, often to celebrate athletic victories. Now, as we celebrate other victories, we need new odes from you! Like the ode to air in “Kiri and Lou,” you might want to select a subject that is all around us but is often taken for granted, like sunlight, water, clouds, or dirt, just to name a few. You can put humor in your ode, or celebration, or melancholy. The tone is up to you.

To get started, try this structure by Danielle Pafunda:

Ode to:________________________________________________________________________

One word describing the subject:________________________________________________________________________

One word describing the subject:________________________________________________________________________

Fact about the subject:________________________________________________________________________

Wild card line (imagine your subject speaking or acting or speak to your subject):________________________________________________________________________

Guiding notes:

• Your poem could be in third person, as though you’re describing the subject to a friend. You might also like to write in the first person and address the subject as “you.” For instance, if the ode is to your favorite houseplant, you can write something like, “Your leaves always follow the light…”

• What is it about the subject that brings you awe and wonder? What's special about it? List everything you can think of and put it in your ode!

Write your ode. Then read or sing it aloud for an audience!

Examples: Read “5 Amazing Odes By Kids” - https://witshouston.org/notebook/5-amazing-odes-by-kids/
Welcoming New Neighbors:
Filling Bellies and Hearts, One Bite at a Time

You’ll Need:
- Welcoming New Neighbors activity sheet
- Drawing materials (crayons, markers, colored pencils)

The short film, “The Last Supper” (dir. Michael Risley, Albania, in Kids Shorts: Size Medium) and feature film “Young Warriors” (dir. Bárbara Cariry, Brazil) inspired us to reprise this activity from our “In My Neighborhood” Education Screenings curriculum. Whether the festivities celebrate the New Year in Berat, Albania, or the Festa do Pau-da-Bandeira de Santo Antonio (Feast of the Flagpole of Saint Anthony) in June in Barbalha, Brazil, the young protagonists (main characters) of these films are preparing for festivities, while also exploring new ways to relate to their cultural traditions through food. For many of us, food is an expression of our culture. It is also a special way to welcome others to our city, to our neighborhood, to our classroom, to our home, or to our culture. Think about Louis in “Louis’s Shoes” (dir. Marion Philippe, Kayu Leung, Théo Jamin, and Jean-Géraud Blanc, France, in Kids Shorts: Size Medium)—what could you offer Louis to extend a welcoming hand? In this activity, you will reflect on the power you have to make others feel welcome.

Watch Kids Shorts: Size Medium and “Young Warriors.” Then gather with friends or family reflect on some of these discussion questions:

- What kinds of food did you see in the films? How did food play a role in the celebrations you saw?
- Sometimes new people move into our neighborhood, or we may be the people who move to a new neighborhood. What does it feel like to be new? How did they start feeling like part of the neighborhood? Did other neighbors welcome them?
- What are some ways we can welcome new neighbors to our neighborhood?

One way people welcome others to a community is by sharing food: making cookies, pouring a glass of lemonade, etc. Imagine someone has just moved into your neighborhood and you can welcome them with a special meal. What would you make and serve to your guests to welcome them? Hint: Think about foods that represent cultural heritage or personal traditions.

Consider food for special occasions, like holidays and birthdays, or favorite foods that you love to eat with your family. Examples:

- Special occasion food: birthday cake, Thanksgiving turkey
- Cultural dish: Jambalaya, kim chee, jerk chicken, tamales
- Religious inspired food: matzah, Friday fish fry
- Family tradition foods: Grandma’s chicken soup, dad’s BBQ ribs

On your “Welcoming New Neighbors” activity sheet, use any drawing materials available to fill up a plate with your welcoming meal. Label the foods. Is there a story behind some of the foods?

Share those stories with a friend or family member!
Welcoming New Neighbors: Filling Bellies and Hearts, One Bite At A Time

Name:
Watched a Bunch of Films You Loved? Time to Vote!

Children and adults alike are invited to cast a vote for your ratings for the Allan H. (Bud) and Suzanne L. Selig Audience Awards. Tell us your “best of the best” picks from the festival by May 19!

Here’s how to do it:

**PASSHOLDERS**

1. On your computer, tablet, or smartphone, log in to watch.mkefilm.org with the same email/password you used to set up your pass
2. Select any film or shorts program you’ve watched, and click on the “VOTE NOW: Selig Audience Awards” button (see red arrow in the image above)

**TICKET HOLDERS**

1. On your computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to watch.mkefilm.org and enter the ticket code you used to watch the film or shorts program under “Ticket Holders”
2. Click on the “VOTE NOW: Selig Audience Awards” button (see red arrow in the image above)
3. Fill out the form and submit your rating!

Each person in your household can submit their own rating, but only one vote per person please! If you’ve watched a shorts program like *Kids Shorts: Size Small, Medium, and Large*, you’ll be able to rate each short film on its own merits.