

Movie Title: Monster's Inc / Monster's University

Theme of Movie:

Magic and fantasy, Friendship, Monsters, ghosts, and vampires, comedy, animation.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Monsters, Inc. is about a city of monsters and centers around the city's, Monstropolis, power company, Monsters, Inc. In order to power their city, they need to collect kids' screams. The kicker is that the monsters are more afraid of the kids than the kids are of them. And the screams are getting harder to scare. Sulley and Randall work hard as they try to break the scream-collection record. But one day Sully accidentally lets a human child into their monster world and the monsters find out what being scared is really like.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: A Bug's Life, Toy Story 2, Toy Story, The Incredibles, Ice Age, Ratatouille, Over the Hedge, Lilo & Stitch, Bolt, Robots.

Character Education:

Compassion, Courage, Integrity, Empathy, Perseverance, Teamwork

Discussion Questions:

1. How do the characters in Monsters, Inc. show their courage, compassion, and integrity? Why are those important character strengths?
2. Why was Boo scared of Randall and not Sulley?
3. For those who've seen the first movie, what does the prequel explain about the friendship between Mike and Sulley or the way Randall dislikes them? What else do you learn?
4. The movie is about monsters, but it's not intended to be scary. Do you think that combination works well for young kids?
5. How do the characters in Monsters University demonstrate empathy, perseverance, and teamwork? Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: Homeward Bound

Theme of Movie:

Adventures, Friendship

Brief Summary of Movie:

Homeward Bound: The incredible Journey follows a golden retriever (Shadow), an American bulldog (Chance), and a Himalayan cat (Sassy) as they trek through the wilderness of the American northwest to be reunited with their owners.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: An American Tail: Fievel Goes West, Air Bud, An American Tail, Balto, All Dogs Go To Heaven, Lassie, Snow Dogs, The Rescuers Down Under, The Brave Little Toaster, The Rescuers, Oliver & Company.

Character Education:

Teamwork, perseverance, courage, self-sacrifice, responsibility, love, family.

Discussion Questions:

1. How did Shadow, Chance, and Sassy cope with their fear of being alone?
2. What did you learn from this movie?
3. What were you thinking when you finished watching the movie?
4. Did you share any feelings with any of the characters? What were they?

Movie Title: Cars / Cars 2 / Cars 3

Theme of Movie:

Cars, Trucks, Friendship.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Cars is the story of a talented rookie race car named Lightning McQueen. He is so obsessed with winning that he can't be a friend to anyone. McQueen's career is threatened when he accidentally winds up in a small town off the main road. In his travail, McQueen finds true friends and learns that winning isn't everything.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Planes, Rio, Madagascar, Planet 51, Astro Boy, Igor, Alvin And The Chipmunks.

Character Education:

Sportsmanship, Teamwork, Friendship, Responsibility, Caring, Citizenship, Humility, Integrity, Communication, Perseverance.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does Lightning learn to appreciate and also, conveniently, enhance that simpler life?
2. How do the characters in Cars demonstrate humility and integrity? Why are these important character strengths?
3. Which characters are role models? How do they demonstrate perseverance and communication? Why are those important character strengths?
4. Why is it so important to Lightning that he be the one to decide when he's done racing? What does he learn over the course of the movie? What do you think he'll do next?

Movie Title: The Polar Express

Theme of Movie:

Magic, Fantasy, Adventures, Holidays, Trains.

Brief Summary of Movie:

The Polar Express is a wonderful holiday adventure for the whole family about a boy who travels on a magical train to the North Pole. The Polar Express is wonderfully done and contains positive moral lessons for children of all ages. A boy who is beginning to question Santa lies awake on Christmas Eve afraid he won't hear anything. He hears a sound and runs outside to see an enormous locomotive pull up in front of his house; the conductor invites him to board. The train is bound for the North Pole and our unnamed hero/narrator will have many adventures and find the answer to his questions before he wakes up in his own bed on Christmas morning.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Snow Dogs, A Christmas Carol, The Santa Clause, Frosty The Sonwman, The Tale Of Despereaux, Gnomeo & Juliet.

