



# Using Accessible Media with Student who are Blind and Low Vision

*The Described and Captioned Media Program*

[www.dcmp.org](http://www.dcmp.org)

Cindy Camp

[ccamp@dcmp.org](mailto:ccamp@dcmp.org)

## **Our Mission:**

Our mission is to promote and provide equal access to communication and learning through described and captioned educational media.

## **Our Goal:**

The ultimate goal of the DCMP is for accessible media to be an integral tool in the teaching and learning process for all stakeholders in the educational community, including students, educators and other school personnel, parents, service providers, businesses, and agencies.

## *Why Use Educational Videos?*

Educational media can inspire and engage students.

Video is uniquely suited to:

- Take students on impossible field trips--inside the human body, or off to Jupiter.
- Take students around the globe, to meet new people and hear their ideas.
- Illustrate complex, abstract concepts through animated, 3-D images.
- Show experiments that can't be done in class.
- Bring great literature, plays, music, or important scenes from history into the room.

Educational media provides authentic learning opportunities.

By exploiting the medium's power to deliver lasting images, teachers can:

- reach children with a variety of learning styles, especially visual learners, and students with a variety of information acquisition styles
- engage students in problem-solving and investigative activities
- begin to dismantle social stereotypes
- help students practice media literacy and critical viewing skills
- provide a common experience for students to discuss

## Accessibility with captions and description



DCMP makes media accessible by adding captions for the deaf and description for the blind. Parents, educators, and support personnel can sign up for a free account and access over 9,000 accessible videos.

### Who Qualifies for Membership?

Professionals who work with at least one student with a disability who is an early learner through high school qualify for full membership. Families of these students qualify as well. Just fill out an online application, verify your email, and your application will be processed within 2 business days.

Those who do not qualify for full membership can still sign up as an eLearner and access our online modules and our freely available videos.

### How Can I Access DCMP Media?

Access DCMP media on almost any Internet enabled device: computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. We also have an app for the Roku and Apple TV. You can also order DVDs by mail with free postage both ways.

### View a fully accessible video

See a video with both captions and description; [Moko, the Young Explorer](#).

### Is Quality Important?

#### Standards of Quality Captioning

- **Accurate:** Errorless captions are the goal for each production.

- **Consistent:** Uniformity in style and presentation of all captioning features is crucial for viewer understanding.
- **Clear:** A complete textual representation of the audio, including speaker identification and non-speech information, provides clarity.
- **Readable:** Captions are displayed with enough time to be read completely, are in synchronization with the audio, and are not obscured by (nor do they obscure) the visual content.
- **Equal:** Equal access requires that the meaning and intention of the material is completely preserved.

The above information can be found in the [DCMP Captioning Key](#).

DCMP also maintains a list of [Captioning Vendors](#), which can be found on our website.

Watch a video that demonstrates the importance of high-quality captions. [The video is a trailer for the original Toy Story movie](#). The first time through uses automatic captions. The second time through uses DCMP quality captions. Notice the difference and consider how much students would miss when they don't have high-quality captions.

#### Standards for Quality Descriptions

- **Accurate:** There must be no errors in word selection, pronunciation, diction, or enunciation.
- **Prioritized:** Content essential to the intended learning and enjoyment outcomes is of primary importance.
- **Consistent:** Both the description content and the voicing should match the style, tone, and pace of the program.
- **Appropriate:** Consider the intended audience, be objective, and seek simplicity and succinctness.
- **Equal:** Equal access requires that the meaning and intention of the program be conveyed.

The above information can be found in the [DCMP Description Key](#).

DCMP also maintains a list of [Description Vendors](#), which can be found on our website.

#### *DCMP media screen*

When you choose a video on the DCMP website, you'll see a summary of the video plus details such as: copyright date, grade level, runtime, accessibility features, a transcript, and additional resources.

#### *Common Core and State Standards*

DCMP has media to meet educational standards. We have partnered with a company to match all our educational content with Common Core and state standards. This feature can be seen on each educational video screen under "Standards." You will see a list of standards that match your state standards. You can click on the link to filter standards and search for additional videos which meet these standards.

Detailed information can be found in the Help Center on the [Standards page](#).

## *Player-Based Accessibility Features*

Along the bottom of the player you'll find several controls which allow you to customize the player experience.

The number icon allows you to change the playback speed of the video. You can either speed it up or slow it down. Slowing down the video is helpful for students who need more time to read the captions or process the information. Speeding up the video allows you to quickly scan through a video to find a specific point you are searching for.

