

RECOMMENDED FILM

Courses: 5th and 6th primary years

Skill: OPTIMISM

Film: COOL RUNNINGS

Month: January

b!Character

Programme for the development of habits and strengths

FILM INFO

Title: Cool Runnings

Director: Jon Turteltaub

Year: 1993

Duration: 98 minutes

Production: American

Genre: Comedy

Music: Hans Zimmer

Streaming services where available:



SYNOPSIS:

Irving Blitzer is a US bobsleigh medallist in the 1968 Winter Olympics, who came first again in two events in 1972, but who was disqualified for cheating and who retired to Jamaica, where he lives from gambling.

Blitzer is contacted by the sprinter Derice Bannock (Leon Robinson) who was unable to qualify for the Summer Olympics in 1988, and his best friend, the runner Sanka Coffie (Doug E. Doug), to use his previous experience as a coach and train the first Jamaican bobsleigh team to compete in the Winter Olympics. At first Blitzer is not very convinced, but in the end he accepts, and together they search for the two remaining team members that they need, and who are Junior Bevil, (Rawle D. Lewis) the son of an important businessman and the rudeboy Yul Brenner (Malik Joba).

Blitzer trains them to qualify for the Olympics, but things get complicated and get tougher than they expected, as not only are they refused support from many companies and their own Olympic Committee, but they have to put up with mockery, indifference and opposition from within their own country, as well as that of the major competitors and executives that form part of the Olympic Games.

The film is inspired by Jamaica's participation in the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, an event that became one of the most applauded events in the history of the Winter Games, and which even put big names in the shade.

QUOTES FROM THE FILM

"Feel the Rhythm! Feel the Rhyme! Get on up, it's bobsled time! Cool Runnings!"

"I see price, I see power!"

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QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FILM GROUP

Why did Disney want to make this story into a movie?

What problems did the team face on their path to the Olympic Games? What is their attitude when faced with difficulties?

What is the aim of the Jamaican team? Must the aim of sport always be to win?

What life lessons did the bobsleigh team learn?