BOOKS: Curious George, The Tale Of Peter Rabbit, Hop On Pop, Horton Hears A Who! , Fox In Socks, The Velveteen Rabbit.

Character Education:

Courage, Curiosity

Discussion Questions:

1. What is a "crucial year?"
2. Why can't some people hear the bell?
3. Who is the hobo and why is he there?

Movie Title: The Land Before Time

Theme of Movie:

Dinosaurs, Adventures, Friendship, Science and nature

Brief Summary of Movie:

In The Land Before Time, while dinosaurs are on the move to find food during a massive drought, a baby long-necked dinosaur is born. His mom and grandparents coo and ahh and name him Littlefoot (Gabriel Damon). When a rambunctious little three-horned dinosaur named Cera (Candace Hutson) tries to engage the newborn in play, Littlefoot's family discourages him from consorting with her kind of dinosaur. But the kid dinosaurs must unite when a ferocious T. rex kills Littlefoot's mother and an earthquake creates a massive schism separating them from loved ones. Littlefoot and Cera are joined by Petrie, Ducky, and Spike in their journey to the Great Valley, where food and families are sure to await them.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The Brave Little Toaster, An American Tail: Fievel Goes West, An American Tail, Ferngully: The Last Rainforest, Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey, All Dogs Go To Heaven, Aladdin, An Extremely Goofy Movie.

BOOKS: The Tale Of Despereaux, How The Grinch Stole Christmas!

Character Education:

Perseverance, teamwork, compassion, courage

Discussion Questions:

Why is friendship so important to the characters? How do they each contribute to their group?

Which dinosaur is your favorite? Why?

How do the characters in The Land Before Time demonstrate perseverance and teamwork? What about compassion and courage? Why are those important character strengths?

Movie Title: The Lion King

Theme of Movie:

Family, Manipulation, Good vs. Evil, Coming of Age, Society, Class, Manipulation, Principles, Good vs. Evil.

Brief Summary of Movie:

The Lion King is a story about Simba and his birth, the murder of his dad by his Uncle Scar, Simba's exile and his return.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Aladdin, The Little Mermaid, Bambi, Beauty And The Beast, The Fox And The Hound, Pocahontas, Tarzan, Pinocchio, Hercules

Character Education:

Grieving, Redemption, Friendship, Ambition, Running Away, Grieving, Redemption, Friendship, Ambition, Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Courage, Humility, Perseverance..

Discussion Questions:

1. What is a "food chain"?
2. Was Scar really smarter than Mufasa?
3. Simba felt responsible for his father's death. Should he have felt that way?
4. Did Simba do the right thing in waiting so long to come back home?
5. What was the most courageous thing that Simba did?
6. How do Timon and Pumbaa show their friendship to Simba?

Movie Title: Wall-E

Theme of Movie:

Adventures, Friendship, Misfits, Underdogs, Robots, Space, Aliens, Exploration, Duty, Love.

Brief Summary of Movie:

WALL-E begins on an Earth centuries in the future. It's a bleak, garbage-strewn place whose only citizen seems to be WALL-E (short for Waste Allocation Load Lifter Earth-Class), a sanitation robot who's improbably enamored of the musical Hello, Dolly! Then one day, a spaceship drops in for a pit stop and leaves behind an egg-shaped robot. Her name is EVE, and she's sleek, speedy, and stunning -- and WALL-E is immediately smitten. But before the two can make beautiful musicals together, an unexpected discovery hurtles her back to mankind's current home: a giant spaceship called Axiom, where humans float on personal hovercrafts, interact with others via screen phones, and have grown so obese and sedentary that they've forgotten how to walk. Determined not to lose his new companion, WALL-E follows EVE to the ship -- and sets in motion a chain of events that just might put people back on a healthier path.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Ratatouille. The Incredibles. Up. Ice Age. Toy Story. A Bug's Life. Bolt. Meet The Robinsons. Monsters, Inc.

