

MVFF

EDUCATION

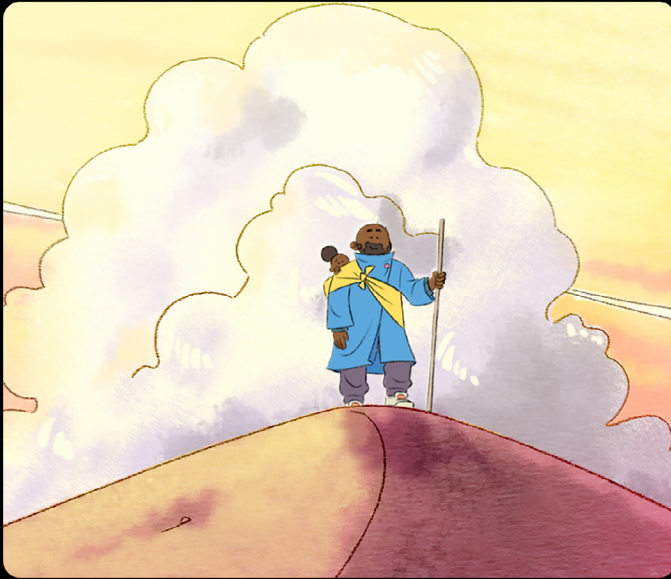
GROW

EXPLORE

CONNECT

DISCOVER

October 6-16



SHORTS:

Animation For All



CURRICULUM GUIDE
GRADES: 1-5

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Dear educators,

Thank you for attending the 45th Annual Mill Valley Film Festival's screening of *Animation For All*, a collection of animated shorts. We are excited to return in our 2022 fall season with a combination of both in-person screenings for local schools and online screenings for those of you joining us from afar.

This year, our film selections for school screenings continue to focus on increasingly relevant issues of global empathy and active citizenship, and we believe these short films will be powerful and engaging text to use in your classroom. These curricular materials are designed to get students to engage deeply with film by the common-core aligned skills of developing an evidence-based interpretation of a text.

The discussion questions on the next page offer a variety of ideas for fostering small-group or whole-class dialogue. Individual handouts for before, during, and after viewing are provided as stand-alone activities to be used individually or in sequence. We have also included a handout that provides some context for the film festival experience, which may help to introduce your in-class screening.

Thank you so much for your tireless work!

Sincerely,

The CAFILM Education Team

ABOUT CAFILM

The nonprofit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through year-round programming at the independent Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, presentation of the acclaimed Mill Valley Film Festival and DocLands Documentary Film Festival, as well as cultivation of the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CAFILM Education programs.

The California Film Institute and Mill Valley Film Festival are located in Marin County, California, on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary homelands of the Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo peoples. This includes the Southern Pomo and Graton Rancheria Tribes. These tribes were removed or displaced from their lands. We recognize this history and the harm to present-day Coast Miwok, Pomo, and Wappo peoples and to their ancestors. The California Film Institute commits to moving forward from a place of authenticity and working with present-day tribes to elevate their stories, history, and present-day legacy through film.

Follow the Mill Valley Film Festival on social media

 @millvalleyfilmfest  @MillValleyFilmFestival
 @mvfilmfest  californiainstitute #MVFF45

STANDARDS

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1

Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3

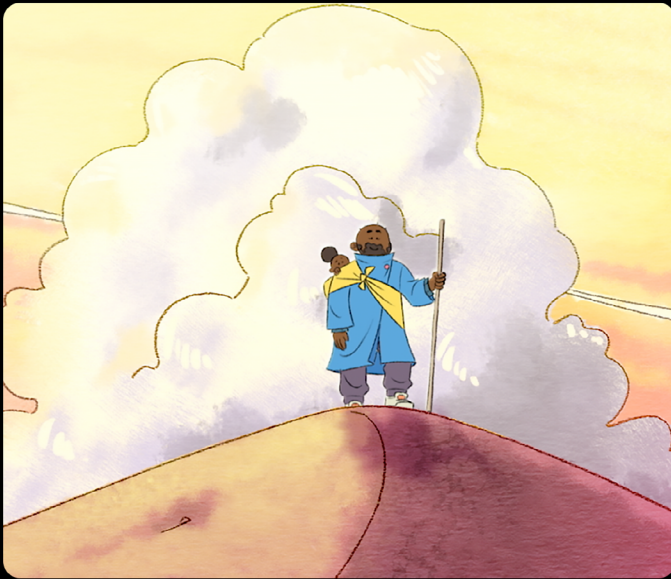
Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.1

Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which film had the best story? What was the story?
2. Which film was the most emotional? What emotions did you feel during that film?
3. Which film felt the most realistic? What made it realistic?
4. Which story was the most inspirational?
5. Which film most reminded you of a story from your own life or another story you know?
6. Consider other films you've seen. What made these films unique or important? What are some connections between these films and other films?



SHORTS:

Animation For All



ABOUT THE FILMS

Puppies, babies, and bears, oh my! We've once again scoured the globe for the best collection of animated short films for audiences of every age to enjoy. Funny characters and curious kids mingle with gentle lessons about kindness to animals, why not to be afraid of being afraid, how dandelions are born, and so much more!

