

Recommended Documentaries

Foster Care

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
American Promise: A PBS Point of View (2014) 2 hr. 14 min.	A look into the lives of two middle class black families as they navigate the ups and downs of parenting and educating their sons.	Seattle and Sno-Isle Public Libraries, King and Pierce County Library Systems, Netflix DVD, Amazon Video, YouTube or iTunes for \$3.99
Annie Was a Liar! The Truth About Being in Foster Care (2014) 1 hr. 27 min.	Trials and tribulations of a child entering the world of foster care without guidance and emotional support. Looks at foster parents and the broken system, through both positive and negative experiences.	Free with Amazon Prime
Autumn's Eyes: Prison, Poverty, and Life through her Eyes (2006) 60 min.	A documentary about a 3-year-old girl who tries to navigate through the harsh reality of severe poverty, her teenage mother's incarceration and looming foster care. Includes Kinship care.	Amara
Children of the System: Our America with Lisa Ling (2014)	What happens to a child after they've been removed from their family, the actions parents take to reunify, and how the system is holding up under the strain.	https://www.ovguide.com/tv_episode/our-america-with-lisa-ling-season-5-episode-6-children-of-the-system-4901969
The F Word: A Foster-to-Adopt Story (2016) Season One, 60 min.	One couple's journey to adopt from foster care.	http://www.thefwordseries.com/watch/
Failure to Protect: The taking of Logan Marr (2001) 51 min.	The story of a child taken from a mother who never abused her, and whose death in foster care prompted the state to reexamine its child welfare policies.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT0p1KgJ7rE
First Circle (2010) 2 hrs.	A documentary about children who grow up in foster care. This movie showcases their sadness of living with different families throughout their life.	Available for rent on Amazon Video for \$2.99
Fostering Hope (2014) 8 min.	This short film depicts the positive impact foster care can have on both the child and the foster care parent.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wVzLkrPtWQ&app=desktop
Frontline: The Medicated Child (2008) 56 min.	Millions of U.S. children are taking psychiatric drugs, most never tested on kids. Good medicine - or an uncontrolled experiment?	Seattle Public Library, King County and Sno-Isle Library Systems https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_spBjChw4s Available for rent on iTunes for \$1.99

Frontline: The Meth Epidemic (2011) 55 min.	An investigation into how and why meth use spiraled out of control and became the fastest-growing drug abuse problem in America.	Seattle Public Library and King County Library System https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVpyX9UP-Kw Available for rent on iTunes for \$1.99
Girlhood: Growing Up on the Inside (2003) 66 min.	The stories of two girls trying to make a life for themselves both inside and outside of Baltimore's juvenile justice system.	Netflix streaming https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klxB_HrtCKo
The Great Gilly Hopkins (2015) 1hr. 39min. <i>(Training hours not available)</i>	A feisty foster kid's outrageous scheme to be reunited with her birth mother has unintended consequences	Netflix streaming Seattle Public Library, King, Pierce and Sno-Isle Library Systems Amazon Video for \$3.99, iTunes for \$5.99
The Picnic (Adoption Documentary) (2016) 50 min.	Cameras have been allowed into the yearly picnic where prospective foster parents get to see the children in a lively, social situation.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfHVZe0mQlc
Protecting Our Children (2012) Episode One - 59 min. Episode Two - 58 min. Episode Three - 58 min.	A British documentary series about social workers in the child protection department in Bristol.	http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x15pc3t
Protecting Our Foster Kids (2015) 58 min.	Follows Dorset County Council's fostering service day-to-day work professionals do in helping the lives of children in care.	http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x2vkvxav
Tough Love (2014) 1 hr. 22 min.	Chronicles the lives of two parents with cases in the US child welfare system as they attempt to prove to the courts that they deserve a second chance to be a parent and have a family.	Amara Available for rent on Amazon Video for \$2.99
(un)Wanted: Foster Care Documentary (2017) 25 min.	Seeks to raise awareness about the foster care crisis in Wisconsin and throughout our nation.	https://www.unwantedthefilm.com
World's Most Dangerous Drug (2006) 47 min.	The shocking and devastating effects of methamphetamines.	Seattle Public Library and King County Library System Netflix DVD or purchase on Amazon https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/the-worlds-most-dangerous-drug/