Character Education:

Courage, Perseverance, Teamwork, The Environment, Taking Care of Yourself, Caring, Responsibility.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is WALL-E so eager to make a connection with EVE? How does he win her over?
2. Why is WALL-E so fascinated by Hello, Dolly? What does he learn from the movie?

Movie Title: Babe

Theme of Movie:

Book characters, Horses and farm animals

Brief Summary of Movie:

Babe, an endearing little pig who is raised by sheepdogs, befriends the animals on Hoggett's farm and ultimately becomes a herder himself, triumphing against some pretty steep odds. "This is a tale," a narrator says, "of an unprejudiced heart," perfectly setting the tone for what may be the best-loved family movie of the 1990s.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Doctor Dolittle, Lawn Dogs, The Black Stallion, Free Willy.

Character Education:

Perseverance, Friendship, Caring for Animals, Courage, Responsibility, Respect, Caring.

Discussion Questions:

1. How would this movie be different if it were animated? Why do you think animation changes the way we experience a movie?
2. How does Babe demonstrate perseverance? Why is this an important character strength?

Movie Title: Ratatouille

Theme of Movie:

Misfits and underdogs

Brief Summary of Movie:

Ratatouille follows the adventures of Remy, a special rat who doesn't like to eat garbage, instead – he loves gourmet food. He loves the good stuff like truffle oil and fine artisan cheeses. This love of good food brands him the snobby black sheep of his crew. After his family is driven out of their home he is driven to the streets of Paris where he is able to begin her journey as a chef at a great restaurant. He makes friends with Linguini, a young kitchen helper, and uses him as a puppet to make exquisite dishes that all the customers love. He faces struggles, gets caught, rejected, and works through these throughout the move.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Chicken Little, Bolt, Ice Age, A Bug's Life, Tom And Jerry, The Incredibles, Madagascar, Meet The Robinson, Over The Hedge, Toy story.

Character Education:

Integrity, Perseverance

Discussion Questions:

1. How do the characters in Ratatouille demonstrate perseverance and integrity? Why are these important character strengths?
2. Where do Linguini and Remy live?
3. What is the lesson in the movie?

Movie Title: All Dogs Go to Heaven

Theme of Movie:

Greed, Betrayal, Friendship

Brief Summary of Movie:

All Dogs Go To Heaven is an animated movie set in New Orleans. It's a story about a rascally German shepherd who learns a lesson in greed, love, and friendship

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey, An American Tail, Balto, Ferngully, Roc-A-Doodle, Cat's Don't Dance, Air Bud, The Rescuers.

Character Education:

Betrayal, Greed, Love, Friendship.

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you learn about keeping your word?
2. Why did Charlie change his ways?
3. Why is it important to forgive people who earn your trust back?
4. How could Anne-Marie's friends make her feel more loved and wanted?
5. How do we make our friends feel loved every day?

Movie Title: Snow White

Theme of Movie: Topics:

Revenge, Princesses, Fairies, Friendships, Fantasy.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Snow White is a story about a step-daughter who's evil step-mother, The Queen, makes her work as a servant. One day the Queen's magic mirror confirms that Snow White is the fairest of them all. The queen is jealous and orders a huntsman to kill Snow White. The Huntsman, instead of killing her, instructs her to flee. Soon forest animals direct Snow White to a small cottage where seven dwarfs live. They become her friends and protectors. Soon, the Queen's mirror reveals that Snow White is alive and the Queen will stop at nothing to get rid of her beautiful rival.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Dumbo, Ariel, Pinocchio, 101 Dalmatians, Bambi, Thumbelina, Sleeping Beauty, The Swan Princess, The Rescuers

BOOKS: Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Beauty And The Beast, Rapunzel, Puss In Boots, Little Red Riding Hood.

Character Education:

Compassion, Courage, Empathy, Humility, Integrity.

