



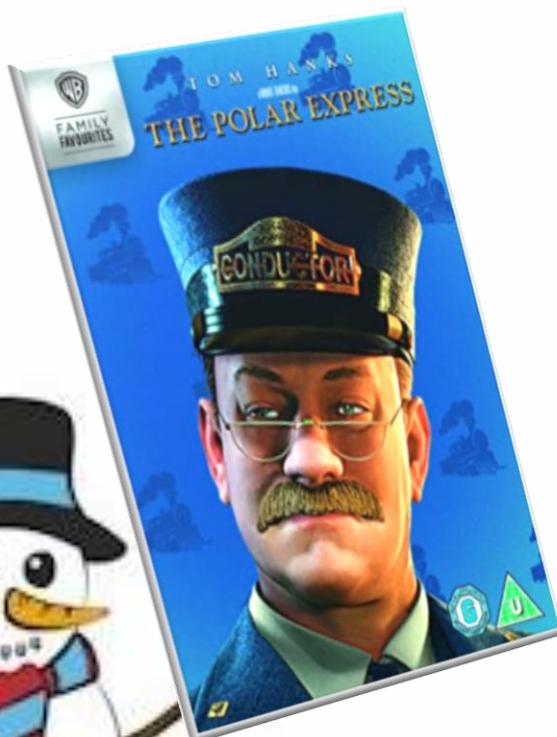
Festive Films

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Yep, Christmas is on its way – and it wouldn't be Christmas without some festive family films.

So, whether you love a Christmas classic, or the kids are begging for an animated comedy, look no further than the Learning Curve.

All of the films reviewed below are available on DVD format from the library, these can be borrowed using our Click & Collect Service.

So get yourself comfortable, curl up with a hot chocolate and chill out with a movie 'Yule' love!



The Polar Express (2004)

Directed by Robert Zemeckis

The academy Award-winning team of Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis reunite for 'The Polar Express', an inspiring adventure based on the beloved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg. Late on Christmas Eve night, a boy (Daryl Sabara) lies in bed hoping to hear the sound of reindeer bells from Santa's sleigh. When to his surprise, a steam engine's roar and whistle can be heard outside his window. The conductor (Hanks) invites him on board to take an extraordinary journey to the North Pole with many other pyjama-clad children. There, he receives an extraordinary gift only those who still believe in Santa can experience.



The Muppet Christmas Carol (2005)

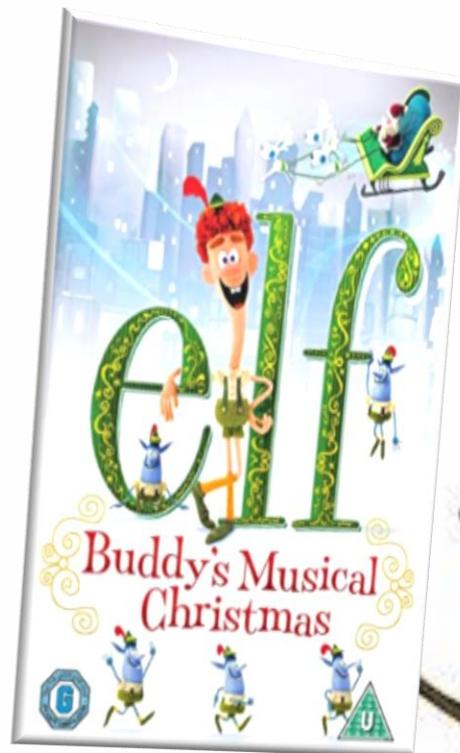
Directed by Brian Henson

'Tis the season for love, laughter, and one of the most cherished stories of all time! Join Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, and all the hilarious Muppets in this merry, magical version of Charles Dickens' classic tale. Academy Award(R) winner Michael Caine (Best Supporting Actor, 2000, THE CIDER HOUSE RULES; 1987, HANNAH AND HER SISTERS) gives a performance that's anything but "bah, humbug!" as greedy, penny-pinching Ebenezer Scrooge. One fateful Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. Together with kind, humble Bob Cratchit (Kermit the Frog) and his family, the Spirits open Scrooge's eyes -- and his heart -- to the true meaning of Christmas.

Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas (2015)

Directed by Mark Caballero, Seamus Walsh

This festive season, fall in love with Buddy the Elf all over again. Based on the popular film and the hit Broadway musical, this charming, whimsy-filled special is brought to you by a stellar cast. Voice talents include four-time Emmy Award winner Jim Parsons (The Big Bang Theory), Ed Asner, Mark Hamill, Kate Micucci, Jay Leno and Gilbert Gottfried. When Buddy discovers his true identity, he sets off in search of his father in New York City. That's when the REAL adventure begins. Laugh and sing along as Buddy and his new friends bring the spirit of Christmas back to the Big Apple!

