

2007 Notable Children's Videos

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***Because Your Daddy Loves You.* Nutmeg. 877-262-3690. Ages 3-7.**

A quiet and cozy iconographic celebration of a father's tireless love for his little girl. Includes a conversation with the author and narrator, Andrew Clements, and a study guide.

***Carrie's War.* WGBH Boston. 617-300-2000. Ages 8 and up.**

Based on Nina Bawden's children's novel of the same name, this live-action story set during World War II follows fourteen-year-old Carrie and her younger brother Nick's journey into Wales to escape the horrors of war. Filled with magical adventures and colorful, quirky characters, this story will delight fans of "The Secret Garden" and other timeless tales.

***Choking Game.* Human Relations Media. 800-431-2050. Ages 11-14.**

This game can kill you. Live action, reenactments, and interviews with specialists create a spellbinding and thought-provoking viewing. Includes viewer guides.

***Diary of a Spider.* Weston Woods. 1-800-243-5020. Ages 3-8.**

Doreen Cronin's classic book has been captured through animated arachnids. Oh what a wondrous web we weave, when first we open our minds to believe.

***Dinosaur Bones.* Weston Woods. Ages 3-8.**

Using bright colors, music, and comedy, this animated version of Bob Barner's book introduces children to basic facts about dinosaurs. Narrated by Jerry Dixon with music and vocals by Raul Malo.

***The Emperor's Egg.* Nutmeg. Ages 4-8.**

Jane Chapman's acrylic art and a lively, well-paced narration will transport viewers to the Antarctic to slip, slide, and smile with a close-knit community of Emperor penguins in this iconographic video version of Martin Jenkins' award-winning, non-fiction picture book.

***The Girl Who Hated Books.* National Film Board of Canada. 800-542-2164. Ages 7-12.**

Faced with a roomful of open books and their characters running rampant in her room, Meena discovers the magical world of reading. Adapted from the book by Manjusha Pawagi, this lively animation brings reading to life.

***The Great Robot Race.* WGBH Boston. Ages 11-14.**

In this NOVA presentation, narrated by John Lithgow, witness a \$2 million prize competition to create a driverless robotic vehicle. Live footage, combined with computer graphics and interviews, follows the competitors from their preparation to the competition.

***Hondo and Fabian.* Weston Woods. Ages 3-7.**

Follow two very different days of plump pets Hondo, the dog and Fabian, the cat in this delightful iconographic tale written and illustrated by Peter McCarty. Humorous adventures and a bit of mischief abound with narration by Jeff Brooks and music by Joel Goodman and David Bramfitt.

***James Marshall's Cinderella.* Weston Woods. Ages 3-8.**

In James Marshall's Cinderella retold by Barbara Karlin, creative animation and the humorous narration of Stephanie J. Block bring new life to a classic tale. The creative transition from scene to scene is as subtle as the stepsisters' faces morphing into the prince's two dogs. Includes a study guide.

***Knuffle Bunny.* Weston Woods. Ages 2-7.**

Trixie is helping daddy on laundry day, when something goes terribly wrong. This animated version of Mo Willems' innovative picture book is a little masterpiece in its own right. A hip, jazzy musical score follows Trixie and her father in their marvelous misadventures at the Laundromat. Narrated by the author and his daughter.

***Lon Po Po.* Weston Woods. Ages 4-8.**

The lush and evocative panel illustrations of Ed Young's Caldecott-winning picture book are deftly manipulated in this shining, limited animation production. B.D. Wong's narration, and subtle strings and woodwind accompaniment create the perfect eerie ambience.

***Mabela the Clever.* Nutmeg. Ages 4-8.**

A clever young mouse heeds her father's advice to escape a wily cat in Margaret Read MacDonald's cautionary folktale from the Limba people of Sierra Leone. This iconographic adaptation is brought to life by the author's engaging narration.

***My Lucky Day.* Spoken Arts. 800-326-4090. Ages 4-8.**

A clever little pig slyly outmaneuvers a hungry but gullible fox in this humorously animated adaptation of Keiko Kasza's battle-of-wits tale. Narrated by Annie Silver and Asa Dorfman.

***Open Wide: Tooth School Inside.* Weston Woods. Ages 4-10.**

Spend a day at tooth school and learn in a fun, innovative way about your teeth and how to care for them. Music by Scotty Huff and Robert Reynolds and the humorous narration of Michael McKean bring this animated version of Laurie Keller's book to new heights. Includes a study guide.

***Pearl Harbor Warriors.* Woodson House. 800-555-2693. Ages 10-14.**

Through a letter to her granddaughter, author Dorinda Makanaonalani Nicholson tells the story of a fifty-year friendship between Sergeant Richard Fiske and Lieutenant Zenji Abe. Period

pictures and music follow the World War II former enemies through their personal struggles to make sense of a senseless act – the bombing of Pearl Harbor and eventual friendship and forgiveness.

***Song of the Salish Sea.* Earthwise Media. 360-271-1584. Ages 11-14.**

A stunningly photographed nature video packed with useful information on the area that encompasses Puget Sound, the Strait of Georgia, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca known as the Salish Sea. This engaging title holds more than regional appeal because of the range of habitats and life-forms that are covered. Includes a printable teacher's guide and tidal pool curriculum.

***That New Animal.* Weston Woods. Ages 3-8.**

FudgeFudge and Marshmallow are bewildered and indignant when the new baby invades their doggy space. After suggesting and rejecting a variety of ways to get rid of the new animal, they have a sudden change of heart when grandpa comes to visit. The story's pitch-perfect humor is successfully conveyed in this iconographic interpretation of Emily Jenkins' book.