Discussion Questions:

1. How is the violence in Snow White different than the violence in other Disney movies?
2. Why is the Queen jealous of Snow White? Why is being beautiful so important to her?
3. Does the Queen learn humility or empathy?
4. How does Snow White demonstrate courage, compassion, and integrity in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs?
5. Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: Bambi

Theme of Movie:

Friendship, Wild animals, Loss.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Bambi is a story about forest creatures who play and live joyfully even as they fight to survive. At the center of the story is wide-eyed deer Bambi, who must find a way to endure after hunters kill his mother. Supported by his friends, Thumper (a rabbit) and Flower (a skunk), Bambi faces the dangers of the forest, woos a delicate doe named Faline, and eventually grows into a strong buck and a leader of the forest.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Dumbo, Pinocchio, The Fox And The Hound, Snow White, 101 Dalmatians The Rescuers, The Jungle Book, The Aristocats..

Character Education:

Curiosity, Fear, Friendship.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does Bambi promote curiosity?
2. Why is curiosity an important character strength?

Movie Title: Dumbo

Theme of Movie:

Friendship, Animals.

Brief Summary of Movie:

The stork delivers babies to the circus animals, including Mrs. Jumbo's baby, an elephant with enormous ears. The other elephants laugh at him and call him Dumbo, but Mrs. Jumbo loves him very much. When Dumbo is mistreated, she is furious and raises such a fuss that she is locked up. Dumbo is made part of the clown act, which embarrasses him very much. He is a big hit and, celebrating his good fortune, accidentally drinks champagne and becomes tipsy. The next morning, he wakes up in a tree, with no idea how he got there. It turns out that he flew! He becomes the star of the circus, with his proud mother beside him.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Pinocchio, The Rescuers, Snow White, 101 Dalmations, The Rescuers, Bambi, The Sword In The Stone, The Fox And The Hound.

Character Education:

Courage, Empathy.

Discussion Questions:

1. How important it is to Dumbo to have a friend like Timothy?
2. Why does Timothy tell Dumbo he needs the feather to fly? How does he learn that he does not need it?
3. How do the characters in Dumbo demonstrate courage and empathy? Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: Finding Nemo / Finding Dory

Theme of Movie:

Friendship, Ocean Creatures, Adventures, Family, Fear, Memory, Perseverance, Transformation.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Finding Nemo is a story about a clown fish named Nemo and his dad Marlin. Nemo is captured by a deep-sea diving dentist who collects fish for his aquarium. Along the journey Nemo and Marlin meet extraordinary characters and eventually reunite. Years later, one of their friends made along the way, Dory, remembers she has a family and they embark on the journey to find them.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Cars, Toy Story, Monsters, Inc., A Bug's Life, Over The Hedge, Ratatouille, The Incredibles, Despicable Me, Shark Tale.

BOOKS: Diary Of A Wimpy Kid

Character Education:

Compassion, Courage, Gratitude, Perseverance , Perseverance, Teamwork.

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you know what your abilities are, and what do you do to make the most of them?
2. How do the characters in Finding Nemo demonstrate perseverance and courage? What about compassion and gratitude? Why are these important character strengths?
3. Which characters are role models? What do they do that's brave, courageous, selfless, and caring?
4. How do their actions demonstrate teamwork and perseverance? Why are those important character strengths?
5. What does it mean to love someone unconditionally? How do the characters in the movie make it clear that they love each other that way?
6. What does Dory learn about what makes a family? Kids: Who do you consider to be part of your family?

Movie Title: Balto

Theme of Movie:

Adventures and Friendships.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Based on a true story, Balto centers on a brave dog who saved the lives of Alaskan children with diphtheria when he brought medicine to them through the snow. Half wolf, half domesticated dog, Balto has a hard time fitting in with either species. A jealous rival frames Balto for theft, ensuring that Balto will not be chosen to lead a rescue mission. But when the rescue party gets lost, Balto steps in to save the day, with the help of his friends, a Russian goose and two polar bears

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey, Quest For Camelot, All Dogs Go To Heaven, Cat's Don't Dance, An American Tail, Spirit, Sinbad, FernGully.

