

154 films dealing with political, social, and legal issues concerning children and childhood

Collated by [the Childhood, Law & Policy Network \(CLPN\)](#)

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Title (alphabetically ordered)	Director	Year	Country	Length (minutes)	Genre	Plot (as described online)	Hyperlink to the trailer
52 Tuesdays	Sophie Hyde	2013	Australia	109	Coming-of-age Drama	A sixteen-year-old girl explores her sexuality and navigates her changing relationship with a parent undergoing gender transition.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fIKS0ReLwE
56	Marco Huertas	2016	Spain, Norway, Madagascar	28	Documentary drama	Three children struggle to get 56 kg of rice—the cost of going to primary school in the small village of Soavinarivo in Madagascar.	https://vimeo.com/141291118
20,000 Species of Bees	Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren	2023	Spain	128	Drama	During a summer in a village house linked to beekeeping, an eight-year-old Aitor, born biologically male and nicknamed Coco, and her mother experience revelations that will change their lives forever. Neither birth name nor the genderless nickname feels quite right, and Ane’s concern for her child grows as Coco becomes more withdrawn. The child’s only respite lies in the Basque Hills, where Ane’s aunt Lourdes tends to the family’s beekeeping farm.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZSaa-7aBss

A Thousand and One	A. V. Rockwell	2023	US	116	Drama	After single mother Inez kidnaps her son, Terry, from the foster care system, they set out to reclaim their sense of home, identity, and stability in a rapidly changing New York City in the 1990s and 2000s.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBM0_6JJw1s
Alyonka	Boris Barnet	1961	Soviet Union	86	Comedy	Set in 1955, when many Russians migrated to Kazakhstan, the film depicts a trip back from the frontier to the canal. Told from the perspective of a 13-year-old girl named Alyonka.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NV9y-Pg96w
Àma Gloria	Marie Amachoukel i-Barsacq	2023	France	83	Drama	Six-year-old Cléo loves her nanny Gloria more than anything. When Gloria must return to Cape Verde to care for her own children, the two must make the most of their last summer together.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pzdym21-Aw
American History X	Tony Kaye	1998	US	119	Crime drama	Changed by the experience of imprisonment, a former neo-Nazi man tries to stop his brother following the same path. The film shows how the influence and death of their father influence as well as his death led to the brother's racist views.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfQYHqsiN5g

An Angel at My Table	Jane Campion	1990	Australia, New Zealand, UK	158	Autobiographical drama	Based on autobiographies of Janet Frame, the film portrays her at different stages of her life. Initially a brilliant child who suffered many tragedies such as being misdiagnosed with schizophrenia to electroshock therapy to finally becoming a literary success.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSZAcAwk2I
Animol	Ashley Walters	2026	UK	90	Drama	Behind the walls of a youth detention center, Troy is thrust into a brutal world of gangs, loyalty, and violence. In this unforgiving environment, where survival often demands betrayal and trust can be weaponized, he must navigate a perilous path between who he once was and who he risks becoming.	First clip from the upcoming film: https://deadline.com/2026/02/animol-berlinale-ashley-walters-2026-1236718469/
Arna's Children	Juliano Mer Khamis, Danniell Danniell	2004	Israel, Netherlands	84	Documentary	Shot over ten years, the documentary follows a children's theatre group in Palestine, founded by an Israeli Jewish activist, as they commit to protecting their community from the Israeli army.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzqRt-XwV9Q
Au revoir les enfants	Louis Malle	1987	France	104	Autobiographical drama	A student in a French boarding school meets three new students. Unbeknownst to him, they are Jews evading capture from the Nazis. A priest attempts to shelter the children from the Holocaust.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=lSPWn6IsnDM

Bacha Posh	Aleksandr Avilov	2016	Germany	26	Documentary	Bacha Posh translates to “dressed up as a boy”. Bacha Posh girls do this to access the rights and freedom that men in Afghan society enjoy at the price of their identity. This documentary details some of their stories.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: https://rtd.rt.com/films/she-is-my-son/
Baran	Majid Majidi	2001	Iran	94	Drama, Romance	A 17-year-old Turkish worker is irresistibly drawn to Rahmat, a young Afghan worker. He discovers Rahmat is actually a girl named Baran, changing both of their lives.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9meWHc5Hg4
Bicycle Thieves	Vittorio De Sica	1948	Italy	89	Drama	Antonio, an unemployed man, finally gets a job hanging up posters, where he must have his own bicycle. After the bicycle gets stolen, he and his son are forced to walk the streets of Rome to find it.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2P4xo9kmPM
Billy Elliot	Stephen Daldry	2000	UK	110	Comedy-drama	A working-class boy discovers his passion for ballet. He tries to convince his father of his ambitions as a dancer.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=phCEwSmHpOE

