

**Here are some kid-friendly movie options!**

**Obviously, you can change the audio for most movies on Disney or Netflix, but this hand-picked list focuses on authentic films— movies originally produced in Spanish, or based in a Spanish speaking location.**

## **SPANISH MOVIES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS**

### **1. Vivo**

Featuring voices and songs written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, this movie is a celebration of Cuban music and culture. The star is a *kinkajou* (a “honey bear” from the rainforest), who must travel from Havana to Miami to deliver a special message via song. Kids will love the adventure that befalls the two main characters, and adults will enjoy the storyline with Gloria Estefan and Andrés from the *Buena Vista Social Club*.

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio | 1 hr 38 min | Comedy/Musical

### **2. PACHAMAMA**

An original Netflix production, Pachamama is a film deeply entrenched in the indigenous traditions of Andes culture in South America, while also introducing Incan culture and the invasion of the Spaniards. A young boy living in a remote village takes it upon himself to rescue a cherished relic, on a dangerous journey to the capital Incan city of Cusco.

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio | 1hr 12min | Family/Adventure

### **3. El Camino De Xico (Xico’s Journey)**

Based in Mexico, *El Camino de Xico* stars a Copi, a young girl and her guardian dog. A corporation is trying to use the mountain to mine for gold, and Copi must undertake a journey into a mountain to save her town. Her dog turns out to have magical powers, to help her save the day.

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio | 1hr 25min | Family/Adventure

### **4. ZIPI Y ZAPE Y LA ISLA DEL CAPITÁN (ZIP AND ZAP AND THE CAPTAIN’S ISLAND)**

**\*\*Currently not on Netflix– I did find it on Amazon Prime\*\***

*Zipe and Zape*– the main characters in the film, are based on two popular, mischievous Spanish comic book characters that have been read for decades. In this movie (the sequel is also on Netflix!), a family vacation goes wrong and they end up at a mysterious home with missing parents.

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio | 1hr 45min | Comedy/Adventure

## 5. NAILED IT! MEXICO

*“Hosted by Omar Chaparro and Anna Ruiz, home bakers in Mexico with a terrible track record take a shot at recreating edible masterpieces for a \$10,000 prize. It’s part competition, part hot mess.”*

**Info:** G | Spanish Audio | 30-minute episodes | Food/Reality

## SPANISH MOVIES FOR KIDS ON DISNEY

### 1. COCO

A young Mexican boy, Miguel, has dreams of being a musician. Unfortunately, music is the one thing that’s forbidden in his family. Miguel ends up visiting the Land of the Dead, where he uncovers old family secrets. This has to be one of the most beautiful Latino movies made, with good music, stunning visuals, and a heart-warming tale of family, love, and memory. Keep the tissues nearby. *Coco* was meticulously researched, and is an excellent introduction to Day of the Dead traditions in Mexico.

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles | 1hr 45min | Musical/Adventure

### 2. ENCANTO

*Encanto*, set in Colombia, is the first Disney (not Pixar) movie to star a Latina character. Mirabel is the only member of the magical Madrigal family who was born without a magical power. Still, she seems to be the only one who can save the day when their enchanted town is in danger.

**Info:** PG | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles | 1 hr 39 min | Comedy/Adventure

### 3. MCFARLAND, USA

*McFarland USA* has all the makings of a classic sports Disney story: this time about a cross-country team in California. It explores cultural tensions and life in a predominantly Latino and agricultural community. This one isn’t in Spanish.

**Info:** PG | English Audio, Subtitles | 2hr 22min

### **1. EL LIBRO DE LA VIDA (THE BOOK OF LIFE)**

Manolo is a young Mexican man with big dreams. Unfortunately, his father's are completely different: he wants Manuel to continue the family tradition of bullfighting. Torn between the two, he travels to three fantastical worlds (the underworld, the Land of the Forgotten, and the Land of the Remembered). Told in semi-musical style, with surrealist graphics, *El libro de la vida* is a beautiful movie.

**Info:** PG | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles | 1 hr 29 min | Musical/Adventure

### **2. CANELA (CINNAMON)**

A story about a grandmother and her granddaughter, Maria. Maria tries to convince her grandmother to return to her former love of cooking and the family restaurant *El Molcajete*— which has been straying from its original traditional recipes.