BOOKS: Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs, How The Grinch Stole Christmas

Character Education:

Acceptance, Friendship, Lies, Kindness.

Discussion Questions:

1. Families can talk about Balto's struggle to fit in. Was it fair of the other dogs not to accept him?
2. How did Balto's friends help him in difficult times?
3. Are your friends there for you when you're having problems?
4. How could you find out more about the dog who inspired this movie?

Movie Title: Toy Story / Toy Story 2 / Toy Story 3

Theme of Movie:

Magic, Fantasy, Adventures, Friendship, Change, Community, Jealousy, Identity,

Brief Summary of Movie:

Toy Story is about toys coming to life when nobody is looking. They go on a lot of wonderful and exciting adventures and learn so much along the way.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Cars, Finding Nemo, A Bug's Life, Shrek, Monster's Inc, Ice Age, The Incredibles.

BOOKS: Shrek!, Beauty And The Beast, Rapunzel, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty.

Character Education:

Courage, Curiosity, Humility, Perseverance, Teamwork

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is Lotso so angry? Why is his motto "no owner, no heartbreak"?
2. How does the third movie compare to the first two? Which one do you like most and why?
3. How do the characters in Toy Story 3 demonstrate teamwork, curiosity, and courage?
4. What about perseverance and humility? Why are these important character strengths?
5. Do you really think that toys become "real" when humans leave the room?
6. Why is imagination such an important part of playtime?
7. How do the toys demonstrate courage and teamwork?
8. How do Buzz and Woody learn to be humble? Why are these important traits?

Movie Title: Tangled

Theme of Movie:

Adventures, Princess, Love, Family, Coming of Age, Transformation, Loyalty, Humility.

Brief Summary of Movie:

The kingdom's most-wanted bandit, Flynn Rider, hides in a tower when he meets Rapunzel. He immediately becomes her prisoner. Rapunzel has been locked away for years and wants freedom. The feisty teenager strikes a deal with Flynn, and together they begin a whirlwind adventure.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The Princess And The Frog, Tinker Bell, Rapunzel, Brave, Cinderella, The Little Mermaid, Frozen, Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs, Beauty And The Beast, Pocahontas.

Character Education:

Courage, Curiosity, Empathy, Gratitude, Integrity, Self-control.

Discussion Questions:

1. How is she similar to and different from other Disney princesses? Is she the typical damsel in distress? How does Rapunzel show the traits of courage, curiosity, and empathy over the course of the movie?
2. Do you think Mother loved Rapunzel, or was she just using her? What about Rapunzel's feelings for Mother?
3. Why did Rapunzel think Flynn wouldn't love her if she didn't have her magical blond hair anymore?
4. How do the characters in Tangled demonstrate gratitude, integrity, and self-control? Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Theme of Movie:

Appearances, Love, Fate and Free Will, Suffering, Time, Justice.

Brief Summary of Movie:

In an attempt to imprison Gypsy castaways, Judge Frollo is left holding a baby in the shadow of Notre Dame Cathedral. He notices that the child is deformed, and starts to throw him down a well but is stopped by a priest and told to care for the child instead. So the child, Quasimodo, is taken to a place of sanctuary and confinement to grow up out of the public eye. He becomes the bell ringer of the great cathedral. As he grows up, he longs to be in the world, if even just for a day, and gets his wish suddenly. But soon realizes how cruel the world can be. Luckily, he meets the Gypsy Esmeralda who befriends him and saves him from utter shame. Their paths become entwined and share the same story of surviving as an outcast.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

BOOKS: The Hunchback Of Notre-Dame, The Man In The Iron mask, Swiss Family Robinson, The Little Mermaid.

MOVIES: Snow White, Quest For Camelot, Dumbo, The Rescuers, The Swan Princess, Pinocchio, Oliver & Company, Thumbelina, 101 Dalmatians.

Character Education:

Shame, Cruel, Outcasts, Kindness, Sympathy.