Blitz	Steve McQueen	2024	UK, US	120	Drama, War	The film tells the story of a group of Londoners during the German bombing campaign of the British capital during World War II. During the blitz, Rita has been reluctantly persuaded to let her young son, George, evacuate to the country. Not keen, he jumps from the train and starts making his way back to his mum.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZwykQK9aZo
Brave the Dark	Damian Harris	2025	US	112	Drama	Haunted by torturous childhood memories, Nate finds himself engulfed in darkness. When his drama teacher, Mr. Deen, bails him out of jail and takes him in, Nate must confront his past before it leads to his own destruction. As Nate spirals deeper into despair, Mr. Deen must decide how far he is willing to go to save a kid on the brink of losing everything—even himself.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=643rJ7pl5p4
Breath	Narges Abyar	2016	Iran	112	Fantasy Drama	Bahareh, a young girl, lives with her father and grandmother in Iran in the 1970s. An avid reader, she uses dreams and fantasies to understand the pain and suffering surrounding her.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqbhDbx5CA
Broker	Hirokazu Kore-eda	2022	South Korea	129	Comedy, Crime, Drama	A young mother who reconsiders abandoning her baby discovers a scheme involving the selling of infants on the adoption black market.	www.imdb.com/video/vi3170681369/

Call Me by Your Name	Luca Guadagnino	2017	Italy, US, France, Brazil	132	Romance, Drama	Set in 1983 in Northern Italy, a romantic relationship develops between a 17-year-old student (Elio Perlman) and a 24-year-old man (Oliver) who works as a research assistant to Elio's father.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9AYPxH5NTM
Capernaum	Nadine Labaki	2018	Lebanon	126	Drama	A 12-year-old boy serves a 5-year prison sentence whilst at the same time attempting to sue his parents for neglect.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULUo0048xZE
Captain Fantastic	Matt Ross	2016	US	118	Comedy, Drama	Ben and Leslie raise their six children in the wilderness of the Pacific Northwest with a rigorous physical and intellectual education. But Leslie's death impels Ben to question his idea of parenting when forced to enter the world.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5jeBvjJe4
Capturing the Friedmans	Andrew Jarecki	2003	US	107	Documentary, Biography, Crime	The Friedmans seem to be a typical family, until one Thanksgiving a police officer battering ram splinters the front door and officers rush into the house searching every corner and seizing boxes of the family's possessions. Arnold and his 18-year-old son Jesse are both arrested. As the police pursue the investigation, and the community reacts, the fabric of the family begins to disintegrate, revealing disturbing questions.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGrD_vVE5bQ

Child of Their Time	Huibert van Wijk	2025	The Netherlands	47	Documentary	The documentary examines the contrasting perspectives of an adoptive father and his son. While the father believed the adoption was an act of goodwill, his son feels it ultimately had a negative impact on his life.	Available to watch at: https://www.aljazeera.com/video/witness/2025/8/31/child-of-their-time-the-emotional-cost-of-international-adoptions
Children of Men	Alfonso Cuarón	2006	UK, US, Japan	109	Action, thriller	In 2027, it has been 18 years since the last birth of a child. A former activist tries to transport a miraculously pregnant woman to a sanctuary at sea.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VT2apoX90o
Children in the Wind	Hiroshi Shimizu	1937	Japan	88	Drama	Sampei leads a gang of children until his father is imprisoned. Then he is sent to live with his uncle where he contemplates how to escape.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: https://archive.org/details/kaze-no-naka-no-kodomo

Close	Lukas Dhont	2022	Belgium, Netherlands, France	104	Drama	“The intense friendship between two 13-year-old boys Leo and Remi suddenly gets disrupted. Struggling to understand what has happened, Léo approaches Sophie, Rémi's mother. "Close" is a film about friendship and responsibility.” - IMDb	www.imdb.com/video/vi1868153369
Come and See	Elem Klimov	1985	Soviet Union	142	Anti-war	“After finding an old rifle, a young boy joins the Soviet resistance movement against ruthless German forces and experiences the horrors of World War II.” – IMDb	www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHsSQU-4wss
Crows	Dorota Kedzierszawska	1994	Poland	66	Drama	After being neglected by her mother, a girl aged about 10 years kidnaps a 3-year-old girl and tries to care for her.	https://vimeo.com/89777939
Cuties (French: “Mignonnes”)	Maimouna Doucouré	2020	France	96	Drama	A Senegalese-French girl is torn between her traditional Muslim upbringing and internet culture when she joins a dance crew. The film seeks to criticise the hyper sexualization of pre-adolescent girls.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEVQ6HwBflg
Daughters	Angela Patton, Natalie Rae	2024	US, UK, Canada	108	Documentary	Four young girls prepare for a special father-daughter dance with their incarcerated fathers, as part of a unique fatherhood program in a Washington, D.C. jail.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMTgDRqfLPE
East of Salinas	Jackie Mow, Laura Pacheco	2016	US	72	Documentary	Jose, an bright undocumented child dreaming of being someone, realises the obstacles in his path due to where he was born. The film explore his relationship with his dedicated teacher.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7hugjd3yJI

