

Short Films, **Big Ideas**

A short engaging film can invite curiosity and empathy around some of the big global issues of our time. Here is our selection for all ages. Each one has accompanying activity ideas.

Sea Me

Braeview Academy, Dundee | 2015 | 3 min

UK | No dialogue | 5+ years

A poignant and thought-provoking illustration of the effect of dropping litter and the impact it has on wildlife, this animation encourages recycling and was created by pupils from Braeview Academy, Dundee. It was screened at the Terra Di Tutti Film Festival in Bologna, Italy in 2015. [Watch here](#)

The Barrel

Anabel Rodriguez Rios | 2012 | 5 min

Finland | Spanish with English subtitles | 8+ years

More than anything else, 13 year old Luis wants a used oil barrel so he can make a boat and enter a race. He lives on a floating village in the middle of the Maracaibo Lake, one of the main oil reserves in Venezuela, where every day 832 000 barrels of oil are extracted.

This short film from Why Poverty? looks at the challenges faced living in Maracaibo Lake through the eyes of a child. [Watch here](#)

Aliah

Valentino Bedini | 2013 | 5 min

Italy | No dialogue | 8+ years

A young girl living in a war-torn Middle Eastern country dreams of a new life in this soulful animation. [Watch here](#)

Luchadora

River Finlay | 2015 | 12 min

Mexico | Spanish | 15 + years

Luna Magica, a professional Lucha Libre wrestling star in Mexico, dreams of becoming a world wrestling champion while fighting to make ends meet as a single mum. [Watch here](#)

In a Heartbeat

Beth David & Esteban Bravo | 2017 | 4 min

USA | No dialogue | 8 + years

A short animation about a boy who has a crush on another boy. There are no words. Written and directed by two students and funded through a Kickstarter campaign. [Watch here](#)

Smiles from a Refugee Camps

Asmaa and Saja Khaldi | 2017 | 4 min

Palestine | Arabic with English subtitles | 10 + years

By taking the audience on a stroll through their city, the Khaldi twins give us a rare happy and optimistic insight into life in Gaza City, which has arguably turned into a big refugee camp over the past decades. They show the strength of the community and how the Gazans support each other. [Watch here](#)

Unravel

Meghna Gupta | 2016 | 14 min

India | Jatu, Punjabi with English subtitles | 12 + years

This is the final resting place of your cast-off clothing. When people in the West throw their clothes away, their cast-offs often go on a journey east, across the oceans, to India's industrial interior. Garment recyclers take huge bundles of clothes donated from across the world, and turn them into wool. With little exposure to Western culture other than the Discovery Channel, the garment recyclers rely on their imagination and the rumours that travel with the cast-offs to create an intriguing perspective on the West. [Watch here](#)