

## Race to Witch Mountain Study Notes



**Directed by:** Andy Fickman

**Certificate:** PG

**Running time:** 96 mins

### Synopsis

A Las Vegas cabbie enlists the help of a UFO expert to protect two siblings with paranormal powers from the clutches of an organisation that wants to use the kids for their nefarious plans.

## Before seeing the film

### Key questions

1. Race to Witch Mountain is about aliens landing on earth. If an alien landed in your school, what do you think it would look like? Draw a picture of an alien spacecraft landing on your school field.
2. Do you believe that there is life on other planets? Is it possible that aliens exist? Have you ever seen a UFO (an unidentified flying object)? Create a newspaper front page that tells the story of a UFO being seen over your school grounds last night.
3. Use the internet or a book to find out about the existence of aliens. As a class have a debate – with half the class arguing for the existence of aliens and half the class arguing against.
4. What do you think Witch Mountain is? What do you think could be there? Are there any clues in the synopsis or in the poster?
5. The girl who plays Sara in the film was also in Bridge to Terabithia. Imagine what it's like to be a child actor. Write a diary of a week in the life of the stars of Race to Witch Mountain during the week that the film is premiered in Leicester Square, London.

Include the following:

- walking down the red carpet in front of the paparazzi on premiere night
- being interviewed by journalists about the film
- flying first class to Europe for the Paris premiere!

## After seeing the film

### Task 1

Race to Witch Mountain is an action film. Think back to early on in the film when Jack Bruno first picks up the mysterious children. Think about the car chase and when the boy stops the car with his own body. Describe that scene to somebody who hasn't seen the film using the following headings to help you:

- sounds
- sights
- characters
- special effects
- music
- dialogue
- camera movement
- pace (was it fast or slow?)
- mood (was it tense, scary or funny?)

### Task 2

When the children tell Jack Bruno that they are aliens, he doesn't believe them at first. They have to convince him.

Pretend that you have to convince your teacher that you and your friend are aliens. Write a script that persuades your teacher that you are both from another planet. You can use the two alien characters for inspiration. Describe your planet, your special alien powers and your mission here on earth.