

REEL CANADA PRESENTS

RCtv: Indigenous Realities

Livestream for Grades 6-8



Shin-Chi's Canoe



The Orphan and the Polar Bear



Assini



Grandfather on the Prairies



Savage

ABOUT THE FILMS

SHIN-CHI'S CANOE

Directed by Allan Hopkins (N'quatwua), 2018, 13 minutes

Through his father's gift of a secret and tiny hand-carved cedar canoe, an Indigenous child discovers the strength and resilience to endure his first year at a residential school.

No mature content.

THE ORPHAN AND POLAR BEAR

Directed by Neil Christopher, Louise Flaherty (Inuk), 2014, 9 minutes

In this adaptation of an Inuit story, an orphan is adopted by a polar bear elder who teaches him the skills he needs to survive.

Content note: A harpoon is used as a weapon for hunting.

ASSINI

Directed by Gail Maurice (Cree/Métis), 2015, 13 minutes

Seven-year-old Assini and her friends often play Cowboys and Indians. But when Assini discovers that she herself is an "Indian," the game takes a new turn.

Content note: The narrator develops an understanding of her identity through cultural references to Indigenous stereotypes, including racial slurs like "squaw" and "redskins". Children are shown playing with toy guns outside, and in a classroom.

GRANDFATHER ON THE PRAIRIES

Directed by Andrew Genaille (Sto:lo/Ojibway), 2018, 3 minutes

Jason meets his great-great-great grandfather and soon finds himself in a hilarious debate about what it means to be a hunter.

No mature content.

SAVAGE

Directed by Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe), 2009, 6 minutes

This "residential school musical" uses song and dance to depict a little girl's dehumanizing journey into the residential school system, as well as her mother's pain.

No mature content.

Teachers will screen the first four short films (total runtime of 38 min) for their class in advance of the livestream. *Savage* will be shown within the livestream itself.

This programme addresses Canada's Indian Residential School System, which may distress some viewers, especially those who have experienced intergenerational trauma due to colonial practices. Support is available 24 hours a day through the national Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line at 1-866-925-4419.