

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel

Study Notes



Directed by: Betty Thomas
Certificate: U (contains very mild language)
Running time: 88 mins
Release date: 21 December 2009

Synopsis

Pop sensations Alvin, Simon and Theodore end up in the care of Dave Seville's twenty-something nephew Toby. The boys must put aside music superstardom to return to school, and are tasked with saving the school's music programme by winning the \$25,000 prize in a battle of the bands. But the Chipmunks unexpectedly meet their match in three singing chipmunks known as 'The Chipettes' - Brittany, Eleanor and Jeanette. Romantic and musical sparks are ignited when the Chipmunks and Chipettes square off.

Before seeing the film

1. Below are lists of words that describe the chipmunks' different personalities. Look up any words you don't know. Which words do you think best describe your personality? Write a list of positive words that you think describe you, your best friend and someone in your family.

■ **Alvin** – enthusiastic, impulsive, charming, popular

■ **Simon** – clever, witty, quick thinking, sensible

■ **Theodore** – shy, helpful, sensitive, trusting

2. What are chipmunks really like? Research the animals and write an information leaflet with the facts you discover. Where in the world can you find them and what are their homes called? What do they eat and what do they do with their food to prepare for winter?

3. Prepare to write a film review after you've been to see Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. Write some questions you will want to answer in your review. For example:

■ How can you explain the storyline in a short paragraph?

■ What new characters do we meet?

■ Is it as good as the first film? Why?

■ What do you think of the soundtrack and special effects?

■ Who would enjoy this film?

After seeing the film

1. Alvin, Simon and Theodore get bullied when they start their new school. Write an anti-bullying song or rap for the Chipmunks (or Chipette's) to perform. Think about rhyme and repetition when writing your verses and chorus. What attitude or message do you want to get across in your song?

2. Design some cover art for the new single. You could even perform and record your song! Some music software will even let you change the pitch of your voices so you sound like the chipmunks!

3. Now it's time to advertise the new single. Make a poster that will persuade people to buy it. What information will your poster need to include?

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