



EPISODE 1

Director: Kaj Pindal Executive Producer: John Spotton

Screening time: 11 minutes 55 seconds

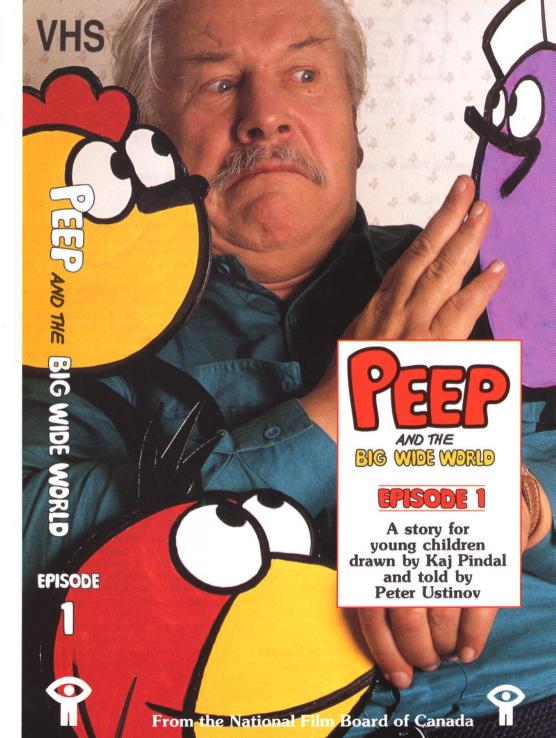
Animated films for young children — simple, amusing and fresh. Drawn by Kaj Pindal, narrated by Peter Ustinov, this delightful series features strongly defined characters, an engaging graphic style and a lively but unhurried pace that respects the rhythms of the young child. All three films concentrate on the adventures of Peep, a newly hatched chick and her two birdfriends: Quack, a cantankerous duck and Chirp, an excitable robin. Designed specially for classrooms and early childhood education settings, Peep and the Big Wide World will be welcomed by all those eager for material that enriches and excites the imaginations of the very young.

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CREDITS

Kai Pindal Story, Direction, Animation Produced by Michael Scott Narrated by Peter Ustinov Assistant Director Additional Animation Craig Welch Educational Consultant and Narration Written by Arlene Moscovitch Music by Annie Pindal Sound Edited by Gary Oppenheimer Peter Jermyn Kaj Pindal Edited by John Kramer Craig Welch Computer Graphics Bill Pong Wendy Walker

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DESCRIPTION

Peep, newly arrived in the world, tries to figure out some of its most basic properties, not to mention her own physical characteristics. Eyes, legs, up, down, water — it's all a bit of a jumble to her until she's saved from near-drowning by Quack, a know-it-all duck. He ferries her across to his home on Green Island where they meet up with Chirp, the fledgling robin. Together, the birdfriends decide they're a team and set out to explore the big wide world of the mainland.

VIEWING TIPS

Before

- Always preview a video before showing it to children. This
 will help spark your own ideas about how best to use it
 with your particular child or group of children.
- Assess the video to make sure it is relevant to the children's interests.
- Consider which concepts in the video the children might be developmentally ready to explore.
- Think about ways of introducing the video that will capture the children's interest. You may, for example, want to begin the first episode of *Peep* by reading a book or starting a discussion about what comes out of an egg.

During

- Observe the children's responses as they watch the video and be prepared to take your cues from them.
- Preschoolers are very active. Allow individual children to move about and talk to the screen, if they so desire.
- If interest wanes, turn off the video or let the children who want to do so work at other activities. A brief "stop-andtalk-about-it" session might renew interest.

After

- Use books, art materials, props for movement and drama, musical instruments and games to reinforce and extend the children's viewing experience.
- Remember that group size has a great bearing on the success of post-screening activities. Some children may be interested in pursuing activities related to the video; others may not. This is normal, so alternative activities should be available, if possible.
- Replay the video several times over a few days or weeks.
 Children enjoy the repetition and get something new out of each viewing. In fact, Peep was designed to provide children with enough time to interact with what they see on the screen.

KEY CONCEPTS

Self-awareness

What comes out of an egg

Comparisons: similarities and differences

Locomotion What a bird is Friendship Introductions

Disagreement and reconciliation

Pre-screening Activities

- Have available a few different kinds of eggs. Discuss what comes out of an egg.
- Go for a discovery walk looking for birds.
- Observe birds at a bird feeder or look at pictures of birds and different kinds of feathers.
- Read Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman, a book about a little bird on a quest for his identity.
- Ask what do they think is meant by the "Big Wide World?"

Post-screening Activities

Encourage simple role playing.
 Imitate how Peep walked (march).
 Imitate how Quack walked (waddle).
 Imitate how Chirp walked (hop).

What are some ways that you and I can move from one place to another? Demonstrate skip, crawl, twirl, run, tiptoe, tiny steps, giant steps, prance, leap. The teacher may want to work with children's musical instruments similar to those used in the film or use such items as spoons, plastic containers, sand blocks and rhythm sticks.

- Children spontaneously imitate the characteristic sounds of Peep, Quack and Chirp. Encourage them to mimic the sounds of other birds and animals with which they are familiar.
- · Some questions on:

Self-awareness

- 1. How did Peep learn the purpose of her toes and legs?
- 2. How did Peep learn that she could make a noise?
- 3. How was Peep's reaction to swimming different than Quack's? Why?

Similarities and Differences

- Look at several books and posters about all different kinds of birds.
 - a. What do all birds have alike?
 - b. What are some differences between different kinds of birds?
- 2. How are a chicken, a duck and a robin different from each other?
- 3. How are all people alike?
- 4. How are we different from each other?
- 5. Does a difference make one person better or worse than someone else?

