

## Adoption at the Movies

Excerpt with permission from: Cooper, A. (2017). *Adoption at the movies: A Year of Adoption-Friendly Movie Nights to Get Your Family Talking*. Philadelphia, PA: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. This book contains descriptions of each movie and discussion questions to stimulate communication between parents and their children.

Also see website: <http://www.adoptionlcsw.com/>

### APPENDICES: MOVIES BY AGE

To help you get started with a movie tonight, here are some suggestions sorted by broad age group. Check out the full reviews in this book to get more precise age recommendations and for some help in figuring out which film best suits your needs. Some movies fit for more than one age group; for example, some of the films listed under “Grown-Ups” only show up there, and are movies best suited to parents rather than kids; but other movies in the “Grown-Up” list are kid-friendly movies that can also hold their own as entertaining and worthwhile for adults, whether or not kids are also in the audience.

#### *Age 7 and under*

Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman

Curly Top

Despicable Me 2

Ernest and Celestine

Frozen

Kung Fu Panda

Kung Fu Panda 3

Penguins of Madagascar

Planes

Planes: Fire and Rescue

Rio 2

Tarzan II

The Tigger Movie

Turbo

Up

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## ***Ages 7-12***

Angels in the Outfield

Annie (1999)

Big Hero 6

The Boxtrolls

Chimpanzee

Curly Top

Despicable Me

Despicable Me 2

Earth to Echo

Ernest and Celestine

Finding Dory

Frozen

How to Train Your Dragon 2

Jungle Book (1967)

Kung Fu Panda

Kung Fu Panda 2

Kung Fu Panda 3

Lilo and Stitch

Meet the Robinsons

Mr. Peabody and Sherman

Paddington

Penguins of Madagascar

Planes

Planes: Fire and Rescue

Rio 2

Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace

Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones Star

Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith

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Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope  
Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back  
Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi  
Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens  
Superman: The Movie  
Tarzan  
Tarzan II  
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)  
The Tigger Movie  
Up

### ***Ages 12-18***

Antwone Fisher  
Big Hero 6  
The Boxtrolls  
Chimpanzee  
Cinderella (2015)  
Closure  
Creed  
Divergent  
Finding Dory  
Frozen  
How to Train Your Dragon 2  
Instant Family  
Jungle Book (1967)  
Kung Fu Panda  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Lilo and Stitch  
Man of Steel

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Meet the Robinsons  
Penguins of Madagascar  
Remember My Story:  
ReMoved Part Two Rio 2  
Secondhand Lions  
Somewhere Between  
Star Wars: Episode I – The  
Phantom Menace Star  
Wars: Episode II – Attack of  
the Clones Star Wars:  
Episode III – Revenge of the  
Sith  
Star Wars: Episode IV – A  
New Hope  
Star Wars: Episode V – The  
Empire Strikes Back Star  
Wars: Episode VI – Return  
of the Jedi  
Star Wars: Episode VII –  
The Force Awakens  
Superman: The Movie  
Tangled Up

### ***Grown-Ups***

Antwone Fisher  
Belle  
Big Daddy  
Big Hero 6  
The Blind Side  
Camp

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Chimpanzee  
Closure  
Creed  
Delivery Man  
Finding Dory  
I Am Sam  
Ida  
Into the Woods  
Kung Fu Panda  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Man of Steel  
Martian Child  
Moonrise Kingdom  
The Odd Life of Timothy Green  
Planes: Fire and Rescue  
Remember My Story: ReMoved Part 2  
ReMoved  
Rio 2  
St. Vincent  
Secondhand Lions  
Somewhere Between  
Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace  
Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones  
Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith  
Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope  
Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back  
Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi  
Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens

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Superman: The Movie

Tangled

Up

## MOVIES BY DISCUSSION TOPIC

This non-exhaustive index is to help you find a film to talk about a specific topic. Please check out the full reviews in this book to help you decide which film best suits your needs.

### *Feeling Abandoned*

Antwone Fisher

The Blind Side

Instant Family

Martian Child

### *Absent Parents*

The Blind Side

Creed

Delivery Man

How to Train Your Dragon 2

Instant Family

Kung Fu Panda 3

Man of Steel

Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace Up

### *Abuse Experienced*

Antwone Fisher

Camp

Cinderella (2015)

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ReMoved

Secondhand Lions

### ***Adoptive Family as Normal Life***

Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman

Despicable Me 2

Kung Fu Panda

St. Vincent

Somewhere Between

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)

### ***Birth Parents and Birth Family***

Antwone Fisher

Belle

The Boxtrolls

Closure

Creed

Delivery Man

How to Train Your Dragon 2

I Am Sam

Ida

Kung Fu Panda 3

Instant Family

Man of Steel

Meet the Robinsons

Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two Rio 2

Star Wars Episodes I-VI, as a unit. Individually, Episodes III, V, VI and VII.

