



WILD & SCENIC[®] FILM FESTIVAL

where activism gets inspired

3rd-5th Grade School Program Film Descriptions

Total Run Time: 50 min.



The Detectorists

Set against the serene backdrop of rural Wales, this short documentary follows wildlife ecologist Lee Jenkins and his two German Pointers—Neo and pup-in-training Cariad—as they search for elusive otters. Using scent detection to guide camera trap placement, the team gathers crucial evidence to protect these endangered animals. Shot from a dog’s-eye view with immersive cinematography, the film offers a poetic glimpse into conservation through the nose and eyes of a canine detective.

6 min.



Risky Routes

Risky Routes follows a common toad on its arduous yearly journey back to the waters of birth to reproduce. Seen from the toads’ perspective, it explores how navigating a man-made world turns ordinary features into real obstacles, revealing how biodiversity loss can occur right at our doorstep—and how simple, thoughtful actions can make a difference.

6 min.

Student activity included to accompany this film



Little Stories Beg EChOes: Beads of Hope

In New Orleans, a young Black girl experiences a flood that threatens the life of a family member. But through her Mardi Gras suit, she learns that nothing can drown out the memory of her ancestors and the legacy she wears as a crown.

5 min.

Student activity included to accompany this film



A Little Story About Forever

This short film about forever unfolds from the POVs of father (max) and son (kip) as they attempt to write a book about what forever means. The father feels overwhelmed by all of the threats to forever, like forever chemicals, and calls an unlikely hero – Mark Ruffalo – to ask for help seeing the big picture.

10 min.

Student activity included to accompany this film



The Bees and the Birds

California’s native bees are facing an uncertain future. The Bees and the Birds explores this unfolding environmental crisis through the lens of a vibrant community garden that has become a safe haven for native bees, birds, and other wildlife. Through macro cinematography and stories from local gardeners and scientists, we see how small-scale efforts can have large impacts for local biodiversity.

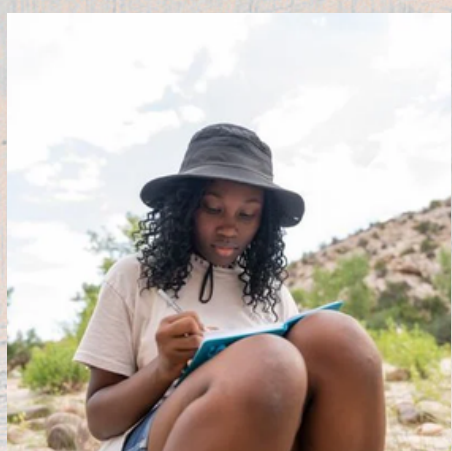
12 min.



MIA

Ten-year-old Mia Kretzer is determined to land her biggest skating trick — again. For Mia, practice isn’t just routine; it’s progress in motion.

6 min.



Beyond Beliefs

A young woman from Cleveland, Ohio earns a scholarship to attend a 4-day river trip through the wild Green River's Gates of Lodore Canyon. The only catch ... she doesn't know how to swim and is terrified of water. Join Danielle and her peers on this wonderful journey, and bear witness to her inspiring first-hand account of what it took to go beyond her beliefs about water, and how that expanded the vision for her future.

5 min.