

MARY POPPINS



Synopsis

Mary Poppins is a magical nanny who arrives at the home of Jane and Michael Banks via umbrella. As she challenges the stiff English upbringing their father provides, she also teaches the Banks children some valuable lessons about life.

Discussion Questions

- Mary Poppins brought the children and Burt into the cartoon world developed by Burt's chalk street drawings. If you could choose a cartoon that you'd like to live in or explore, which one would it be? Why would you want to be in that cartoon? How do you think you'd fit in?
- The children believed that Mary Poppins might have been a witch. What were some of her magical traits? Do you think she was a witch? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Mary Poppins convinced Mr. Banks to take his children to work with him? What do you think he learned? Do you think the children learned anything on the trip?
- Have you ever gone to work with your parents or older family members? What did you learn?
- How did Mary Poppins rescue the Banks family? Why do you think she left the family's home?

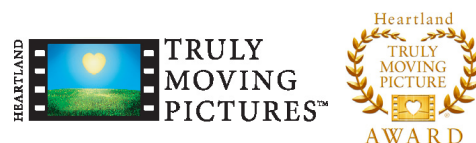
Activities

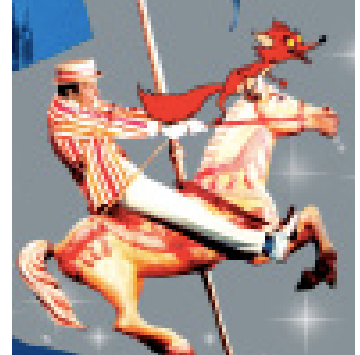
- Create your own "tidying up" game that you can play with your siblings or even a parent.
- Burt does a really good job of dancing like a penguin. Try dancing like one of your favorite animals might dance!



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- Draw a picture of your most ideal "holiday" or vacation. Use your imagination to jump into the scene! What would you do there?
- Make up your own word, like "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" that mean "something to say when you have nothing to say." Teach this word to your friends and see if you can get others to use it.
- Do you love to laugh? Learn a few new jokes and test different kinds of laughs while chuckling over them with friends.
- Like the woman selling birdseed for tuppence a bag suggests, bring a bag full of crumbs to the closest bird/duck habitat and make some new feathered friends.
- Write your own advertisement for the type of nanny that you would want. Would you want a nanny like Mary Poppins?

Take Action

- Mrs. Banks was involved in the Women's Suffrage movement in England, fighting for the right to vote. There are still equal rights issues in America today. Learn more about these issues and write a letter to your Senator or Congressman to tell them how you feel about them.
- Cheer up the day of someone who is having a rough time with some new jokes you have learned.
- Like Mary Poppins brightened the lives of the Banks children, figure out how you can brighten the lives of some children near you. Volunteer your time to babysit kids in the neighborhood or simply take time to be a better friend to some younger kids.



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