Openness

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
Adopted: For the Life of Me (2012) 57 min.	Adult adoptees seek their origins, illuminating the impact of secrecy in adoption over the course of a lifetime.	Amara
Adopted: The Movie (2008) 2 hrs.	Two adoption stories; a family just beginning the process of adopting a baby from China, the other is a Korean adoptee, now 32 years old.	Amara Seattle Public Library and King County Library System https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cYI686su6PY

The Adopted Life Episode One - 16 min Episode Two - 14 min Episode Three - 19 min	Each episode serves to bring awareness and education to the public about complex issues adoptees face.	http://www.theadoptedlife.com/
Closure (2013) 76 min.	A transracial adoptee who finds her birth mother, and meets the rest of a family who didn't know she existed, including her birth father. A story about identity, the complexities of trans-racial adoption, and most importantly, closure.	Amara: Families can receive a code for download Seattle Public Library and King County Library System Amazon Video for \$3.99, iTunes for \$3.99
First Person Plural (2000)	A Korean adoptee is sent to her new home in CA where the memory of her birth family was nearly obliterated, until recurring dreams led her to investigate her own past.	PBS Point of View Documentary
Off and Running (2010) 74 min.	An adoptee struggling with her "true" identity, the circumstances of her adoption and her estrangement from black culture, decides to make sense of her identity.	Seattle Public Library iTunes for \$3.99
Open Secrets (2015) 54 min.	An adoptees 20-year search for his birth parents; why a whole town kept the truth from him; and how his family's tumultuous history revolves around the hidden lives of two unconventional women.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtWXrcqsrS iTunes for \$4.99
Twinsters (2015) 1hr. 29 min.	Adopted from South Korea, raised on different continents & connected through social media, girls believe that they are twin sisters separated at birth.	Seattle Public Library, King and Pierce Counties Library Systems Netflix streaming, Amazon Video or iTunes for \$3.99

Parenting—General

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
Beyond F.A.T. City: A Look Back, A Look Ahead (2005) 67 min.	Discussion on coaching, teaching, building self-esteem, creating individualized education plans, imparting accountability, home schooling, parental responsibility and much more.	Seattle Public Library Netflix DVD https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3yIpb6z6iWs
Child Development: The First Two Years (2003) 1 hr.	Provides tips on fostering the best environment for a child's learning and progress. Subjects covered include nutrition, teething, stimulation, mobility and motor skills, language development and separation anxiety.	Available on Netflix DVD
Dark Matter of Love (2012) 59 min.	Language barriers and discipline problems contribute to a Wisconsin couple's difficulty in bonding with the three Russian orphans they adopted.	http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x191s88 iTunes for \$3.99

<p>The Beginning of Life: The Series (2016) Episode One - 41 min. Episode Two - 44 min. Episode Three - 42 min. Episode Four - 46 min. Episode Five - 45 min. Episode Six - 42 min.</p>	<p>This series about infant development covers the stages of learning, the importance of adult-child interaction and the challenges of becoming a parent.</p>	<p>Netflix streaming</p>
<p>The Happiest Toddler on the Block (2004) 64 minutes</p>	<p>Tips to help you raise a happier, calmer child... and double your fun!</p>	<p>Seattle Public Library Available to purchase for streaming: https://www.happiestbaby.com/products/toddler-streaming-video-english; or iTunes for \$7.99</p>
<p>The Whole Brain Child (2012) 3hrs. 20 min.</p>	<p>How to cultivate healthy emotional and intellectual development in children, turn outbursts, arguments, and fears into opportunities to integrate your child's brain and foster vital growth.</p>	<p>Available for DVD purchase from Amazon</p>

