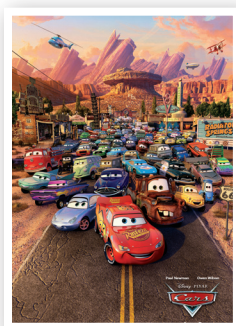




CARS



Synopsis

Lightning McQueen, a hotshot rookie race car driven to succeed, discovers that life is about the journey, not the finish line, when he finds himself unexpectedly detoured in the sleepy Route 66 town of Radiator Springs. En route across the country to the big Piston Cup Championship in California to compete against two seasoned pros, McQueen gets to know the town's offbeat characters--including Doc Hudson, Sally Carrera and Mater - who help him realize that there are more important things than trophies, fame and sponsorship.

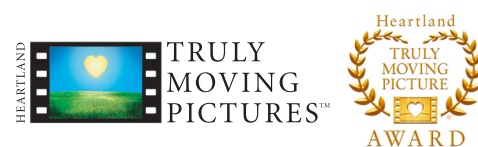
Discussion Questions

- How did you feel about Lightning at the beginning of the movie? Was he a likable character? Do you think he changed by the end of the movie? How did he change? Did you like him more by the time the movie was over?
- Mater became fast friends with Lightning, almost without Lightning even knowing it! Who are your best friends? Why do you get along with them so well?
- Lightning was so busy with racing that he didn't even realize he had no friends (besides his agent whom he never saw). Have you ever felt like you don't have enough time to just sit and, as they say, smell the flowers? What do you do to step out of a busy schedule and enjoy the world and people around you?
- When Lightning ended up alone without Mac, he was completely out of his element and wasn't sure what to do. Have you ever been in a situation similar to this? What was the situation? How did you feel? How did you handle it?



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CARS

Activities

- Each type of car in the film represented the personality of each character. Lightning was a flashy red sports car and had the personality for it. The VW bus represented the hippy type character. Draw what kind of car you would be. Consider the color, the style, the size, etc.
- Radiator Springs is a town that is located on Route 66. Research the history of Route 66. From what locations did Route 66 stretch between? Who used it and why? Why was there a decline in traffic? What has happened to the towns along it since the decline? Use photos you find on the internet of some of the towns along the road to create an album of Route 66 from start to finish.



Get Involved

- Many neighborhoods and towns have suffered because of economic downturn in their area. Little things can be done to spruce things up and make a big difference. Volunteer for a neighborhood clean-up in a downtrodden area of your community.
- As Lightning was very eager to get to his next destination, he pushed his driver to drive through the night even though he felt very drowsy. Driving is a huge responsibility and not to be taken lightly. There are many ways that people can be irresponsible with driving and “driving while drowsy” is one of them. There are many groups that have taken up the cause of safe driving. Oprah Winfrey has specifically taken on the topic of texting and driving. If you yourself drive, hop on her website and take the “No Phone Zone Pledge”. If you’re not driving yet, convince your parents, grandparents, or friends. It could save a life! Visit Oprah’s Pledge site at: www.oprah.com/packages/no-phone-zone.html

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