

film flubber notes and questions

film flubber notes and questions provide a comprehensive guide to understanding the 1997 family-friendly film "Flubber," its themes, characters, and critical discussions. This article delves into various aspects of the movie, including a detailed analysis of its plot, the science behind the fictional substance flubber, character motivations, and its reception. By highlighting essential notes and questions, this piece serves as a valuable resource for students, educators, and film enthusiasts. Additionally, the article will address significant themes such as innovation, perseverance, and the value of teamwork, along with insights into how these themes resonate with audiences. The structure will guide readers through a thorough exploration of "Flubber," making it easier to grasp the film's intricacies and its cultural impact.

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Introduction to Flubber

"Flubber" is a science fiction comedy film directed by Les Mayfield, featuring Robin Williams as the eccentric Professor Philip Brainard. The film is a remake of the 1961 classic "The Absent-Minded Professor." It revolves around Brainard's invention of a green, elastic substance named flubber, which has remarkable properties that can defy gravity and enhance athletic performance. The story follows Brainard's attempts to use flubber to save his college's financial woes while simultaneously trying to win back his fiancée, Sara, played by Marcia Gay Harden. Through its blend of humor, science, and heartwarming moments, "Flubber" showcases the importance of creativity and innovation in overcoming challenges.

Overview of the Plot

The plot of "Flubber" centers on Professor Philip Brainard, who is preoccupied with his work and often forgets important events, including his wedding. After a failed experiment leads to a mishap in the lab, Brainard accidentally discovers flubber. This substance exhibits extraordinary properties, such as incredible bounce and the ability to levitate objects. With flubber's potential, Brainard aims to save his college from financial ruin by using it in a basketball game against a rival institution.

As the story unfolds, Brainard's clumsiness and lack of focus create comedic situations, particularly with his inventions and interactions with his students. His relationship with Sara faces challenges as he struggles to balance his scientific pursuits with personal commitments. The climax of the film involves a series of zany escapades fueled by flubber, ultimately leading to a heartwarming resolution where Brainard learns the value of love, friendship, and teamwork.

Main Characters

Understanding the characters in "Flubber" is crucial for grasping the film's dynamics. Each character plays a pivotal role in the narrative, contributing to both the comedic elements and the underlying themes.

Professor Philip Brainard

Robin Williams portrays Professor Philip Brainard, an absent-minded yet brilliant scientist whose passion for invention often overshadows his personal life. His character embodies the archetype of a dedicated innovator, willing to risk everything for scientific advancement.

Sara Johnson

Sara Johnson, played by Marcia Gay Harden, is Brainard's fiancée, who embodies patience and understanding. She represents the emotional anchor in Brainard's chaotic life, highlighting the importance of relationships amidst personal ambition.

Weebo

Weebo, a robotic assistant voiced by Jodi Benson, adds a layer of humor and heart to the film. As Brainard's loyal companion, Weebo often provides witty commentary and assists in his experiments, showcasing the blend of technology and companionship.

The Science of Flubber

The fictional substance flubber serves as a central element of the film, sparking curiosity about its scientific basis. While flubber is a product of imagination, its portrayal raises interesting questions about real scientific principles.

Flubber demonstrates properties akin to elasticity and potential energy, akin to real-life substances like rubber and polymers. The concept of a material that can store and release energy is rooted in scientific principles, making it a fascinating topic for discussion in educational contexts.

Themes and Messages

"Flubber" presents several overarching themes that resonate with audiences of all ages. These themes contribute to the film's appeal and provide valuable lessons.

Innovation and Creativity

The film celebrates the spirit of innovation, showcasing how creative thinking can lead to groundbreaking discoveries. Professor Brainard's relentless pursuit of his inventions illustrates the importance of curiosity and experimentation in the scientific process.

Perseverance

Throughout the narrative, Brainard faces numerous setbacks, from failed experiments to personal challenges. His determination to succeed, despite these obstacles, serves as a motivational message about the importance of resilience in achieving one's goals.

Teamwork and Relationships

The importance of teamwork is highlighted in Brainard's collaboration with his students and Weebo. The film emphasizes that success is often a collective effort, underscoring the value of supportive relationships in personal and professional endeavors.

Critical Reception and Legacy