The next icon is CC for captions. Here you can choose to turn the captions on or off. If a video has both an English and Spanish version, you can choose to watch the captions in either language.

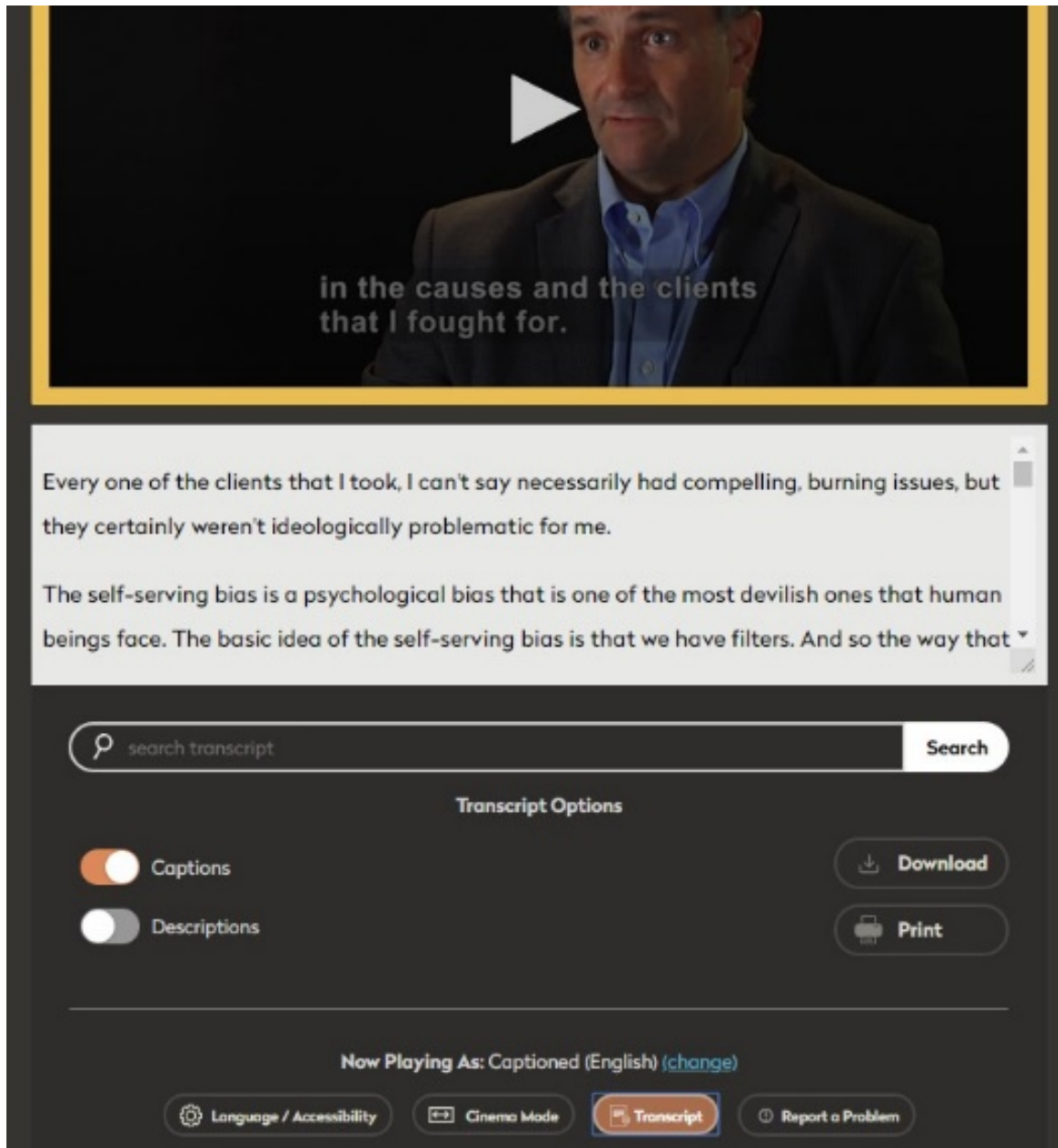
And the final icon is a headphone for audio. This feature allows you to turn the audio description on or off. If a video has both an English and Spanish version, you can choose which language for the description and which language for the main track.

