

# Audiovisual Reviews

## REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOR OF THE BROOK TROUT: *SALVELINUS FONTINALIS*.

1971. Audio-Visual Services, (The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802). 16 mm color-sound film. 24 minutes. Purchase \$210; rental \$9.10 (U.S. only).

This well-conceived film with excellent photography was made in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California from an underwater observation tank as well as along the streambank. The film shows the proper behavioral events: color intensification in the male, cutting and probing of the female, preparation of the redd, agonistic competitive behavior of two males, spawning and postspawning ritual. Slow motion and telephotography enhance the clarity and details of the presentation. The person unfamiliar with the subject will gain a significant amount of information in 24 minutes.

The accompanying study guide is a disaster on two counts. First, the references are in journals that are not available in most college and many university libraries. Second, the study guide suggests showing the film with the sound off and then rerunning it with the sound on. When a group of undergraduates viewed the film in this way, restlessness overtook them quickly, because some of the key signals are difficult to discern without aid or prior experience. Without the narration, the viewer loses the message of the film. Today's students are visual, but silent movies are not their medium. Show the film and throw the study guide away.

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## UNDERSTANDING THE DEAF.

1977. Perennial Education Inc., (1825 Willow Road, Northfield, Illinois 60093). 16 mm color-sound film. 21 minutes. Purchase \$300; rental \$30.

The film is designed to reduce the psychological impact upon students and

teachers when deaf children are mainstreamed into the regular school. It develops a better understanding of a deaf individual as a total person. Different types of hearing losses, as well as their subsequent effects upon the reception of sound and corresponding speech and language development, are sensitively demonstrated. The deaf are portrayed as loving and caring individuals with average or better motor development and nonverbal intelligence.

A significant part of the film demonstrates educational programs for deaf students of different ages. Appropriate educational techniques are demonstrated: small group activities in which young children learn to reproduce sounds; group discussions and reading activities performed by adolescents; and innovative applications of media, where, for example, deaf children act, narrate and video-tape a visual word dictionary. Home situations illustrating peer interaction and child care procedures reveal the need for parents and siblings to understand and communicate with the deaf to reinforce their language training. Finally, the film offers realistic suggestions for helping hearing people to learn to communicate with the deaf.

For maximum benefit, the teacher should view the film twice. The first reaction may be one of pity and a feeling of helplessness in dealing with the magnitude of the problems associated with deafness. During a second viewing, the teacher should focus on the excellent examples of the different degrees of hearing loss and how the development of relevant educational programs can promote the acquisition of language and social skills. Actual classroom lessons with young and older students are most effective in highlighting the potential for individual or group language instruction. The reinforcement of communication in the home life demonstrates the need for a total program.

The film would require extensive pre-screening discussions before elementary students could gain the desired insights. It appears that teachers and students in junior and senior high school are a most appropriate audience. Furthermore, the

film has great potential in undergraduate teacher training at the college level.

The technical quality of the film is excellent. While serving the purpose of reducing the initial anxiety of the hearing toward deaf children mainstreamed into regular schools, the use of other films and additional training is imperative if the regular educator is going to cooperate in the planning and implementation of an educational program for the deaf.

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## BIGHORN.

1975. Learning Corporation of America (1350 Avenue of the Americas, New York 10019). 16 mm color-sound film. 52 minutes. Purchase \$595; rental \$50.

This film might more properly be titled "The Rebirth of John Denver." This made-for-television movie describes a year spent by John Denver and his guide exploring the Rocky Mountains. Through song and excellent photography, Denver's discovery of the land is revealed. Greatest attention is given to

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Faith Hickman, Audiovisuals Editor, selects materials and coordinates the review process for this feature. Catherine Marble is her assistant. Their continuing contribution to the journal is deeply appreciated.

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