Discussion Questions:

1. Families can talk about what it means to be different from the norm. Who were the Gypsies?
2. What is the overall attitude towards "outcasts" in this movie, and how does Esmeralda stand up to these beliefs?
3. In what ways does Esmeralda show courage in her words and actions?
4. What does "sanctuary" mean? Why do people seek sanctuary?

Movie Title: The Secret Garden

Theme of Movie:

Friendship, Compassion

Brief Summary of Movie:

Spoiled Mary Lennox is sent from India to England to live with her uncle who is a mysterious lonely man. She is cared for by the housekeeper since her uncle is rarely home. One day Mary finds the key to The Secret Garden which used to be the favorite place of her uncle and his wife. After the uncle's wife died, her aunt, he locked up the garden and swore no one would go in there again. Mary decides she's going to find the garden but first decide to sooth her spoiled bed ridden cousin by telling him about the garden. The two kids, along with the housekeeper's brother bring the garden back to life. When the uncle, Archibald, returns home he meets them in the garden and they all enjoy the happiness the garden brings them.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The Little Princess, A Little Princess, Madeline, Fly Away Home, Harriet The Spy, Pollyanna.

BOOKS: A Little Princess, Little House On The Prairie, Heidi, Pollyanna, Anne of Green Gables, Little Men, Little Women, Peter Pan, The Wizard Of Oz, The Witch Of Blackbird Pond.

Character Education:

Communication, Compassion, Curiosity, Perseverance, Teamwork.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think both Mary and Colin were so spoiled when we first meet them, and what caused them to change into more caring children by the end of the film?
2. How do the characters in The Secret Garden demonstrate curiosity, communication, and compassion?
3. What about perseverance and teamwork? Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: The Sound of Music

Theme of Movie:

History, Music, Courage.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Maria goes to Nonnberg Abbey after graduating high school to become a nun. She is sent to the Von Trapp family and finds the Captain cold and detached, but the children are quite musically inclined. She wins them over and teaches them to sing. As the children's singing abilities develop, so does the relationship between Maria and Georg. The family begins performing publicly; Maria and the Captain marry. Hitler invades Austria, and the Captain, a retired naval officer, is conscripted into the German navy. He quickly departs the country with his wife and family.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The King And I, Oliver!, Mary Poppins, Annie.

BOOKS: Anne Of Green Gables, Horton Hears A Who!, Little Women, A Little Princess.

Character Education:

Trustworthiness, Caring, Courage, Humility, Integrity.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why wasn't Maria able to conform to the rules of the convent?
2. Why did the Mother Superior think that Maria should try life outside of the convent?
3. What was the significance of the song "Edelweiss"?
4. Did you learn anything from this movie? If you did, what was it?
5. What is the message of this movie? Do you agree or disagree with it?
6. How do the characters in The Sound of Music demonstrate integrity, humility, and courage?
7. Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: The Princess and the Frog

Theme of Movie:

Magic and fantasy, Princesses and fairies, Great girl role models, Music and sing-along

Brief Summary of Movie:

Tiana grew up loving fair tales but not believing that good things happen when you wish upon a star. Her father encouraged her to go the hard work way. She dreamed of making her doting dad's dreams come true, which was to own their own New Orleans restaurant and cook yummy food for everyone. But a greedy real estate agent threatens to nix the deal for the space she's been saving up for. So Tiana has to come up with a plan. Prince Naveen of Maldonia arrives in Louisiana in search of a rich debutant to marry, but her runs into a voodoo master who turns him into a frog. And only a kiss from a princess will set him free.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The Swan Princess, The Lion King, Snow White, Brother Bear, 101 Dalmatians, Thumbelina, The Hunchback Of Notre Dame, Mulan, Tinker Bell And The Lost Treasure, Oliver & Company.