Echoes of the Rainbow	Alex Law Kai-Yui	2010	Hong Kong	117	Comedy, Drama, Romance	In 1969, the eldest son of a working-class family, who is a star student and athlete, falls ill with leukemia.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5dmChffZs
Explanation for Everything	Gábor Reisz	2023	Hungary, Slovakia	151	Drama, Narrative	Abel is a high school student struggling to focus on his final exams, while being hopelessly in love with his best friend Janka.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9jDHRf2gUw
Fanny and Alexander	Ingmar Bergman	1982	Sweden	188	Period drama	The film focuses on two siblings whose father dies. Their mother remarries a bishop who becomes abusive and controlling towards the siblings due to their vivid imagination. The rest of their rather large family try to aid them and their mother.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkszXVEUHco
Farah: Scarred by Gaza's War	Farheen Umar	2016	Qatar	48	Documentary	Three-year-old Farah is injured during a military attack that kills her family. She travels to the USA to receive medical treatment and is taken in by an Arab-American family with whom she forms a close bond.	www.aljazeera.com/program/al-jazeera-world/2016/7/27/farah-scarred-by-gazas-war/
Farha	Darin J. Sallam	2021	Jordan, Sweden, Saudi Arabia	92	Historical Drama	Farha, a 14-year-old Palestinian girl, dreams of pursuing higher education in the city. While locked in a pantry, she witnesses an event that threatens her dream and changes the future of her country.	www.imdb.com/video/vi83215641

Flee	Jonas Poher Rasmussen	2021	Denmark	89	Animated documentary	Amin shares his hidden past of fleeing his home country Afghanistan and going to Denmark as a child refugee.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzUVEuX1u04
Forbidden Games	René Clément	1952	France	86	Drama, war	“A young French girl orphaned in a Nazi air attack is befriended by the son of a poor farmer, and together they try to come to terms with the realities of death.” – IMDb	www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_m00tBc1I4
Freedom Is Paradise	Sergei Bodrov	1989	Soviet Union	76	Drama	“An independent young boy living in a prison-like state children’s home escapes multiple times, searching for his imprisoned father.” – IMDb	https://cgiii.com/cgiiibase/item/freedom-is-paradise
Ginger & Rosa	Sally Potter	2012	UK, Denmark, Canada	90	Drama	Ginger and Rosa grow up as best friends in London, but the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis – and their passage into adulthood – bring their differing outlooks on life into sharp relief.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFYeYKAGVek
Hoard	Luna Carmoon	2023	UK	126	Drama	The film, set in the 1990s, follows Maria, a teenager whose mother used to be a hoarder. Now she lives in a foster home where a previous resident, Michael, inspires her to revisit her childhood memories and the passions she has repressed.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8XS5HHUJqo
I Am Greta	Nathan Grossman	2020	Sweden, UK, US, Germany	97	Documentary	Teenager Greta Thunberg wants global change to get people to start taking action to stop climate change, before it is too late.	www.imdb.com/video/vi465486105

I Was Born, But...	Yasujirō Ozu	1932	Japan	100	Comedy	The Yoshi family relocate to Tokyo where the children join a local gang and become its leaders after initially being bullied by the previous leader. After seeing their father act in a subservient manner towards his boss, the children feel a sense of injustice.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTIGyJKQjRM
I Wish	Hirokazu Kore-eda	2011	Japan	127	Drama	A twelve-year-old boy, separated from his brother by their parents' divorce, witnesses two trains pass each other at top speed and starts to believe in miracles.	www.imdb.com/video/vi404071193
If...	Lindsay Anderson	1968	UK	111	Satirical drama	A group of pupils stage a savage insurrection at a boys' boarding school, where strict rules and hierarchies reign.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FahMGaCoow
Innocence	Guy Davidi	2022	Israel, Iceland, Denmark, Finland	100	Documentary	The film tackles the issue of militarization and its impact on the lives of young Israeli people who are forced to serve against their own identity and values. Through a narration based on the diaries of soldiers who died in uniform, along with rare home video they left behind, the film depicts how children and young people are being tracked from early childhood into military enrolment.	https://vimeo.com/ondemand/innocence2

Ivan's childhood	Andrei Tarkovsky	1962	Soviet Union	94	War drama	“During WWII, Soviet orphan Ivan Bondarev strikes up a friendship with three sympathetic Soviet officers while working as a scout behind the German lines.” IMDb	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Lnb1bI0VIk
Japan: Girl Meets War	Cheng Herng Shinn	2025	Japan	25	Documentary	Cast as a kamikaze pilot in a stage production, 15-year-old Shurina travels across Japan, visiting World War II memorial sites en route to a performance in Okinawa.	Available to watch at: https://www.aljazeera.com/video/witness/2025/8/5/japan-girl-meets-war
Jojo Rabbit	Taika Waititi	2019	US, New Zealand, Czech Republic	108	Comedy-drama	A 10-year-old Hitler-Youth member discovers his mother is hiding a Jewish girl in the attic, leading him to question his beliefs.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL4McUzXfFI
Kes	Ken Loach	1969	UK	112	Drama	Billy, a boy from a dysfunctional working-class family, finds fulfillment adopting a kestrel and training it in falconry.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGcIlKvfnYs
Kidnapped	Marco Bellocchio	2023	Italy, France, Germany	134	Drama, History	A Jewish boy, Edgardo Mortara, is kidnapped and converted to Catholicism in 1858. His parents struggle to free their son and become part of a larger political battle that pitted the papacy against forces of democracy and Italian unification.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQAK0yBHQZ8

