ZDF STUDIOS



BOBO

26 x 7‘

Growing up is always exciting

USP

Growing up is always exciting – especially when you're curious, cute and full of energy.



Key words

- Centers around the family
- Cute characters in traditional style
- Shows the world of the 3 to 5 years old
- The world gets explored for the first time
- First reflection of life
- Slapstick fun

Credits

Based on the books by Marcus Osterwalder

Director & Producer	Dorothea Mersmann
Co-producer	JEP Animation WDR WDR mediagroup Les Films de la Perrine
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Animation Supervisor	Aleksandar Dokic
Compositing Supervisor	Carlo Palazzari
Music & Sounddesign	Gido Martis
Storyboards	Ursula Don Dietmar Kremer



Synopsis

Cute and friendly dormouse BOBO is fascinated and thrilled by his immediate surroundings. While exploring the world around him with remarkable determination he’s having a lot of fun. His energy seems to be inexhaustible – every day until it’s time to go to bed.

A lot of visual gags and slapstick appropriate for children accompany Bobo`s growing up and discovering the neighbourhood. The stories tell adventures of everyday life - in a sensible, empathic, very emotional way, and with a tiny twinkle in the eye.

On occasion Bobo needs the security of his family. On the other hand, he already understands many implications.

He loves to test his limits – and sometimes exceeds them, of course. Small disasters are inevitable. They’re animated in a childproof way of slapstick.

Bobo is always in a good temper. His rare complaints occur when he doesn’t feel well or when his parents don’t understand what their son needs. Sometimes Bobo is afraid, for example when at the zoo a lion loudly roars or when he accidentally has locked himself out.

Bobo is very trusting and he never has ulterior motives. The stories usually end with Bobo groggily falling asleep after another eventful day.





BOBO



Lively little Bobo and his parents are living in a house with a garden in a big city. Mama works as a translator; she has a home office. Dad commutes to the centre of the city.

It’s funny to watch Bobo walk or climb or run swinging one arm faster than the other. Some of his movements may appear a little bit clumsy but
Bobo has a high physical dexterity.

He’s open minded, curious and naïve. Most of all he’s interested in his immediate surroundings which he explores with a lot of fantasy and fun. Bobo is always in a good mood. He loves to laugh – a lot and loudly. His sentimental view of the world is paired with a brave and curious zest for life and is rounded up by a good dose of physical energy. For many children of his age all that makes him perfect to identify with.

His voice, his looks and his awkward movements support that effect. Bobo the actor reflects in a positive way the emotions preschool children have in reality. That way he increases the self-confidence of his audience.

Bobo is afraid sometimes, too. e.g. when the slide seems to be very high or when a lion in a zoo roars out rather loudly. His fear never lasts for long since he overcomes it fast - most of the time due to the encouragement of his parents.

Bobo loves to play with friends of his. Pure joy makes them giggle at their daubed mouths when they eat chocolate cake or when they thoroughly tickle Bobo’s father. And Bobo loves animals – whether the sparrows at the zoo, the grasshopper in the garden or the goat at the farm – they all fascinate him.



MUM AND DAD DORMOUSE



Mum Dormouse is emotional, loving, very patient and just a great Mum. Dad Dormouse is emotional, loving, too, very relaxed and just a great Dad. With the two of them Bobo experiences the ordinary things at home like tidying up, hovering, washing laundry or preparing breakfast. Mum and Dad involve Bobo in all actions in the garden, too: raking, watering, planting flowers etc.

One of them or they both take Bobo along to go shopping or to the ice cream parlour. They accompany him to the playground or to the doctor's. In all these every-day events Bobo is allowed to follow his own agenda. Doing the bed may end up in a pillow fight, breakfast may lead to a face smeared with marmalade and gardening may turn to an involuntary shower under the garden hose.

Bobo's parents don't get in the way of their son's wishes to discover something new. They are there for him all the time – for granted. Even if one doesn't see them they are there. At least as long he doesn't put himself in danger. If e.g. Bobo falls down, and looks at his mother she answers with a smile that seems to say: "Never mind, I'm here!" If it were really bad she would come to his aid immediately.

