

Movies That Promote Prosocial Behaviour

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Films Suitable for Primary and Junior Students

Beauty and the Beast (1991) In this Disney version of the classic fairy tale, the heroine Belle saves both her father and the Beast through her compassion.

Bridge to Terabithia (2007) A lonely and troubled boy is befriended by a new girl in town, who helps him find a haven from his troubles and stand up to the bullies at school.

Charlotte's Web (2006) This movie is based on the classic story by E. B. White, which some would say is the ultimate tale about friendship, compassion, and sacrifice.

Ice Age (2002) In this popular animated feature, three prehistoric animals who are very different from each other must learn to accept their differences and then trust and support each other in order to “become their own herd.”

The Incredibles (2004) In this popular animated film, one of the main characters is an ex-super hero who finds ways to help others without using his superpowers.

My Neighbour Totoro (1988) This Japanese animated fantasy contains wonderful lessons about the meaning and value of friendship.

Nanny McPhee (2006) In this movie, a kind but firm new Nanny helps some unhappy and misbehaving children understand how their actions affect other people.

Ponyo (2008) Another animated film by Hayao Miyazaki, director of *My Neighbour Totoro*, with a number of scenes showing friends looking out for each other's best interests.

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Films Suitable for Intermediate and Secondary School Students

The King's Speech (2010) This highly acclaimed film tells the story of King George VI and his struggles with stuttering and social anxiety when he is cast into a public role he never wanted. He overcomes his stuttering with the help of a speech therapist who eventually becomes his friend.

Les Misérables (2012) This Oscar-winning movie musical version of the classic novel by Victor Hugo contains numerous scenes where characters display empathy and compassion.

Patch Adams (1998) This popular Robin Williams comedy is based on the life of Dr. Hunter "Patch" Adams, who overcame his own mental health problems to found a medical facility that employed a philosophy of treating patients with compassion and humour as well as medicine.

Simon Birch (1998) An engaging and, at times, touching story of friendship, compassion, and heroism based loosely on John Irving's *A Prayer for Owen Meany*.

Teen Wolf (1985) In this movie, starring a young Michael Fox, a teenage outcast struggles to lead some semblance of a normal life after becoming a werewolf, and in the process gets lots of support and understanding from his best friend.