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Somewhere Between  
The Tigger Movie

***Considering Adoption, and journeying towards adoption –  
Movies for folks who want to adopt***

Big Daddy  
Blind Side  
The Camp (2013 version)  
Closure  
Delivery Man  
I Am Sam  
Ida  
Instant Family  
Martian Child  
Odd Life of Timothy Green  
The Remember  
My Story: ReMoved Part 2  
ReMoved  
Somewhere Between

***Cross-Cultural Adoption***

Belle  
Blind Side  
The Boxtrolls  
Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman  
Closure  
Ernest and Celestine

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Instant Family  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Man of Steel  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman  
Paddington  
Rio 2  
Somewhere Between  
Superman: The Movie  
Tarzan  
Tarzan II  
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)

### ***Dad adoption***

Big Daddy  
The Boxtrolls  
Chimpanzee  
Despicable Me  
Despicable Me 2  
Kung Fu Panda  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Martian Child  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman  
Moonrise Kingdom  
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)

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## ***Dealing with People who Oppose Adoption***

Big Daddy  
The Blind Side  
Instant Family  
Martian Child  
Tangled

## ***Divided Loyalties***

Annie (1999)  
Instant Family  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens

## ***Emotions***

Antwone Fisher  
Closure  
Divergent  
Instant Family  
Martian Child  
Planes  
Planes: Fire and Rescue  
Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two  
Star Wars Episodes I-VII, collectively

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## ***Family Defined***

Belle  
The Boxtrolls  
Creed  
Lilo and Stitch  
Paddington

## ***Family Formation***

Angels in the Outfield  
Big Daddy  
The Blind Side  
The Boxtrolls  
Camp  
Chimpanzee  
Closure  
Creed  
Curly Top  
Delivery Man  
Despicable Me  
Divergent  
Ernest and Celestine  
Instant Family  
Into the Woods  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Lilo and Stitch  
Martian Child

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Meet the Robinsons  
The Odd Life of Timothy Green  
Paddington  
Secondhand Lions  
Somewhere Between  
Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace  
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)  
Turbo

### ***Fitting In and Belonging; Family Roles***

The Blind Side  
Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman  
Instant Family  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Man of Steel  
Martian Child  
Paddington  
Penguins of Madagascar Rio 2  
Tarzan  
Tarzan II

### ***Foster Care***

Angels in the Outfield  
Annie (1999)  
Antwone Fisher  
Camp  
Earth to Echo

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Ernest and Celestine  
I Am Sam  
Instant Family  
Jungle Book (1967)  
Lilo and Stitch  
Martian Child  
Moonrise Kingdom  
Paddington  
Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two ReMoved  
Secondhand Lions

### ***God in Adoption***

Camp  
Somewhere Between

### ***Identity Development and Identity Shared Between Two Families***

The Boxtrolls  
Choose Your Own Adventure: The Abominable Snowman  
Closure  
Creed Divergent  
How to Train Your Dragon 2  
Ida  
Kung Fu Panda 2  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Man of Steel  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman  
Penguins of Madagascar

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Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two  
Rio 2  
Secondhand Lions  
Somewhere Between  
Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace  
Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back  
Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi  
Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens  
Superman: The Movie  
Tarzan  
Tarzan II  
The Tigger Movie

## ***Infertility***

Into the Woods  
The Odd Life of Timothy Green  
Up

## ***Loss***

Big Hero 6  
Chimpanzee  
Creed  
Finding Dory  
Frozen  
How to Train Your Dragon 2  
Instant Family  
Man of Steel

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Martian Child

Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two

St. Vincent

Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace

Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones

Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope

Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back

Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi

Superman: The Movie

### ***Maintaining Relationships over Distance***

Earth to Echo

Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two

### ***Relative Adoption***

Belle

Big Hero 6

Creed

Lilo and Stitch

Secondhand Lions

### ***Relinquishment***

Man of Steel

Superman: The Movie

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## ***Reunion***

Antwone Fisher

The Boxtrolls

Closure

Delivery Man

Finding Dory

Ida

Kung Fu Panda 3

Man of Steel

Meet the Robinsons

Rio 2

Somewhere Between

Star Wars Episodes I-VI, collectively, but especially Episodes V and VI seen together

Superman: The Movie

## ***Secrets***

The Boxtrolls

Closure

Curly Top

Delivery Man

Ernest and Celestine

Frozen

Ida

Kung Fu Panda 2

Man of Steel

The Odd Life of Timothy Green

Planes

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Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith  
Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope  
Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back  
Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi  
Superman: The Movie

## ***Self-acceptance***

Antwone Fisher  
Belle  
Kung Fu Panda 3  
Man of Steel  
Tarzan II

## ***Self-blame***

Finding Dory  
Siblings  
Closure  
Curly Top  
Delivery Man  
Despicable Me  
Despicable Me 2  
Frozen  
Lilo and Stitch  
Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two  
ReMoved  
Star Wars Episodes V and VI, collectively  
Turbo

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## ***Single-Parent Adoptions***

Despicable Me 2

Martian Child

Moonrise Kingdom

ReMoved

## ***Social Workers***

Big Daddy

Instant Family

Lilo and Stitch

Mr. Peabody and Sherman

Moonrise Kingdom

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)

## ***Therapy***

Antwone Fisher

Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two

## ***Understanding Difficult or Confusing Behaviors***

Antwone Fisher

The Blind Side

Camp

Martian Child

Remember My Story: ReMoved Part Two ReMoved

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## ***Waiting to be Adopted***

Annie (1999)

Meet the Robinsons

Paddington

Secondhand Lions

## ***Worries that Adoption is a “second” choice, and second choices in general***

Planes: Fire and Rescue Up

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