

HOW DO THEY... *Make Potato Chips?*

A National Film Board of Canada Release



How Do They...?

"Splendid attention grabbers, complete ideas presented with intelligence and style in a compact time period."

—Toronto Sun

How Do They...Make Potato Chips? is one of a series of short and snappy videos that reveal the mysteries behind how everyday things happen.

Each of these fascinating little videos is without words. Ideal for teachers, *How do they...?* works across the curriculum. And the videos answer questions kids often ask!

Almost every child loves to eat potato chips. And they'll love to learn how they're made. (Bet you can't watch this video just once!)

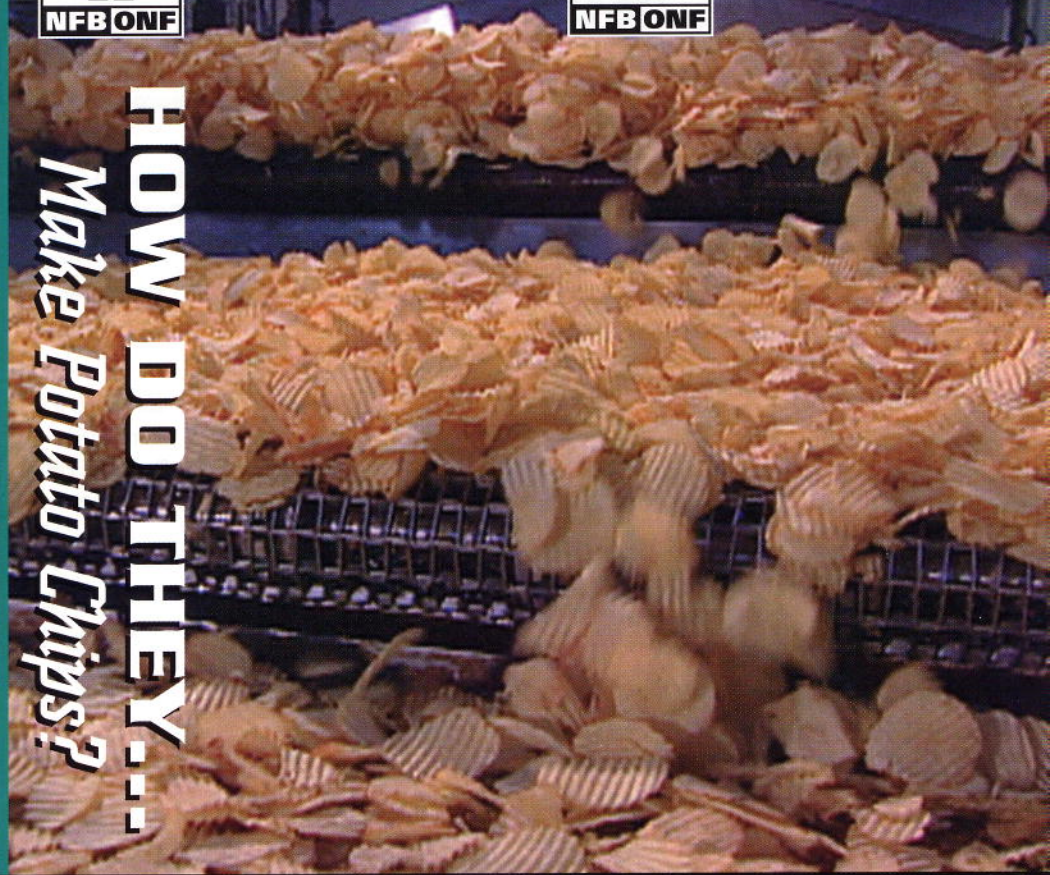
User's guide inside!

Director: Don White
Producer: George Johnson

4 minutes, 17 seconds
Order number: C0197 165

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The Details

This guide explains what you see on-screen during this **How Do They...?** video, and it offers suggestions for classroom use.

Suggested Activities for the Elementary Classroom

This video explains one of the simple mysteries in life, encourages creativity and can be used in a variety of ways to enrich elementary classroom activities.

The following are suggested activities for Language Arts (to aid in descriptive writing and in sequencing) and for Social Studies (examining the importance of primary and secondary industries).

1. Where do the potatoes you eat come from? How many countries grow potatoes? How many kinds of potatoes are grown and how are they different?
2. Have the students watch the video, describe and write down the process and then watch the video again. Use the description on this videojacket to help in this exercise.
3. There are many types of potato chips — plain, flavoured, crinkle cut and more. How are they alike? How are they different?
4. Research and explore difficult words such as: cogs, conveyor, centrifugal force, and hoppers.

Making Potato Chips

The potatoes are washed, then dropped into a revolving drum which removes any remaining dirt as well as most of the potato skin.

Director:
Don White

Cinematographer:
Ken Kuramoto

Editor:
George Johnson

Sound Design:
Gael Maclean

Producer:
George Johnson

**Executive
Producer:**
Svend-Erik
Eriksen

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Emerging from the drum, the potatoes are sorted by size. Those small enough for the slicing drums fall between a set of turning cogs; those too large are deposited in a slicer where they are cut in half. Both whole and cut potatoes drop onto the same conveyor belt for washing and transport to the slicers.

When the potatoes are dropped into the drums, centrifugal force pushes them out past sharp cutting blades. Different blades produce slices for different types of chips: plain, crinkle cut, kettle and so on.

Kettle chips are thicker than other types, and are dumped into open fryers of hot oil. Paddle-wheel-like agitators stir the chips along the surface and they are cooked a single batch at a time.

Other chips are deposited into continuous fryers. They move down a long bath of hot cooking oil, continuously submerged in the oil by large paddles.

Emerging at the other end, the cooked chips move down shake tables to dry, past salting drums where salt rains down from above, and into large drums where additional spices may be added.

Salted and spiced, the chips are transported overhead to bagging machines. Bag-sized hoppers determine the portion to be dropped into a chute and subsequently into bags which are sealed and packed in turn.

The entire **How Do They...?** series is available from the National Film Board of Canada. **To order, call 1-800-267-7710 (Canada) or 1-800-542-2164 (USA).**