Kids	Larry Clark	1995	US	91	Drama	A day in the lives of teenagers in 1990s New York as they skate, drink, smoke, and explore their sexuality.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9a5tZSKDOU
Killa	Avinash Arun	2014	India	107	Comedy, Drama	An 11-year-old Indian boy who has just lost his father is forced to adapt to a new school in a small village.	www.imdb.com/video/vi3797794585/
Kramer vs. Kramer	Robert Benton	1979	US	105	Legal drama	Ted and Joanna Kramer go through a divorce and a custody battle for their 6-year-old child Billy. As Joanna Kramer leaves both Ted and Billy, Ted is left to build a relationship with his son after neglecting him for years in pursuit of his profession as a Manhattan advertising executive.	www.imdb.com/video/vi2588606489
Lady Bird	Greta Gerwig	2017	US	95	Drama, Comedy	A fiercely independent teenager tries to make her own way in the world while wanting to get out of her hometown and away from her complicated mother and recently unemployed father.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNi_HC839Wo
Last Summer	Catherine Breillat	2024	France, Norway	104	Drama, Thriller	Anne, a lawyer, lives with her husband Pierre and their daughters. She gradually engages in a passionate relationship with Theo, Pierre's 17-year-old son from a previous marriage, putting her career and family life in danger.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=niPr_K19dHc

Lean on Pete	Andrew Haigh	2017	UK	121	Drama, Adventure	A teenager gets a summer job working for a horse trainer and befriends the fading racehorse.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rvq9lFu5Gtk
L'Enfant	Jean-Pierre Dardenn, Luc Dardenne	2005	France	95	Drama, Romance	After giving birth, teenage Sonia returns home to find that her boyfriend, irresponsible petty criminal Bruno, has sublet their apartment. Sonia tracks Bruno down on the street, and after the couple spends the night together, they decide to start a new life with the baby. But the next morning, Bruno sells their child for cash, sending Sonia into shock. Shaken by her decision to press charges against him, Bruno sets out to retrieve the baby.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nbBpVo9_pg
Lion	Garth Davis	2016	India, UK, Australia, US	118	Biography, Drama	A five-year-old Indian boy is adopted by an Australian couple after getting lost hundreds of kilometers from home. Twenty-five years later, he sets out to find his lost family.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=-RNI9o06vqo
Little Miss Sunshine	Jonathan Dayton, Valerie Faris	2006	US	101	Comedy, Drama	A family decides to travel across the country when their daughter wants to participate in a beauty pageant, unaware of the surprises the journey has in store for them.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQ7BZTMLImA

Los Olvidados (known in English as 'The Young and the Damned')	Luis Buñel	1950	Mexico	76	Crime drama	A group of destitute children live in the slums of Mexico. Over time, young Pedro becomes gradually corrupted by the others.	www.imdb.com/video/vi910082841
M	Fritz Lang	1931	Germany	111	Thriller, Crime	A serial killer who preys on children called Hans Beckert becomes the focus of a manhunt by both the police and criminals as a result of his heinous crimes.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=TdSL9FvCv0U
Machuca	Andrés Wood	2004	Chile, Spain, UK, France	121	Drama	In 1973, two 12-year-old Chilean children who are from different social classes become friends. The film is set against the social and political tensions in Chile, which ultimately led to the 1973 coup d'état.	www.imdb.com/video/vi893633305/
Madame Rosa	Moshé Mizrahi	1977	France	105	Drama	Auschwitz-survivor and retired sex worker Madame Rosa looks after the children of other sex workers. With her health declining, she tries to return the children back to their parents. However, she grows attached to Momo, an unclaimed child whose parents disappeared years ago.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4MmeUHQQvA

Mina Walking	Yosef Baraki	2015	Canada, Afghanistan	110	Drama	A twelve-year-old girl's responsibility as the main breadwinner for her family interferes with her education.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3t25bXLjPI
Monster	Hirokazu Koreeda	2023	Japan	127	Thriller, Mystery	A mother demands answers from her son's teacher when her son begins acting strangely.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOpWDxxiwoE
Moolaadé	Ousmane Sembene	2004	Senegal, Burkina Faso	124	Drama	When a woman shelters a group of girls suffering from female genital mutilation, she starts a conflict that tears her village apart.	https://mubi.com/en/films/moolaade/trailer
Moonlight	Barry Jenkins	2016	US	111	Drama	A boy faces challenges concerning his identity and sexuality. The film tracks his childhood, adolescence, and early adult life.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NJj12tJzqc
Motherboard	Victoria Mapplebeck	2024	UK	87	Documentary	When Victoria Mapplebeck found herself single, pregnant, and broke at the age of 38, she turned the camera on herself. Shot over two decades, Motherboard is a celebration of solo motherhood – and a testament to how epic journeys can begin and end at home.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dbt4qgcd8Wc
Mr. Nobody Against Putin	David Borenstein, Pavel Talankin	2025	Denmark, Czech Republic, Germany	90	Documentary	A Russian teacher secretly documents his small town school's transformation into a war recruitment center during the Ukraine invasion, revealing the ethical dilemmas educators face amid propaganda and militarization.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcUeDa8FK_8

Mustang	Deniz Gamze Ergüven	2015	Turkey	97	Drama	Five sisters push the boundaries of the conservative society they have been raised in. Displeased, their grandmother restricts their movement to and from the house, replacing school work with household chores and arranging their marriages. The sisters unite in their pursuit of freedom.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=rU9JAN8Ltk
My Sister's Keeper	Nick Cassavetes	2009	US	110	Drama	In an effort to save the life of their two-year-old daughter diagnosed with leukemia, two parents conceive a 'savior sibling', Anna. At the age of thirteen, Anna fights for medial emancipation in order to gain agency over her body.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVpcAu9Lo0Y
My So-Called Selfish Life	Therese Shechter	2021	US	78	Documentary, Comedy	The film examines what it means to say no to motherhood in a society that assumes all women want children.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPo9nkKn5IM
Nickel Boys	RaMell Ross	2024	US	140	Drama, Historical Drama	Based on a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, the film chronicles the friendship between two young African-American men navigating the harrowing trials of reform school together in Florida, which was notorious for its abusive treatment of students.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2qZ429rUZw

