



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

where activism gets inspired

## 2026 TK-2nd 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:** The World Up Close

**Accompanying Film:** *The Leap Beneath*

**Standard Alignment:** NGSS-2-PS1-1

**Lesson Overview:** The film *The Leap Beneath* dives into the hidden world beneath the forest floor. It follows a springtail's clumsy quest for food through a bustling ecosystem where mites, beetles, and other tiny creatures keep the forest alive. In this activity, students will explore the world up close by using magnifying glasses on a nature walk and in stations around the classroom, completing an observations page.

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**Lesson 2:** Where's My Water?

**Accompanying Film:** *Mû*

**Standard Alignment:** NGSS-K-ESS2-2, K-ESS3-3, K2-ETS1-1

**Lesson Overview:** In the film *Mû*, a girl goes with an otter on a hard journey to the top of a mountain to collect snow in hopes of bringing a water offering to dry land. This activity focuses on water as a limited resource, and ways we can help conserve it. Students will explore ways water is used and wasted. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will have a discussion after the activity about ways that they can save water.

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**Lesson 3:** Meet Your Local Feathered Friends

**Accompanying Film:** *Chirp Talkers*

**Standard Alignment:** NGSS-K-LS1-1, NGSS-1-LS3-1

**Lesson Overview:** In the film *Chirp Talker*, a girl makes an AI bird translator to better understand the birds that come to her balcony. This activity will use the Cornell Lab of Ornithology "All About Birds" website to showcase four birds commonly found across the United States. Students will learn about what birds need to survive, and work as a class to investigate some of their local feathered friends. They will each make their own feathered friend, mimicking attributes of one of the birds they learned about.