GRANNY AND GRANDPA DORMOUSE

Bobo's grandparents live in the countryside. Once in a while, Bobo and his parents come for a visit. On these occasions Bobo explores country life with all the animals, the forest and the meadows. Or he's allowed to play hide and seek in the attic with Grandma.



HIS FRIENDS HEDI AND LUIS

Hedi and Luis are Bobo's funniest friends. The two meet Bobo together most of the time. As a trio they have a lot fun. For them motion and action come first. They jump down from high boxes, mount the wall bars or surprise Dad with a tickling attack. During these actions they laugh a lot. It's their rather infectious giggling that forces the audience to join in the laughter.



COUSIN NORA

Bobo's cousin Nora comes to visit frequently. She's his junior for a bit. With her he likes to play typical children's games like building a tower, hide-and-seek or studying picture books. Bobo and Nora know each other well. One look is enough to understand what the other one means. They love rhymes. Nora is headstrong but willing to compromise. She believes him to be capable of a lot of things.











Episode 01

Bobo at the zoo

Bobo visits the zoo together with Mum and Dad. When to his surprise a parrot croaks “Bobo” he wants all the animals to do the same – which of course they won’t. Bobo is able to imitate the monkey’s tricks, at least. But the lion roars at Bobo instead of saying his name. A bit scared for a moment, Bobo roars back cheekily. In the end he prefers to feed the native sparrows.









Episode 02

Bobo builds a cave

With a tablecloth and with the help of his mother Bobo builds a cave under the kitchen table. To make it cozy and bright enough, he brings many toys and a torch from his room into the cave. Using his torch Bobo plays with light and shadow. When his father comes home, Bobo turns the light off and is quiet as a mouse. His father has to search him.





Episode 03

Bobo at the supermarket

Bobo accompanies his mother to the supermarket. He enjoys driving around the aisles with a shopping trolley for children. He wants to help his mother buying the goods: he gathers marmalade, fresh milk, a big package of toilet paper and fruits. But when he reaches for an orange the mountain load of oranges starts tumbling down. But no harm done.



Episode 04

Bobo, grandpa and the animals

Bobo and Grandpa are at a pet farm. They watch cows being milked, and they are allowed to feed ducks, chicken and a small goat. In hope to get more food the goat follows Bobo in every turn. It watches Bobo even when he's riding.





Episode 05

Bobo’s birthday party

Bobo is celebrating his birthday. Together with Mum and Dad he sets the table and decorates the room. His friends Hedi and Luis are invited. They bring along a present. When the cake is eaten the children play pot hitting until they all end up jumping at Bobo's father to tickle him thoroughly.





Episode 06

Bobo in the lido

With his parents Bobo goes swimming at the lido. He doesn’t want to pass the cold shower. But when he finally dares to it’s not that bad at all. With his father he enters the pool. They dive and play ball. Bobo even steps on his inflatable crocodile. In the end Bobo is brave enough to jump from the edge of the pool into the water.



Episode 07

Bobo cannot fall asleep

Bobo can‘t fall asleep. His mother and father try to help him: goodnight kisses, a lullaby song and watching the moon together. In the end Bobo is still awake while his parents have fallen asleep on his bed. Now it’s up to Bobo to say goodnight to the moon.

Episode 08

Bobo takes the train

Bobo and his parents are taking the train to the mountains. It's Bobo's first train ride. He becomes frightened when the train drives through dark tunnels. The conductor comes along to punch the tickets. Then Bobo wanders with his father through a long passageway of the unsteady train to get to the bistro to buy a bottle of water.



Episode 09

Bobo at the fair

Bobo and his mother visit the funfair. Bobo wants to ride the airplane merry-go-round but he doesn't dare to. There are other attractions for him. After he has gotten a balloon and has had a wild race at the bumper cars with another boy he is courageous enough for the airplane merry-go-round.