Character Education:

Gratitude, Integrity, Perseverance, Teamwork.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think of Tiana as a heroine?
2. How do the characters in The Princess and the Frog demonstrate integrity and perseverance?
3. What about gratitude and teamwork?
4. Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: Meet the Robinsons

Theme of Movie:

Fantasy, Adventures

Brief Summary of Movie:

Meet The Robinsons is an animated movie about a boy genius who escapes from a villain into the future. There, he has to rebuild a time travel ship before a family from the future disappears. It's an emotional and funny movie with a strong moral worldview.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Chicken Little, The Ant Bully, Robots, Astro Boy, Planet 51 , The Tale of Despereaux, Horton hears A Who! , Igor, Cloudy With A Chance Of meatballs, How To Train Your Dragon.

Character Education:

Adoption, Orphans, Super Genius.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do the Robinsons believe that failing is good?
2. Can you think of a time that you didn't win but you still learned something useful?
3. Does the movie make kids who aren't adopted seem sad and lonely? Do you think that's how orphans must feel?
4. Do you like movies that are based on books/stories more than ones that aren't?

Movie Title: Lady and the Tramp

Theme of Movie:

Love, Humility, Family.

Brief Summary of Movie:

Lady is a pampered cocker spaniel of a couple who just had a babe. Lady is worried that she will be forgotten, but her owners assure her that she is still important to them. The couple goes away and a family member arrives to baby sit with her mean Siamese cats. The cats make a mess and Lady gets blamed and put in a muzzle. Lady feels humiliated and runs away where she meets Tramp, who helps her remove the muzzle. The two share romantic adventures.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: 101 Dalmatians, Dumbo, Bambi, Pinocchio, Oliver & Company, Snow White, The Fox And The Hound, The Rescuers .

Character Education:

Humility, Integrity, Love, Romance, Family.

Discussion Questions:

1. What happened to Lady after the baby was born?
2. How would you feel if a new baby took away your parents' attention? How could the parents have handled things differently?
3. How do the characters in Lady and the Tramp demonstrate integrity and humility? Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: The Little Mermaid

Theme of Movie:

Magic and fantasy, Princesses and fairies, Book characters, Music and sing-along, Ocean creatures

Brief Summary of Movie:

THE LITTLE MERMAID tells the story of Ariel, a mermaid princess who collects human artifacts she finds in the sea. One day, she rescues Prince Eric, who was thrown from his ship during a storm, and Ariel falls in love. Desperate for the chance to have a life with Eric, Ariel enters into an agreement with a sea witch, Ursula. She gives up her voice and gets legs, in hopes of winning him and being part of his world. But she only has three days to woo Eric. If he doesn't kiss her in that time, she will become Ursula's slave forever.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: Snow White, Pocahontas, Sleeping Beauty, Bambi, Cinderella, Pinocchio, 101 Dalmatians, The Swan Princess, Dumbo.

Character Education:

Curiosity, Perseverance, Family, Romance.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is Ursula both a little scary and a little fun?
2. Why do you think Ariel chooses to give up her voice (and her family) to meet Eric?
3. Why do you think Sebastian tries to help her even though he doesn't agree with what Ariel's doing?
4. How do the characters in The Little Mermaid demonstrate curiosity and perseverance?
5. Why are these important character strengths?

Movie Title: Black Beauty

Theme of Movie:

Horses and farm animals

Brief Summary of Movie:

Black beauty is a carefree colt just beginning his training when he's sold to the Gordon family. At his new home he meets a young filly named Ginger and proves his heroism in a raging river. But he's not well taken care of and become sick, but is nursed back to health. Beauty and Ginger are sold and both are abused by their new family. Eventually, Beauty finds a new home where he is well taken care of, but his new owner has to sell him. At this new home he is worked nearly to death. But finally, he is rescued by Joe and put out to pasture to enjoy the last years of his life.

Children's Book on the Same Topic:

MOVIES: The Black Stallion, Racing Stripes, Flicka, Snow Dogs, Spirit.

BOOKS: Pollyanna, White Fang, The Little House On The Prairie, The Little Princess, Little Men, The Hunchback Of Notre Dame, The Wizard Of Oz, The Witch Of Blackbird Pond, Little Women.

Character Education:

Curiosity, Perseverance, Abuse

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the message of Black Beauty?
2. Does it inspire you to think about animals differently?