Nobody Knows	Hirokazu Kore-eda	2004	Japan	141	Drama	“In a small Tokyo apartment, 12-year-old Akira must care for his younger siblings after their mother leaves them and shows no sign of returning.” – IMDb	www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8COIEaleR8
Off White Lies	Maya Kenig	2011	Israel	86	Drama	Following the outbreak of the 2006 Lebanon War, a father and daughter pose as refugees from Northern Israel with the hopes of being taken in by a wealthy family. The pair work on their relationship while the threat of exposure looms.	www.imdb.com/video/vi142863897
Osama	Siddiq Barmak	2003	Afghanistan, Ireland	83	Drama	After the rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan and the restriction of women’s participation in public life, a pre-teen girl is forced to masquerade as a boy in order to find work to support her mother and grandmother.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=1i7kxyQW4U0
Pan’s Labyrinth	Guillermo del Toro	2006	Spain	120	Fantasy	In 1944, five years after the Spanish Civil War, a stepdaughter of a sadistic army officer explores a maze. She encounters a mythical creature who tells her of her destiny. To return to her real father she must complete three tasks.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcHasH-nLhU

Persepolis	Marjane Sartapi, Vincent Paronnaud	2007	France, Iran	96	Animated autobiographical drama	An outspoken young girl becoming a teenager during the Iranian Revolution.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PXHeKuBzPY
Precious	Lee Daniels	2009	US	110	Drama	In Harlem, an illiterate 16-year-old girl is pregnant with her second child after being by her absent father Carl. She is invited to attend an alternative school in the hope of achieving a better life.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=urFY3jp759c
Private Peaceful	Pat O'Connor	2012	UK	102	War Drama	Thomas Peaceful recounts his life experience from childhood to the situation he finds himself in. He speaks of his relationship with his brother, his love of a girl called Molly and the impact of World War I.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUoA8njBZVA
Putaan Party	Ramchandra P. N.	2009	India	78	Drama	A group of elected child representatives tries to pressure the government to react to various social issues.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYbwGWjmo_Q
Queen of Hearts	May el-Toukhy	2019	Denmark, Sweden	127	Drama	A successful lawyer jeopardizes her career and threatens to tear her family apart after engaging in an affair with her teenage stepson.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJmMCVN_6fw
Rabbit-Proof Fence	Phillip Noyce	2002	Australia	94	Biographical drama	Three Aboriginal girls are taken from their family to be trained as domestic servants as part of government policy. They escape and travel across the outback to return to their community while being pursued by authorities.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lbnk8wSVMaM

Radical	Christopher Zalla	2023	US, Mexico	125	Drama	In a Mexican border town full of neglect, corruption, and violence, a teacher tries a radical new method to unlock his students' curiosity, potential – and maybe even their genius.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4DvL0UBZPQ
Room	Lenny Abrahamson	2015	Canada, Ireland, UK, US	118	Drama	A young woman who has been held captive for seven years has a son born into captivity. They finally gain their freedom, allowing the boy to experience the outside world for the very first time.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_Ci-pAL4eE
Schooling the World	Carol Black	2010	US, India	66	Documentary	The film investigates education and its effects on the world's last sustainable Indigenous cultures.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: http://carolblack.org/schooling-the-world
Set Me Free	Tae-yong Kim	2014	South Korea	108	Coming-of-age Drama	A teenager insincerely promises to become a priest in order to retain his place in the group home where he grew up. Over the course of the film his friendships are tested and he is confronted by his father when his younger brother is also checked into the group home.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIjftbPkg8E

Severed	Jen Marlowe	2025	US	26	Short, Drama, Documentary	Mohamad Saleh, an 18-year-old from Gaza, has lived through five major Israeli military assaults. In those attacks, he lost his home, family, best friends, and leg. Now living in Egypt, Mohamad struggles to piece together the shattered fragments of his life. Through his eyes, the suffering of many Gazans are laid bare, alongside their strength, resilience, and determination to live.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILWTYfrwfu0
Severn, the Voice of Our Children	Jean-Paul Jaud	2010	France	120	Documentary	A 12-year-old named Severn at the Rio de Janeiro International Earth Summit in 1992 condemns the destruction of the environment. 16 years later, Severn who is now an adult expecting her first child addresses how humans must look after the environment.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=466Q7IXS4O4
Shoplifters	Hirokazu Kore-eda	2018	Japan	121	Drama	A family relying on shoplifting take in a child they find outside in the cold.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9382rwoMiRc
Shopping	Mark Albiston, Louis Sutherland	2013	New Zealand	98	Coming-of-age drama	A mixed race Samoan New Zealander boy unintentionally becomes an accessory to a robbery. Tempted by the kinship found in a gang and the opportunity to escape his violent father, he must choose between moving on, or staying behind to take care of his younger brother.	www.imdb.com/video/vi1894688281