Episode 10

Bobo and the babysitter

Bobo's parents want to go out. A female babysitter comes to Bobo to look after him. They bake pancakes, dance to music on the radio and have a pillow fight. Bobo doesn't get tired until he finally falls asleep while listening to a goodnight story.

Episode 11

Bobo at the beach

Bobo has a great day with his mother and father at the seaside. He explores the water, becomes friends with a fish, meets a crab, finds a great bottle cap that glitters like a treasure and he jumps with his mother into the waves.



Episode 12

Bobo has a visitor

His cousin Nora comes for a visit. After some attempts they manage to build a really tall tower with their building bricks. And after that they frolic and jump around on the bed until they fall asleep – with a picture book under their noses.



Episode 13

Bobo's trip to the playground

Bobo and his mother go to the playground. Bobo tries out the roundabout and the swings. The slide is a bit fishy to him. He climbs up to the top but doesn't dare to slide down. Mum being always nearby encourages him. Now Bobo would like to go on forever.





Episode 14

Bobo at the children's doctor

Accompanied by his mother Bobo is at the children's doctor for a routine checkup. He overcomes his early fears very fast when his stuffed toy 'Trix' is evaluated, too. Bobo masters the measurements of the body, the listening to the lungs, the looking into the mouth and the standing on one leg. Only Trix 'hurts' himself and Bobo is allowed to doctor him.





Episode 15

Bobo and the dog Pucki

Bobo looks after their neighbors' dog Pucki. The two make a really good team. Bobo has jobs for the dog which Pucki loves to do. The dog jumps high up fetching sticks. He also likes to dance on his back legs for a treat. And he even does a big jump into the hammock.

Episode 16

Bobo takes a bath

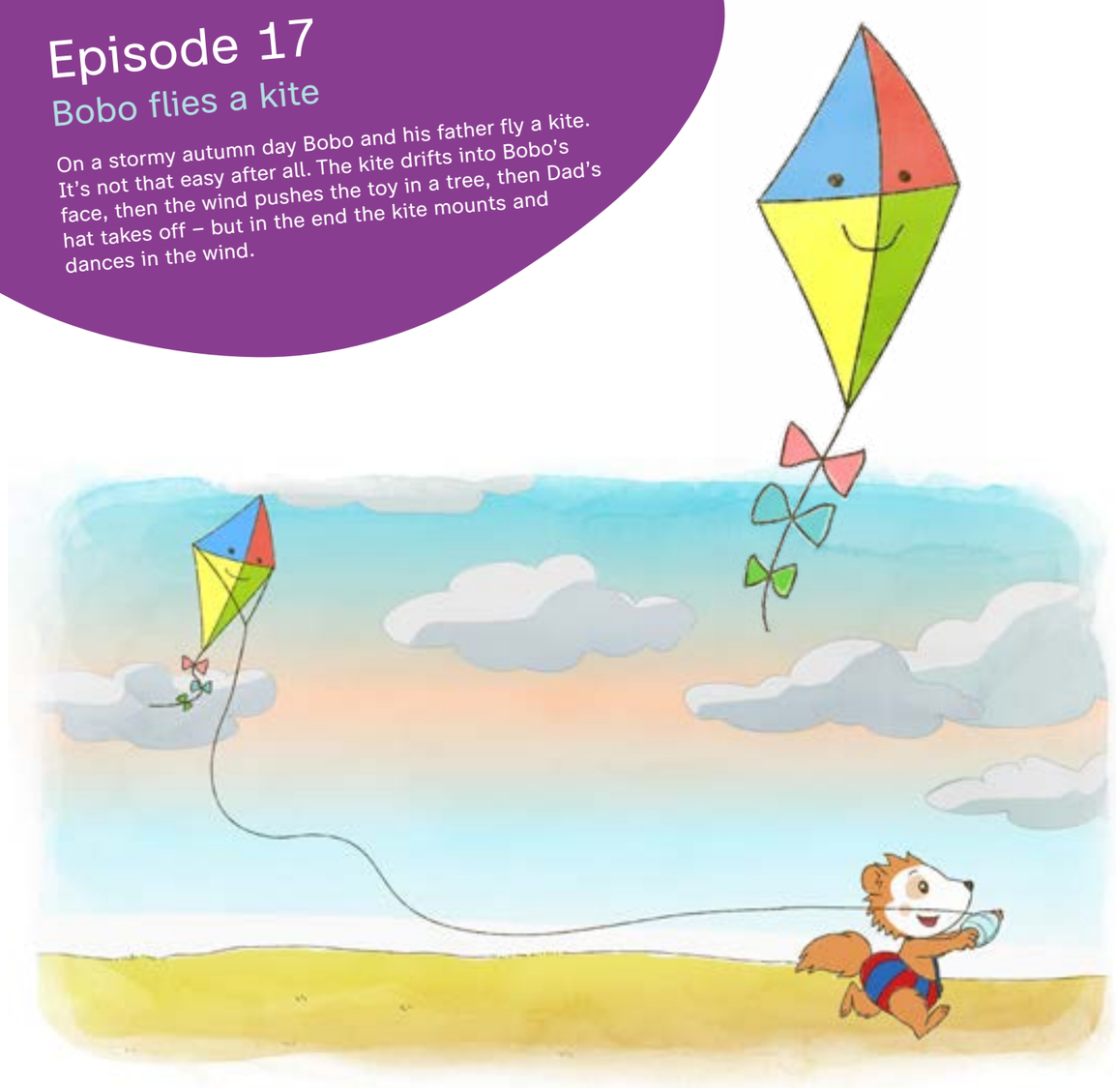
Bobo and his father are bathing in the tub, at home. They wash hair, play pirates and make a water fight until Mum takes Bobo out of the tub.