BEFORE VIEWING: PREDICTION QUESTIONS

Directions:

You are about to watch a series of 11 short animated films. Read the films' titles in the box, then answer the following questions:

Kayak	Patouille and the Parachute Seeds
Andy: A Dog's Tale	Salt
Bench	Winter Sleep *online only*
Kiko and the Animals	Wolf and Cub
My Name Is Fear	Step by Step
The Most Boring Granny in the World	

1. Based on the titles, which film are you most curious about? What do you think might happen in this story?

2. Which film title reminds you of something that happened to you in your own life? Describe that experience.



3. Look at this image from one of the films. What do you think might be the story in this film?

DURING VIEWING: NOTEATCHER

Directions:

During this program of shorts, you will see 11 films. Use this notecatcher to keep track of the films so you don't forget them. After each film, write a one sentence summary of the storyline in your own words. Then, use six words to record your review (or opinion) of the film.

Title	Director(s)	One Sentence Summary	Six Word Review
Kayak	Solène Bosseboeuf, Flore Dechornat, Tiphaine Klein, Auguste Lefort & Antoine Rossi		
Andy: A Dog's Tale	James Wheless		
Bench	Rich Webber		

DURING VIEWING: NOTEATCHER

Title	Director(s)	One Sentence Summary	Six Word Review
Kiko and the Animals	Yawen Zheng		
My Name Is Fear	Eliza Plocieniak-Alvarez		
The Most Boring Granny in the Whole World	Damaris Zielke		
Patouille and the Parachute Seeds	Inès Bernard-Espina, Mélody BouliSSIÈRE & Clémentine Campos		

DURING VIEWING: NOTEATCHER

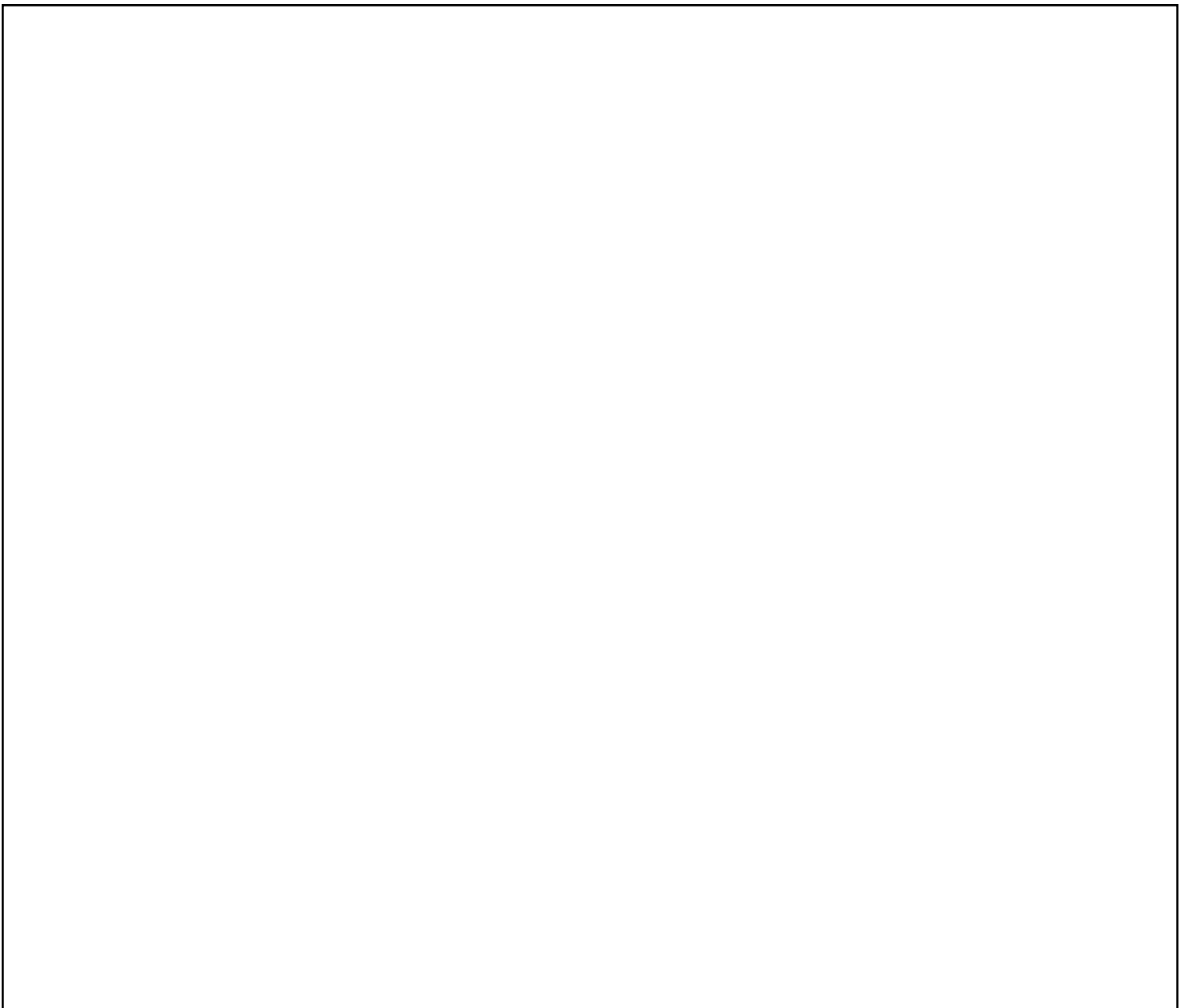
Title	Director(s)	One Sentence Summary	Six Word Review
Salt	Alicia Scott Nichols		
Winter Sleep *online only*	Katerina Karhankova & Alexandra Majova		
Wolf and Cub	Marvin Bynoe		
Step by Step	Fanny Paoli, Anabelle David, Emma Gach, Claire Robert, Julie Valentin & Theodore Janvier		