Skies Above Hebron: Growing up Palestinian in the occupied West Bank	Esther Hertog and Paul King	2021	Netherlands	48	Documentary	The film follows three Palestinian teenage boys over the course of five years, documenting the realities of growing up in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron.	The documentary is available to watch at: www.aljazeera.com/program/witness/2021/5/12/skies-above-hebron-growing-up-palestinian-in-occupied-west-bank
Sound of Falling	Mascha Schilinksi	2025	Germany	155	Drama	Four generations of girls grow up on a farm in the Altmark region of Germany. Despite being separated by decades, they are united by the shared experiences of girlhood, as gestures, conversations, and situations echo across time.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-jgGbvLgVo
Stolen Generations	Darlene Johnson	2000	Australia	52	Documentary	A film about the Australian government's removal of Aboriginal children from their families.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8xCLKGFcA0
System Crasher	Nora Fingscheidt	2019	Germany	120	Drama	A violent 9-year-old wants to be back at home with her mother. Yet, her mother fears and cannot handle her. The girl crashes Germany's welfare system as child-service workers struggle to find her a home.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjvfqZLbyG8

Take Care of Maya	Henry Roosevelt	2023	US	103	Documentary	Ten-year-old Maya is admitted to hospital with a rare disease. During her time in hospital, concerns are raised regarding child welfare. Maya is put in state custody and her parents attempt to fight for her.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzAAPNIsxB0&pp=ygUWVGFrZSBDYXJIIG9mIE1heWEgMjAyMw%3D%3D&pbjreload=102
Talibe: The Least Favored Children of Senegal	Daniela Kon	2011	US	57	Documentary	Approximately 50,000 boys under the age of 12 enrolled in Islamic Schools in Senegal are forced to beg on the streets to fund their education.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWQyzKsTiUw
The 400 Blows	François Truffaut	1959	France	99	Drama	A neglected and rebellious young boy enters a life of crime.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAVOlU8WP1Q
The Assessment	Fleur Fortuné	2024	UK, US, Germany	114	Drama, Sci-Fi	In a not-so-distant future where parenthood is strictly controlled, a couple's mysterious seven-day assessment for the right to have a child unravels into a nightmare, forcing them to question the very foundations of society.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=bYmELiSax0

Theatre of Violence	Lukasz Konopa	2024	Denmark, Germany	104	Documentary	The film examines the story of Dominic Ongwen, who, at the age of nine years, was abducted and conscripted into Joseph Kony's army of child soldiers. Some 30 years later, he is the first former child soldier to be indicted in International Criminal Court for war crimes.	The documentary is available to watch at www.aljazeera.com/program/witness/2024/12/5/theatre-of-violence-the-iccs-landmark-trial-of-a-former-child-soldier
The Babadook	Jennifer Kent	2014	Australia	94	Horror	"A single mother and her child fall into a deep well of paranoia when an eerie children's book titled 'Mister Babadook' manifests in their home" – IMDb	www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5WQZzDRVtw
The Bad Seed	Mervyn LeRoy	1956	US	129	Drama, Horror, Thriller	Christine is forced to suspect that her eight-year-old daughter is a ruthless killer after the daughter's rival at school dies in mysterious circumstances.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZt7gtFiVJk
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	Mark Herman	2008	US, UK	94	Historical Drama	The film follows an 8-year-old boy named Bruno whose father is an SS officer in World War II. Bruno befriends a Holocaust prisoner of the same age.	www.imdb.com/video/vi751566873/

The Breadwinner	Nora Twomey	2017	Ireland, Canada	94	Animation, Drama	In 2001, Afghanistan is under the control of the Taliban. When her father is captured, a determined young girl disguises herself as a boy in order to provide for her family.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnPbc8YvGpk
The Children Act	Richard Eyre	2017	UK	105	Drama	A judge is deciding on a case involving a 17-year-old boy who refuses a blood transfusion because of religious reasoning.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKQkUcJioxU
The Children's Train	Cristina Comencini	2024	Italy	105	Drama	In 1946, as part of a postwar initiative to rescue children from poverty, seven-year-old Amerigo leaves his impoverished family in Naples and boards a train to live with a wealthier family in the north.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76Aljh0U8Hk
The Crossing	Bai Xue	2018	China	99	drama	A shy teenager in Shenzhen attending school in Hong Kong, gets drawn into smuggling black-market smartphones in the hopes of saving money to fund her dream of travelling to Japan.	www.imdb.com/video/vi207404569
The Florida Project	Sean Baker	2017	US	111	Drama	A 6-year-old girl and her two friends embark on adventures while her mother and a motel manager try to protect the girls from the harsh realities surrounding them.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwQ-NH1rRT4

