



## A Selection of Short Films

Below are some suggested short films suitable for the Junior Cycle English classroom. Please be aware that there are sensitive issues in some of these films. We recommend that all films are watched before exploration with students. All timings are approximate. Click the images to access the films.



### HAIR LOVE - 7 MINS

*Hair Love* is a **heartfelt animated short** film that centres around the relationship between an African-American father, his daughter Zuri, and the most daunting task a father could ever come across – doing his daughter's hair for the first time. **Please note:** This film deals with particular health issues.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Family  
Love  
Hope  
Identity  
Relationships  
Loss**



### THE PRESENT - 4 MINS

In this **animated family drama**, we are introduced to a young boy, whose mother has just gotten him a present. As he opens it, we meet a three-legged puppy. The puppy is at first rejected by the boy, but the pair eventually warm to each other.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Disability  
Identity  
Relationships  
Acceptance  
Family**



### THE CRUSH - 15 MINS

This **short comedy** follows an 8 year old schoolboy who is so besotted with his teacher that he challenges her boyfriend to a duel...to the death.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Relationships  
Childhood  
Love  
Humour**



### THE SILENT CHILD - 20 MINS

**Winner of the 2017 Oscar** for best live-action short film, *The Silent Child* is the story of a deaf 6-year-old girl named Libby who lives in a world of silence until a caring social worker gives her the gift of communication.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Identity  
Family  
Relationships  
Inclusion  
Disability**



### OKTAPODI - 3 MINS

This **romantic comedy short** is about a pair of love-struck octopuses who through a series of comical events are separated and must find each other.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Love  
Conflict  
Perseverance**



### MICAL - 20 MINS

*Mical* is the **emotionally-charged story** of Mike's dyslexia and how his mother's persistence and determination changed everything.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Education  
Perseverance  
Bullying  
Growing Up**



### NEW BOY - 12 MINS

Based on a **short story by Roddy Doyle**, this poignant and **comedic short film** deftly captures the experience of being the new boy in school through the eyes of Joseph, a nine-year-old African boy. This might be particularly suitable towards the beginning of a new school year.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Identity  
New Beginnings  
Bullying  
Fitting In**



### ALMA - 5 MINS

The film is a **fantasy animation** that centres around a young girl who is lured into an enchanted toy store. Drawn in by its beautiful collection of dolls, including one that looks just like her, this film might be particularly suitable at Halloween.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Curiosity  
Danger  
Childhood**

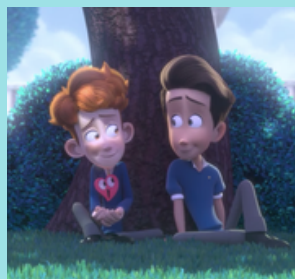


### JANEY MARY - 20 MINS

Based on the **original short story by Joseph O'Connor**, *Janey Mary* tells the tale of a five-year-old girl in 1940's Dublin, who is sent out by her mother onto the cold and wet winter streets to beg for food. This film might be particularly suitable at Christmas time.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Conflict  
Childhood  
Poverty  
Religion**



### IN A HEARTBEAT - 4 MINS

This is a **short animated coming-of-age film** about a boy and his crush. At first he is too shy to admit to his crush how he feels. Until one day his heart pops out of his chest and chases the boy of his dreams.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Adolescence  
Relationships  
Love**



### SOAR - 6 MINS

A **short 3D animated film** about the perseverance of a young girl who dreams of becoming an airplane engineer. One day a tiny pilot drops out of the sky and she endeavors to return him and his aircraft to the clouds again.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Resilience  
Identity  
Relationships**



### SNACK ATTACK - 5 MINS

This **comedic yet poignant short film** tells the story of an old lady and her intention to eat some homemade cookies, but a teenage boy has other plans for them...

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

**Relationships  
Stereotyping  
Generosity  
Prejudice  
Ageism**



**Further supports for the teaching of short film are available on [Scoilnet.ie](http://Scoilnet.ie)**

**[Click to access](#)**