These player-based accessibility features allow the user to customize for their needs. Users can choose the font size, style, and color for captions as well as background and drop shadow. They can choose to mix and match languages for the captions and audio, for the videos that have both an English and Spanish version.

## Transcript Feature

Below each video is the transcript button. The caption transcript is available for all videos. This feature allows you to search for specific words or phrases and jump to that point in the video. Transcripts can be used to pre-teach vocabulary, as a study guide, and much more.

Some videos have both the caption and description transcripts available. This feature makes the videos accessible to students who are deaf-blind.



The screenshot displays a video player interface. At the top, a video frame shows a man in a suit with a play button overlay and the caption text: "in the causes and the clients that I fought for." Below the video is a scrollable transcript area containing two paragraphs of text. Underneath the transcript is a search bar with the placeholder text "search transcript" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar is a "Transcript Options" section with two toggle switches: "Captions" (which is turned on) and "Descriptions" (which is turned off). To the right of these toggles are two buttons: "Download" and "Print". At the bottom of the interface, there is a status bar that reads "Now Playing As: Captioned (English) (change)". Below this status bar are four buttons: "Language / Accessibility", "Cinema Mode", "Transcript" (which is highlighted with a blue border), and "Report a Problem".

in the causes and the clients that I fought for.

Every one of the clients that I took, I can't say necessarily had compelling, burning issues, but they certainly weren't ideologically problematic for me.

The self-serving bias is a psychological bias that is one of the most devilish ones that human beings face. The basic idea of the self-serving bias is that we have filters. And so the way that

search transcript Search

Transcript Options

Captions  Descriptions

Download Print

Now Playing As: Captioned (English) (change)

Language / Accessibility Cinema Mode Transcript Report a Problem

## Clips and Lessons

DCMP is launching a new feature called Clips and Lessons. These features allow you to select portions of DCMP videos, create clips, and then use those clips as standalone videos, or as part of a Lesson. A Lesson can include clips, full videos, quizzes, text, and user-submitted files.

To get started, simply [log in to your DCMP account](#), go to any video in the library, and click “Create Clip” under the video synopsis. Once you’ve created a clip, you’ll be prompted to create a new Lesson which can include clips, questions, files, and more. Once complete, lessons can be assigned to classes or students with a due date.

We encourage you to watch this [six-minute walk-through video](#) before you get started.

## Search

Find media by searching words, phrases, or titles. You’ll see a list of videos that meet your search criteria. The thumbnail will provide basic information. Click on a thumbnail to see the full description and view the video.