The Kid	Charlie Chaplain	1921	US	68	Comedy-drama	Charlie Chaplains 'Tramp' character rescues and raises an abandoned baby. Five years later, their relationship is tested.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lih7_P_hdNg
The Life Ahead	Edoardo Ponti	2020	Italy	95	Drama	A Holocaust survivor who runs a daycare business forms a friendship with a 12-year-old child who recently robbed her.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzDV7yfU4sA
The Lost Children	Jorge Duran, Lali Houghton, Orlando von Einsiedel	2024	Colombia	96	Documentary	After their plane crashes, four Indigenous children are stranded in the Colombian Amazon. Guided by ancestral knowledge, they struggle to survive the jungle's many dangers while awaiting rescue.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTmSaHTVRP0
The Lowland	Sepideh Salarvand, Aidin Halalzade	2021	Iran	52	Documentary	This film portrays undocumented Afghan children who work as garbage collectors in Tehran. They share their individual life experiences.	https://mubi.com/films/the-lowland/trailer
The Mask You Live in	Jennifer Siebel Newsom	2015	US	97	Documentary	The film explores how our culture's narrow definition of masculinity is harming boys, men, and society at large, unveiling what we can do about this issue.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc45-ptHMxo

The New Boy	Warwick Thornton	2024	Australia	116	Drama	In 1940s Australia, a nine-year-old Aboriginal orphan boy arrives at a remote monastery run by a renegade nun, where his presence disturbs the delicately balanced world in this story of spiritual struggle and the cost of survival.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFvV13Lc48
The Night They Came for Our Children	Chiara Francavilla	2023	UK	52	Documentary	The documentary explores the harm of anti-slavery movements through the story of four Ghanaian children who were taken from their homes at gunpoint in the middle of the night. Labelled a rescue mission by an American charity, the children were relocated and their parents were left traumatized by their kidnapping.	The documentary is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=TKHKjZ77RC0
The Orphanage	Shahrbanoo Sadat	2019	Denmark Afghanistan	90	Drama	In 1989, an Afghani teenage ticket scalper from Kabul is abruptly sent to a juvenile detention center. While coming to terms with his new environment, he dreams of Bollywood as a form of escapism.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALqHcOc9lhI
The Outsiders	Francis Ford Coppola	1983	US	91	Drama	A rivalry between two teen gangs of different economic status leads to the killing of one of them. At the same time, they contend with the difficulties brought about by the circumstances of their lives.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4pFHmSuHRQ

The Red Phallus	Tashi Gyeltshen	2018	Bhutan	82	Drama	A sixteen-year-old Bhutanese girl navigates living with her traditional father as he discovers her romantic relationship with a married man from a lower social class.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN0KAEGIWJk
The Spirit of the Beehive	Victor Erice	1973	Spain	97	Drama	In 1940, after watching and being traumatized by the 1931 movie Frankenstein, a sensitive seven-year-old girl living in a small Spanish village drifts into her own fantasy world.	www.imdb.com/video/vi4214603545
The Teachers' Lounge	Ilker Çatak	2023	Germany	98	Drama	When one of her students is suspected of theft, a teacher decides to get to the bottom of the matter. Caught between her ideals and the school system, the consequences of the teacher's actions threaten to break her.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCE6W16ULVQ
The Tree of Life	Terrence Malick	2011	USA	138	Drama	The film traces the life of Jack, the eldest son of a Texas family, from the innocence of his 1950s childhood, through his struggles with his parents' conflicting values, to his disillusioned adult years.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RrAz1YLh8nY
The Unseen	Miroslav Janek	1996	Poland	53	Documentary	At a school for visually impaired children, students learn how to take photographs to capture their life from their point of view.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gtt-MxMTby8

The Voice of Hind Rajab	Kaouther Ben Hania	2025	Tunisia	89	Docudrama	Red Crescent volunteers receive an emergency call: a six-year-old girl is trapped in a car under IDF fire in Gaza, pleading for rescue. As they struggle to keep her on the line, they do everything they can to dispatch an ambulance to her.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkeKrG0YONQ
The War on Kids	Cevin Soling	2009	US	95	Documentary	This documentary argues that US schools are authoritarian prison-like institutions failing to provide adequate education.	www.imdb.com/video/vi4016833049
The White Ribbon	Michael Haneke	2009	Germany	144	Drama	A baron, doctor, and a pastor rule over a German village before WW1, when a series of strange events occurs. The school teacher suspects some children are behind these incidents.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KJKvVVxY74
The Wound	John Trengove	2017	South Africa	88	Drama	Xolani, or just X (Nakhane), left his Xhosa tribe to find work in the city, but has now returned as a “caregiver” to help the young men prepare for their impending initiation into manhood. When a defiant initiate from the city discovers his best-kept secret, Xolani’s entire existence begins to unravel.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=0idwRX0d6nM
The Yellow Balloon	J. Lee Thompson	1953	UK	78	Drama	“In post-war London, a small boy who blames himself for the accidental death of a friend, falls under the bad influence of a street criminal.” – IMDb	www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-JvGvrBXwk

This is England	Shane Meadows	2006	UK	101	Drama, Crime	A rebellious 12-year-old joins a group of skinheads and gives his life new direction, until he meets a former member of the crew and an ex-convict who starts his own clan.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=1IKPdRdOkMg
To Kill a Mockingbird	Robert Mulligan	1962	US	129	Drama	The film recounts the childhood experiences of a 6-year-old and her brother as their father defends a Black man falsely accused of raping a White woman. The trial exposes the children to the evils of racism and stereotyping.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=KR7loA_ozY
To Kill a Tiger	Nisha Pahuja	2022	Canada	128	Documentary	A farmer in India demands justice for his 13-year-old daughter, the victim of a brutal gang rape.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3jpv2EJu3I
To Sir, with Love	James Clavell	1967	UK	105	Drama	Idealistic Black graduate Mark Thackeray takes a temporary teaching position with a group of unruly White high school students from London's East End.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMAjca-pgr4
Tomboy	Céline Sciamma	2011	France	82	Drama	A 10-year-old child named Laure moves to a new neighborhood who believe her to be a boy. Laure allows them to believe this, adopts the name Mickaël, and experiments with her gender presentation for the summer.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jb-Oys-IcWE
Tomka and His Friends	Xhanfise Keko	1977	Albania	78	Drama	When German soldiers establish a camp in the town stadium, Tomka, his friends and adults' revolt through sabotage and espionage.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUU3zJfdOxs