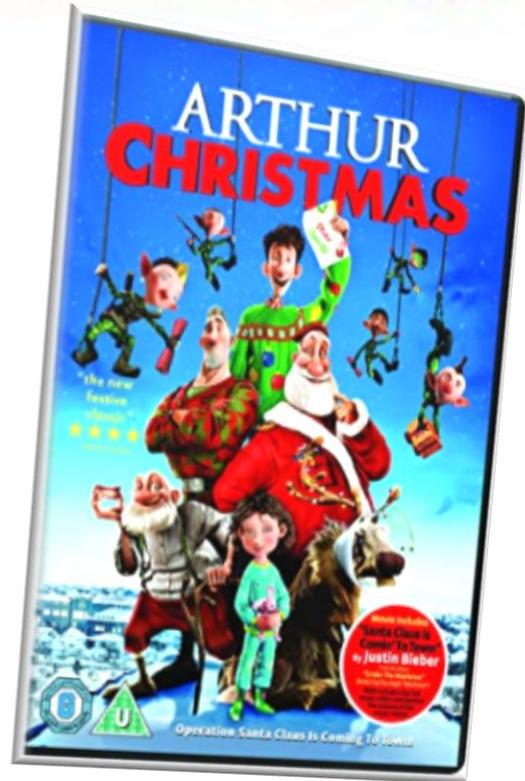


Arthur Christmas (2011)

Directed by Sarah Smith

How can Santa deliver billions of presents to the whole world in just one night? With an army of one million combat-style Field Elves and a vast, state-of-the-art control centre under the ice of the North Pole! So how could this incredible operation have MISSED one child?!

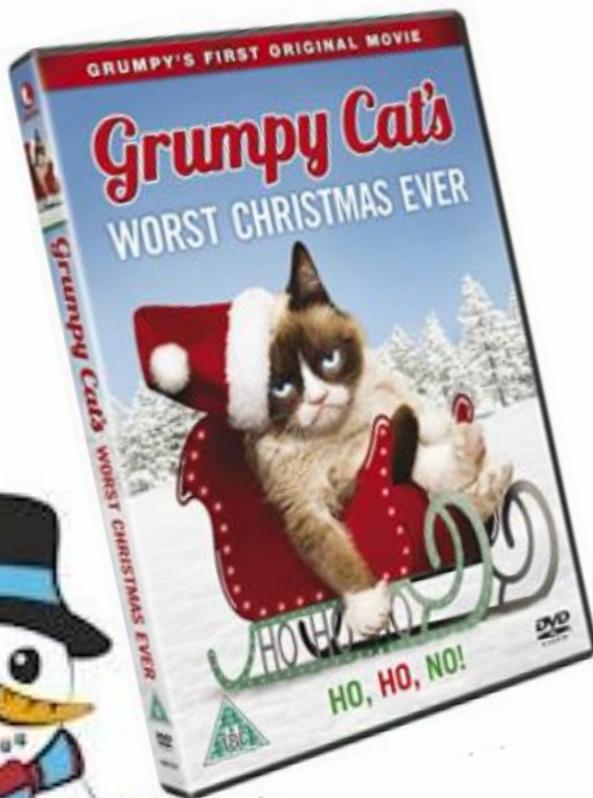
To Santa's young son, Arthur, it threatens to end the magic of Christmas. With retired Grand Santa, a rebellious young elf, an old sleigh and some untrained reindeer, Arthur sets out in a crazy mission to deliver the last present! Deck the halls with excitement, fun and wonder in this new Christmas classic!



Grumpy Cat's Worst Christmas Ever (2015)

Directed by Tim Hill

Grumpy Cat is a lonely cat living in a mall pet shop. Because she always gets passed over and never chosen by customers, this kitty develops a rather sour outlook on life... until one day, just before Christmas, a very special 12-year-old girl named Chrystal visits the store and falls in love with her. A unique friendship is formed between the two when Chrystal discovers she is the only person who can hear Grumpy talk. In the middle of the Christmas rush Grumpy reluctantly thwarts the kidnapping of an expensive exotic dog she can't stand and rescues Chrystal when the shopping mall closes on Christmas Eve. Will Grumpy learn the true meaning of Christmas? Or will it be, in her words, the Worst Christmas Ever?





The Nightmare Before Christmas (1994)

Directed by Danny Elfman

Animated musical fantasy set in a parallel world where different lands represent different holiday periods. Our hero is Jack Skellington (voice of Chris Sarandon), a man from Halloween who becomes converted to Christmas and sets out to spread joy in the world. However, when Jack's new mission leads him to kidnap Santa (voice of Edward Ivory), it becomes clear that he is not really in tune with the Yuletide spirit. Produced and visualised by Tim Burton, this was the first full-length feature to use stop-motion animation throughout.

It's A Wonderful Life (1946)

Directed by Frank Capra

Frank Capra directs this heart-warming Christmas fantasy. George Bailey (James Stewart) has spent his entire life in the small town of Bedford Falls. Despite his yearning to see the world, George has always sacrificed his personal ambitions for the sake of his family and the local community, settling down to marry his childhood sweetheart, Mary (Donna Reed), and raise a family. However, when a huge amount of money goes missing from his savings and loans company he panics and finds himself preparing to commit suicide. He is shown the error of this idea by Clarence (Henry Travers), an angel who has been sent to Earth in order to earn his wings. To this end, Clarence shows George just how badly Bedford Falls and its residents would have turned out had he never been born.