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Directions: Respond to the following prompts.

1. Of all the films you watched in this program, which was your personal favorite? Why?

2. In the space below, draw a picture of a scene from that film. Include as many details of the setting and main character as you can recall. Label the details in your drawing.



ABOUT FILM FESTIVALS



An opening night screening at the Mill Valley Film Festival.

©Tommy Lau

What is a film festival?

A film festival is an event in which multiple movies are presented over the course of one or several days. Depending on the size of the festival, all of the screenings may take place in a single theater or may involve multiple venues throughout a city. Festivals also include special events like panel discussions with filmmakers and actors. Typically, filmmakers submit their works to a festival, where a team of curators selects the best entries for inclusion in the festival. For independent and international filmmakers, festivals are often an important way to raise awareness of a film, generate an audience, and/or attract a studio to purchase the rights to distribute a film in a wider release. Acceptance into a major festival can add significant prestige to a film, with some festival awards (such as the Cannes Film Festival's Palme d'Or) considered among the highest honors a film can receive.

There are many film festivals through-

out the world, with some focusing on particular themes, such as highlighting LGBTQ films/filmmakers, specific cultural groups, or particular genres. While some of the more famous festivals may be in distant locations, there are hundreds of small festivals spread through every corner of the world and, increasingly, festivals are using streaming access to make it easier for the public to view their curated programs.

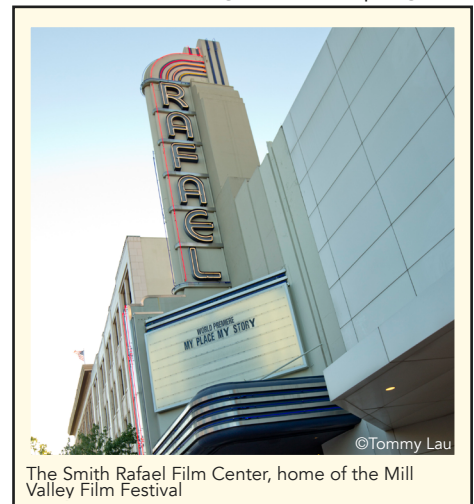
History of the Mill Valley Film Festival

Since founding the Mill Valley Film Festival in 1977, Executive Director Mark Fishkin has shepherded this once small, three-day showcase into an eleven-day, internationally acclaimed cinema event presenting a wide variety of new films from around the world in an engaged, community setting.

The festival has an impressive track record of launching new films and new filmmakers, and has earned a reputation as a filmmakers' festival

by celebrating the best in American independent and foreign films, alongside high-profile and prestigious award contenders. The relaxed and non-competitive atmosphere surrounding MVFF, gives filmmakers and audiences alike the opportunity to share their work and experiences in a collaborative and convivial setting.

Each year the festival welcomes more than 200 filmmakers, representing more than 50 countries. Screening sections include world cinema, US cinema, documentaries, family films, and shorts programs. Annual festival initiatives include Active Cinema, a forum for films that aim to engage audiences and transform ideas into action; Mind the Gap, a platform for inclusion and equity; and ¡Viva el Cine!, a showcase of Latin American and Spanish-language films. Festival guests also enjoy an exciting selection of Tributes, Spotlights and Galas throughout the program.



The Smith Rafael Film Center, home of the Mill Valley Film Festival

©Tommy Lau

Questions to Consider:

1. What is the purpose of a film festival? What are the benefits for filmmakers? For the audience? For the community?
2. How might the films at a festival differ from the films available to watch at your local movie theater?
3. What qualities do you think festival curators might look for in a film? If you are watching a festival film with a class/school group, what aspects of the film do you think made it appealing to the curators?

Get Involved!

Many film festivals, including the Mill Valley Film Festival, have student film categories. If you are a filmmaker, explore FilmFreeway (www.filmfreeway.com) for a database of worldwide film festivals where you can submit your film. The call for entries for MVFF opens in late February and closes in June. Youth filmmakers do not have to pay an entry fee. MVFF also offers many opportunities for volunteering. Find out more at <https://www.cafilm.org/volunteer/>.