



# WILD & SCENIC<sup>®</sup> FILM FESTIVAL

where activism gets inspired

## 2026 6th-8th Grade Curriculum Overview

**Discussion Questions:** Discussion questions for each film are included to engage the class in conversations around the themes present in the films.

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**Lesson 1:** Group Challenge Course

**Accompanying Film:** *Beyond Beliefs*

**Standard Alignment:** CA Transformative Social and Emotional Learning (T-SEL)  
Competencies: T-SEL.4.E.3., T-SEL.4.G.3.

**Lesson Overview:** The film *Beyond Beliefs* follows a girl who has been afraid of water her whole life. She goes on a rafting trip and ends up getting in the water for the first time. This film emphasizes the importance and power of challenging beliefs that might be limiting us. The activity involves team building that encourages students to work together to complete a series of challenges.

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**Lesson 2:** Pollination Partners

**Accompanying Film:** *Thank You, Bees*

**Standard Alignment:** NGSS-MS-LS1-5, NGSS-MS-LS1-4

**Lesson Overview:** The film *Thank You, Bees* follows a Kenyan man on his journey to better understand cultural relationships with bees. This activity focuses on pollination, and different plant and pollinator adaptations. Students will match up plants with the animals most likely to pollinate them, learn about unusual pollinators, and finally be given a chance to design their own unique plant and pollinator duo.

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**Lesson 3:** Trophic Cascade

**Accompanying Film:** *Red Wolf in Time Out*

**Standard Alignment:** NGSS-MS-LS2-2, NGSS-MS-LS2-1, NGSS-MS-LS2-4

**Lesson Overview:** The film *Red Wolf in Time Out* discusses the history of why red wolves were hunted and how their removal has led to problems in their ecosystem. Students will learn about trophic cascade, create their own case study, and create an artistic depiction of how an ecosystem would look with and without red wolves.