**Info:** NR | Spanish Audio | 1 hr 41 min

### **3. FERDINAND**

Ferdinand is a calm bull who likes to sit and smell flowers. Due to a run-in with a bee, he gets mistaken for a fierce fighter, and selected to fight the infamous matador, El Primero. This has a great, happy ending and introduces watchers to Spain and bullfighting without the gore.

**Info:** PG | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles (DVD, I think) | 1 hr 48 min

### **4. DORA Y LA CIUDAD PERDIDA (DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD)**

Dora is now a teen and about to leave her jungle life behind for the next adventure: high school. However, she finds herself entangled back into the jungle to save her kidnapped parents and to solve an old Incan mystery.

**Info:** NR | Spanish Audio, English Subtitles | 1 hr 42 min

### **5. ATLÉTICO SAN PANCHO (NEVER TOO YOUNG TO DREAM)**

A rag-tag soccer team in Mexico gets help from the school janitor to reach their dream of playing a championship game.

**Info:** NR | Spanish Audio, English Subtitles | 1hr 3min

## 6. ANINA

Anina, a ten-year-old girl in Uruguay, gets into a fight on the playground at school. The punishment from the principal is strange: each student gets a black envelope they're not allowed to open for a whole week. During that anxious week, all sorts of adventures happen that help Anina understand herself better.

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio, English Subtitles | 1hr 18min

## 7. THE ROAD TO EL DORADO

Two swindlers get waylaid in their search for gold in the famous city El Dorado. This one has cultural connections.

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | English Audio, Subtitles | 1 hr 29 min

## 8. KRONK'S NEW GROOVE

At last, a G-rated movie! This sequel to *The Emperor's New Groove* has Kronk wanting to impress his hard-to-please father, only to find in the end that he just has to do his own thing.

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** G | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles | 1hr 14min

## 9. CASI CASI

Emilio, a teenager from Puerto Rico, ends up running for school president against the most popular girl in school— who also happens to be his crush. Will he choose winning, or her— or is there a third option? This is a fun story about friendship and loyalty. (Rated PG for language and innuendo.)

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio, English Subtitles | 1hr 33min

## 10. RIO AND RIO 2

Though Rio and Rio 2 are set in Brazil and not technically Spanish-language films, both DVDs have Spanish-language options and deal with many Latin American themes (environmentalism, deforestation of the Amazon rainforest).

Rio: A pet Macaw in Minnesota, Blu, travels to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to learn about his home.

Rio 2: Blu and Jewel now have 3 kids. When they see their kids are too used to life in the city, they decide to take them into the Amazon jungle to experience real life.

**Info:** G | Spanish/English Audio, Subtitles | 1hr 35min, 1hr

## 11. SELENA

*Selena* introduces the life of Mexican-American singer Selena Quintalla-Perez, from her early life, to her rise to the top of Latin and U.S. music charts, and untimely death.

Jennifer Lopez stars as Selena in this emotional film. (Included this on the list as a PG film, but NOT recommend it for young kids.)

**Info:** PG | English Audio, Subtitles | 2hr 7min

## 12. PERU: TESORO ESCONDIDO (PERU: HIDDEN TREASURE)

Explore the culture, geography, and history of Peru with this documentary.

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio, Spanish/English Subtitles | 115min

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HodJ1g1XFcs&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HodJ1g1XFcs&feature=emb_logo)

## 13. COLOMBIA: WILD MAGIC

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | Spanish Audio, Spanish/English Subtitles | 135min

## 14. LIVING ON ONE DOLLAR

Four friends leave the U.S. and plan to live on \$1 per day in Guatemala. Although this film can reinforce the storyline of interpreting poverty and Latin America only through the eyes of foreigners, it can be a powerful way for students and families to see outside their everyday lives.

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | English Audio | 53min

## 15. GHOSTS OF MACHU PICCHU

Discover the mysteries and marvels of Machu Picchu in this documentary from PBS.

(Be aware that skulls are shown in places.)

**Available on Netflix.**

**Info:** PG | English Audio | 53min