Episode 17

Bobo flies a kite

On a stormy autumn day Bobo and his father fly a kite. It's not that easy after all. The kite drifts into Bobo's face, then the wind pushes the toy in a tree, then Dad's hat takes off – but in the end the kite mounts and dances in the wind.





Episode 18

Bobo gets up early

A small fly wakes up Bobo early in the morning. Since he can't go to sleep again, he goes into the bedroom of his parents. But they would rather sleep on. For Bobo that's boring. That's why he uses the mattress as a trampoline and tickles his father's feet.





Episode 19

Bobo‘s adventure at the creek

Bobo is taking a trip with his father to a creek course. They launch a small boat, build a dam and even set a fish free. No question that they get wet all over.





Episode 20

Bobo and the bum express

Bobo helps his mother to clean the kitchen. While doing so he invents new ways to dry up the floor – the bum express. While hoovering the living room, Bobo plays a prank on his mother: he turns off the hoover when she is not looking.



Episode 21

Bobo at the children‘s gymnastics

Accompanied by his mother Bobo goes to the children‘s gymnastics at Miss Behrens’ place. She is a teacher. With his friends Hedi and Luis they conquer the apparatus circuits. They climb up the wall bars, swing on the rings, jump from a trampoline onto a vaulting box and from there onto the big mat. All of them sing a song and then the gymnastic lesson is over.







Episode 22

Bobo goes for ice cream

Bobo and his mother go to an Italian ice cream parlor. On their way they have to cross the street and avoid a dog poo. There are so many varieties of ice cream that Bobo can‘t decide which flavor he wants. Rosario, the nice ice-cream vendor lets him try out some of them. That makes it much easier for Bobo.



Episode 23

Bobo at the attic

Bobo is at his grandmother's place. The two of them explore the attic, they play hide and seek and they go through grandmothers 'memories'. In the end a small mouse comes for a visit.

Episode 24

Bobo's day in the garden

Bobo helps his mother with planting flowers. He discovers a butterfly, an earthworm, a grasshopper – and the hose.



