

## Story of Stuff Maker takes on more

I don't know if you have ever seen the *Story of Stuff*—a 20-minute animated documentary about our consumer culture made by activist Annie Leonard (you can see it on You Tube or at [www.storyofstuff.com](http://www.storyofstuff.com)). Well, she's back with several new releases, working with some leading advocacy organizations.

In *The Story of Cosmetics*, Leonard works with the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics to produce a 7-minute animated movie examining the use of toxic chemicals in our everyday personal care products, from lipstick to baby shampoo. It gets right to the point in a fun and easy-to-understand way and concludes with a call for viewers to support "legislation aimed at ensuring the safety of cosmetics and personal care products." The video can be viewed at [www.storyofcosmetics.org](http://www.storyofcosmetics.org).

Bringing five leading sustainability organizations on board in *The Story of Bottled Water*, Leonard tells the story of "manufactured demand," specifically about how you get Americans to buy more than half a billion bottles of water every week. The seven-minute video explores the bottled water industry's "attack on tap water safety and its use of seductive, environmental-themed marketing to cover up the mountains of plastic waste it produces." It, too, ends with a call for action. The video can be seen at [www.storyofbottledwater.org](http://www.storyofbottledwater.org).

And finally, another animated movie (produced last year) called *The Story of Cap and Trade* was put together by Leonard with help from two international groups, Climate Justice Now! and the Durban Group for Climate Justice. It takes a look at the leading climate solution of Cap and Trade which was discussed at the Copenhagen Climate Summit last fall and continues to be discussed in Washington, D.C. This short movie can be viewed at [www.storyofstuff.com/capandtrade](http://www.storyofstuff.com/capandtrade).

I think these mini-documentaries, produced by Free Range Studios, are really informative and educational and offer another view on these hot eco-topics. Let me know what you think!

*Tuesday Trippier lives in Delaware and is a writer who enjoys learning about eco-living. She is involved with Sustainable Delaware.*