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Kids talk film by satellite in SD-Moscow linkup

SAN DIEGO (AP) - A kiddie matinee featuring movies, dancing and lots of questions will link 120 children in San Diego and Moscow via satellite. in the simultaneous broadcast of clips from Moscow's International Film Festival.

Today's broadcast, to be viewed at the University of California-San Diego, was suggested by journalists in the Soviet Union who had been excited about a simultaneous broadcast in May between the US Festival in San Bernardino and a Moscow studio filled with musicians and students.

Michael Cole, professor of communications at the university, was approached in June while he was at a semnar in Moscow, and the university found out Saturday that all systems were go for a satellite link between the school and the film festival.

"We didn't have a whole lot of time to get together the kids, so the Communications Department just contacted kids' groups they knew about, the Girl Scouts, the Learning Tree, a private educational group, and children from the summer computer camp here on campus." university spokeswoman Jan Seagrave said Tuesday.

The children aged 5 to 15, were expected to give their opmions on the Soviet films and ask questions of their Soviet counterparts. Then the Soviet children were to respond to the American movies. Translators and filmmakers from both countries were to attend.

Ms. Segrave said the Soviet children were attending the Film Festival in Moscow, where one section is devoted to children's movies.

At the end of the discussions, "The Soviets will be leading us in a dancing game. And the folks in the U.S. studio will be getting up and dancing along with the Sovietz." Mr. Seagrave said Tuesday.