

Night at the Museum 2

Study Notes



Directed by: Shawn Levy

Certificate: PG

Running time: 105 mins

Synopsis

Night has fallen upon the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. The guides have gone home, the lights are out, the school kids are tucked in their beds... yet something incredible is stirring as former night guard Larry Daley (Ben Stiller) finds himself lured into his biggest, most imagination-boggling adventure yet in which history truly comes alive. In this second instalment of the Night at the Museum saga, Larry faces a battle so epic it could only unfold in the corridors of the world's largest museum. Now, Larry must try to save his formerly inanimate friends from what could be their last stand amid the wonders of the Smithsonian, all of which, from the famous paintings on the walls to the rocket ships in the halls, suddenly have a mind of their own.

Before seeing the film

Key questions

1. What is the point of a museum?
2. What different kinds of museums are there?
3. Which museums have you been to?
4. In *Night at the Museum 2*, the people and objects exhibited in the museum come to life. It's called the Smithsonian Institution: National Gallery of Art, and it's located in Washington DC, USA.
Think about the last museum that you went to. Imagine that the objects came to life. Create a storyboard showing what happened when you visited the museum and witnessed the chaos!
5. When you see the film, make sure you stay to watch the credits. The credits show you who worked on the film. Why do you think there are so many people listed? A film like *Night at the Museum 2* needs many people working on it: from make-up artists, to digital screen co-ordinators to sound effects mixers. Which job would you like to do on a film set? Why?

After seeing the film

Task 1

The museum in the film contains many famous characters from American and world history. Some of them are listed below. Create a Museum Guidebook that includes information on each of the following:

Ivan the Terrible
Darth Vader
Amelia Earhart
Oscar the Grouch
Abraham Lincoln
Egyptian pharaoh (Kahmunrah)
Neil Armstrong
End of World War II
Rodin's 'The Thinker'
Degas' 'The Dancer'
Einstein
Al Capone
Cavemen
Napoleon
General Custer
Able the Space Monkey
Easter Island statues
Teddy Roosevelt
Attila the Hun

Task 2

In one scene, the toy Roman soldier (Octavius) tries to run to the museum through the grass. His small size means that the grass is taller than him. He stops to catch his breath and he is attacked by a squirrel three times his size! Create a poster for the film that captures the action and excitement of this scene.