Parenting—Special Needs

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
<p>Beyond F.A.T. City: A Look Back, A Look Ahead (2005) 67 min.</p>	<p>Discussion on coaching, teaching, building self-esteem, creating individualized education plans, imparting accountability, home schooling, parental responsibility and much more.</p>	<p>Seattle Public Library and King County Library System Available on Netflix DVD https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3yIp6ez6iWs</p>
<p>Dark Matter of Love (2012) 59 min.</p>	<p>Language barriers and discipline problems contribute to a Wisconsin couple's difficulty in bonding with the three Russian orphans they adopted.</p>	<p>http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x191s88</p>
<p>My Flesh and Blood (2003) 1hr. 24 min.</p>	<p>The Tom family adopted eleven children, most of whom had serious disabilities or diseases.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_LmrrQG35o iTunes for \$3.99</p>
<p>My Name is Faith (2012) 1hr. 22 min.</p>	<p>A 12-year-old girl working hard to overcome a troubling past and accept and embrace the love and possibility that now surround her.</p>	<p>Amara https://vimeo.com/165578287</p>
<p>The Whole Brain Child (2012) 3hrs. 20 min.</p>	<p>How to cultivate healthy emotional and intellectual development in children, turn outbursts, arguments, and fears into opportunities to integrate your child's brain and foster vital growth.</p>	<p>Available for DVD purchase from Amazon</p>

Transracial Placement

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
Adopted: The Movie (2008) 2 hrs.	Two adoption stories; a family just beginning the process of adopting a baby from China, the other is a Korean adoptee, now 32 years old.	Amara Seattle Public Library and King County Library System https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cYl686su6PY
The Adopted Life Episode One - 16 min. Episode Two - 14 min. Episode Three - 19 min.	Each episode serves to bring awareness and education to the public about complex issues adoptees face.	http://www.theadoptedlife.com/
All My Relations (2011) 43 min.	A film about the importance of cultural connections for Native American foster youth	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ea2q2c4VuhM
American Promise: A PBS Point of View (2014) 2 hr. 14 min.	A look into the lives of two middle class black families as they navigate the ups and downs of parenting and educating their sons.	Seattle Public Library, King and Pierce Counties and Sno-Isle Library Systems; Netflix DVD, Amazon Video, YouTube or iTunes for \$3.99
Closure (2013) 76 min.	A transracial adoptee who finds her birth mother, and meets the rest of a family who didn't know she existed, including her birth father. A story about identity, the complexities of trans-racial adoption, and most importantly, closure.	Amara: Families can receive a code for download Seattle Public Library and King County Library System Amazon Video or iTunes for \$3.99
First Person Plural (2000)	A Korean adoptee is sent to her new home in CA where the memory of her birth family was nearly obliterated, until recurring dreams led her to investigate her own past.	PBS Point of View Documentary
Girl, Adopted (2013) 78 min.	An adolescent works to figure out who she is in the aftermath of her adoption. The documentary follows her struggle to find love among strangers in the U.S. and to understand what to make of this love on an unexpected return trip to Ethiopia.	http://www.girladopted.com/ Available for download for \$9.99
Off and Running (2010) 74 min.	An adoptee struggling with her "true" identity, the circumstances of her adoption and her estrangement from black culture, decides to make sense of her identity.	Seattle Public Library iTunes for \$3.99
Somewhere Between (2011) 53 min.	Four teenaged Chinese adoptees now living in the United States, examine what it is like to come-of-age as a trans-racial adoptee in today's America.	Seattle Public Library http://www.somewherebetweenmovie.com/buy Netflix DVD; Amazon Video or iTunes for \$3.99

LGBTQ

Name of Documentary	Summary	Where available
America's Most Unwanted: LGBTQ! Foster Youth in America (2013) 21 min.	Reveals untold stories of homophobia in the foster care system in the country's most gay-friendly state: California.	Seattle Public Library and King County Library System https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/america-s-most-unwanted-a-film-about-foster-youth-free-dvds-for-foster-homes#/
Daddy and Papa: A Story of Gay Fathers in America (2002) 57 min.	Explores gay fatherhood in four multi-racial families. Touching on surrogacy, foster care, the complexities of gay marriage and divorce, and the battle for legal adoption rights.	Amara iTunes for \$4.99
The F Word: A Foster-to-Adopt Story (2016) Season One, 60 min.	One couple's journey to adopt from foster care.	http://www.thefwordseries.com/watch/
Off and Running (2010) 74 min.	An adoptee struggling with her "true" identity, the circumstances of her adoption and her estrangement from black culture, decides to make sense of her identity.	iTunes for \$3.99