Episode 25

Bobo prepares breakfast

To the surprise of his parents Bobo has already set the breakfast table. The three enjoy a funny breakfast. They decorate their sandwiches. Bobo shapes a sausage mouse, his father uses honey to “paint” Bobo’s face and his mother creates a lion. During the attempt to eat a grape with the fork the grape collides with his mother’s forehead and lands in a glass of water. It’s only a match that Bobo stumbles over his father’s newspaper.





Episode 26

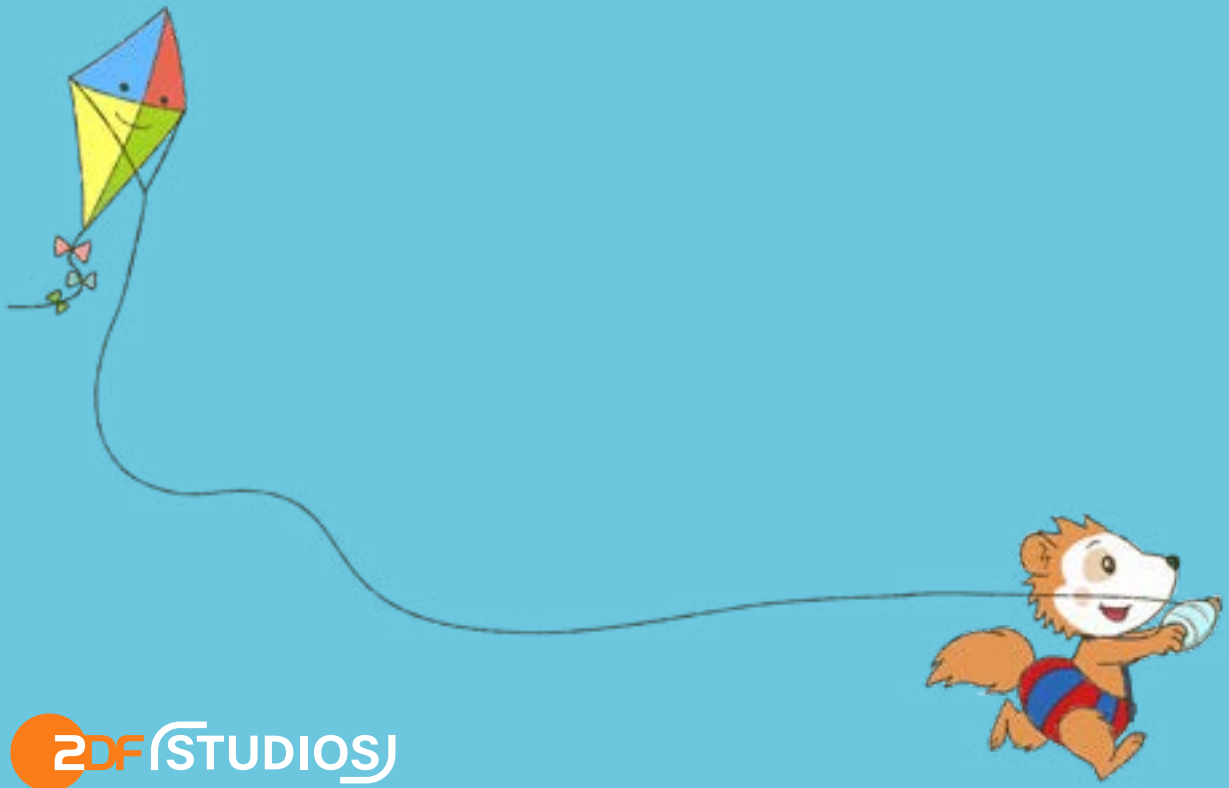
Bobo and the picnic in the park

Bobo is driving his new balance bike to the dormouse family picnic. He rides up a hill and rushes down so fast that even a mole looks out of his hole. While playing ball with his parents his mother kicks the ball against a plum tree. It rains plums on his father's head and then the real rain starts: short and heavy. In the end a beautiful rainbow gives comfort.





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