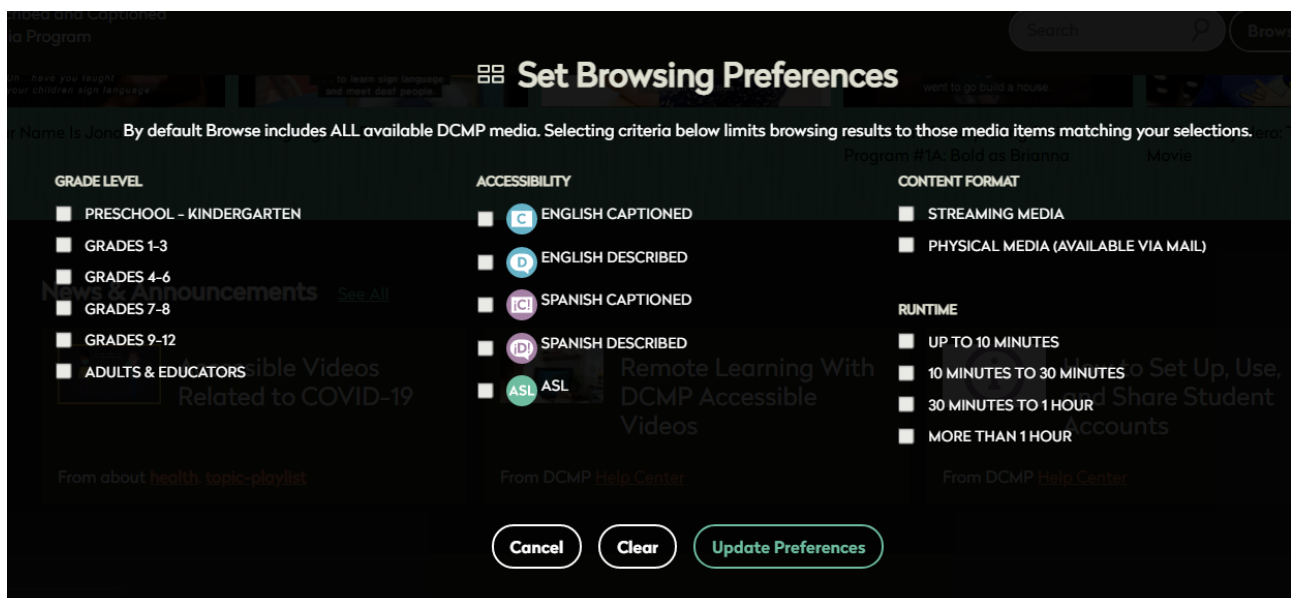
## Browse

Not exactly sure what you are looking for? Use our browse feature to see a listing of our videos by topic and then subtopic.

## Browsing Preferences

Whether you are browsing or searching you are likely to have a long list of video to look through. Setting your browsing preferences can narrow this list.

You can set the grade level, accessibility features, content format, and runtime. The system will save your settings so be sure to clear them when you are done if you don’t wish to limit your search each time.



Help Your Student Grow!

DCMP has media to teach:

- Academic Skills
- Self-Advocacy Skills
- Job Skills
- Life Skills

If you are looking for a specific title or topic., we can help! Contact [info@dcmp.org](mailto:info@dcmp.org).

We have media to match classroom needs for all ages and subjects. We have educational media that also entertains. And check out our life skills videos for use at home and in the dorm.

An example of a video that promotes self-advocacy and self-esteem in the DCMP collection is "[Amazing Grace](#)."

### *Student and Class Accounts*

DCMP allows you to easily set up student accounts and assign those students individual videos or entire categories. You can also group students into different classes and assign videos to the class, saving time.

Detailed information can be found in our Learning Center on our [Student Accounts page](#).

### *Accessible Television Portal*

You can find some of the nation's top children's educational television programs at DCMP, thanks to the U.S. Department of Education's commitment to ensure that broadcast content is made accessible for kids who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind. Teachers and parents can use [Accessible Television](#) to add variety and increase motivation for learning.

Some of our titles include:

- *Bill Nye the Science Guy*
- *MythBusters*
- *The Magic School Bus*
- *Timeblazers*
- *America the Story of Us*
- *Cyberchase*
- *Curiosity Quest*
- *Lucky Dog*

### *Related Media*

Many videos in the DCMP collection contains a link to "Related Media." These items may include lesson plans, additional information for teachers, and links to supplemental websites.

### *Monthly Newsletter*

- Each month we send out an email newsletter. Our goal is to highlight current events, holidays, and historical events, and we suggest accessible media to use with each of these.

- The National Education Association celebrates March 2 as Read Across America Day. DCMP has partnered with them to launch Read Captions Across America in 2006. This has allowed us to promote captions for everyone.
- March is International Listening Month. DCMP celebrates our Listening is Learning campaign and promotes audio descriptions. These campaigns bring attention to the fact that what began as an accommodation actually can benefit all people.

### *Transition Curriculum*

#### *Getting a Job! for Students who are Blind and Visually Impaired*

This online training was developed and designed for students who are blind and visually impaired and the professionals who work with them. Focusing on the transition from school to work, the training offers a series of activities, supporting documents, and topical videos designed to help the job seeker prepare for the world of work. It features several blind and low vision role models to guide students along the path to work.

### *CEUs available through DCMP*

DCMP offers several opportunities for professionals to earn Continuing Education Credit. Trainings are pre-approved for RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf) and ACVREP (Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals). All participants who successfully complete a training will earn a certificate which can be used with other credentialing organizations. For more information visit our [eLearning page](#).

### *Modules and Workshop*

DCMP has a variety of online modules for both professionals and students. Two of our newest are: [Access: Description](#) and [Access: Description – Student Edition](#). These modules explain what audio description is and what constitutes high-quality description. The teacher/parent version takes about two hours to complete. The student version is designed for students in grades 4 – 12 and takes about an hour and a half to complete. Both adults and students will earn a certificate of completion.

DCMP also offers several online workshops through which professionals can earn ACVREP credit. “[Let’s Describe](#)” is a workshop which teaches about audio description and how to best provide description to students when none is provided. This workshop also has a Spanish version, “[Audio Descripción](#).”

### *Contact Us*

Cindy Camp: [ccamp@dcmp.org](mailto:ccamp@dcmp.org)  
[info@dcmp.org](mailto:info@dcmp.org)