Tsotsi	Gavin Hood	2005	South Africa, UK	95	Crime drama	The film depicts six days in the violent life of a young thug who steals a car only to discover a baby in the back seat.	www.imdb.com/video/vi1472332057
Udaan	Vikramaditya Motwane	2010	India	138	Coming-of-age Drama	A 16-year-old boy with dreams of being a writer returns home from boarding school and is forced to work in his oppressive father's factory and study engineering.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEJxe2bE-cE
Under the Same Moon	Patricia Riggen	2007	Mexico, US	104	Drama	A young Mexican boy, having been left behind by his mother, illegally travels to the US to find her after his grandmother dies.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jCZgUiPixE
Voices of Children	Gustavo Amora	2017	Brazil	24	Documentary	Young children from different communities share their experiences.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: https://worldforumfoundation.org/workinggroups/childrens-rights/screen-film
Waiting for Mamu	Thomas Morgan, Francois Caillaud, Dan Chen	2013	US, Nepal	40	Documentary	This documentary explores situations where children are locked up with their parents in some parts of the world due to lacking a guardian.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-Fd1VBHkZ0

Weapons	Zach Cregger	2025	US	128	Horror	Seventeen children from the same classroom are mysteriously compelled to leave their homes at the same time on the same night. A frantic search by parents, police, and school officials soon ensues.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpThntO9ixc
Weaving Knowledge	Anita Afonu	2024	Ghana	64	Documentary	In four episodic narratives, the film poetically depicts the forms of knowledge embedded in children's everyday lives and material culture in West Africa.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNpGImtG-zY
We Need to Talk About Kevin	Lynne Ramsay	2011	UK, US	112	Thriller, drama	Eva, a travel writer, struggles to bond and deal with her son who does increasingly dangerous things and ends up ultimately committing a heinous act.	www.imdb.com/video/vi3341655065
We Were Children	Tim Wolochatiuk	2012	Canada	83	Documentary	This documentary recounts the experiences of two Indigenous Canadian children who were placed in residential schools, where they endure years of emotional, sexual, and physical abuse.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=9daBqAddIs
Whale Rider	Niki Caro	2002	New Zealand	101	Drama	A boy selected to be the next tribe leader dies at birth. Aged 12, his twin sister challenges the convention that only males can become tribe leaders.	www.imdb.com/video/vi4227596569

When I Saw You	Annemarie Jacir	2012	Palestine, Jordan	93	Drama	In 1967, an 11-year-old Palestinian boy, having been separated from his father in the chaos of war, is seeking refuge in Jordan with his mother. Placed in ‘temporary’ refugee camps, he searches a way out.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCHijjRwChs
Where is the Friend’s House?	Abbas Kiarostami	1987	Iran	83	Drama	Eight-year-old Ahmed has mistakenly taken his friend Mohammad’s notebook. He wants to return it, or else his friend will be expelled from school. The boy determinedly sets out to find Mohammad’s home in a neighboring village.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=run-u_2zAdA
Wildflower	Matt Smukler	2020	US	73	Documentary	A high school senior has to choose between her dream of going to college, and a life at home, caring for her two mentally disabled parents who she has ‘raised’ since her early childhood.	https://mubi.com/en/films/wildflower-2020/trailer
Wild in the Streets	Barry Shear	1968	US	97	Comedy-drama	A rock singer who calls for the voting age to be lowered to 14 gains significant political influence.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3IbGPUt6p4
Yaaba	Idrissa Ouedraogo	1989	Burkina Faso, Switzerland, France	90	Drama	A 10-year-old boy befriends an old woman who everyone calls a witch. After the boy’s cousin falls ill, she is the only one who can save him.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2swWIqEA3s

Yellow Earth	Chen Kaige	1984	China	89	Drama	An idealistic communist soldier goes to the Chinese countryside to collect Folk songs. When he returns to the army, his speech of freedom is influential on a young girl who dreams of enlisting in the army.	www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1huNRtGHtQ
Yes God Yes	Karen Maine	2020	US	78	Comedy-drama	A committed religious teenager battles with her sexual awakening.	www.imdb.com/video/vi3624648217
Young Plato	Declan McGrath, Neasa Ní Chianáin	2022	UK	102	Documentary	A headmaster seeks to change the lives of his students and community plagued with hardship such as poverty and drugs. The headmaster teaches his students about Ancient Greek philosophers to begin to question their situation that they find themselves in.	https://youngplato.com/
Zero for Conduct	Jean Vigo	1933	France	41	Drama	Four young boys at a repressive boarding school decide to rebel against the teachers and school for their repressive regime.	This copyright-free film is available to watch at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUkW1LBUQcg