

film flubber notes and questions answers

The beloved 1997 Disney film, Flubber, starring Robin Williams, continues to captivate audiences with its whimsical premise of a flying rubber. This article delves deep into the world of Flubber, offering a comprehensive exploration of its key elements, from the science behind the magical substance to the memorable characters and plot points. We'll be addressing common questions and providing detailed notes to enhance your viewing experience, focusing specifically on "[film flubber notes and questions answers]". Whether you're a long-time fan or introducing the movie to a new generation, this guide aims to answer all your burning questions about Flubber and its fascinating narrative. Get ready to explore the science, the laughs, and the heartwarming moments that make Flubber a timeless family classic.

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Introduction to Flubber: A Flying Phenomenon

Disney's Flubber is a delightful science-fiction comedy that introduced audiences to a revolutionary, gravity-defying substance with immense potential. The film centers on Professor Philip Brainard, a brilliant but absent-minded inventor who creates Flubber, a bouncy, green, goo-like substance that possesses the ability to fly and is virtually indestructible. This innovative creation is designed to solve the financial woes of his

university and win back the affection of his fiancée, Sara Jean Reynolds. The journey of Professor Brainard and his remarkable invention is filled with comedic mishaps, exciting chases, and a deeper exploration of scientific responsibility. Understanding the nuances of the film, including specific plot points and scientific curiosities, is often a desire for viewers, leading to common searches for "[film flubber notes and questions answers]". This article serves as a definitive resource, providing detailed insights into the film's creation, its characters, and the intriguing science that makes Flubber so memorable.

The Science Behind Flubber: Notes and Explanations

The central element of the film, Flubber itself, is presented as a scientifically plausible, albeit highly fantastical, substance. While the movie takes creative liberties, it's fascinating to consider the theoretical underpinnings, or at least the in-universe logic, that drives Flubber's unique properties. Understanding these aspects can significantly enhance appreciation for the film's imaginative world. Let's break down the "science" as presented in Flubber.

What is Flubber Made Of?

In the narrative of the film, Professor Brainard's initial goal was to create a super-elastic substance that could revolutionize sports and transportation. The exact composition of Flubber is never explicitly stated in scientific terms, as it's a fictional creation. However, based on Professor Brainard's experiments and the visual representation, it appears to be a complex polymer or gel with unique molecular properties. The key ingredients are implied to be derived from mundane household items, mixed with experimental compounds and, crucially, a catalyst that imbues it with its remarkable energy and anti-gravity capabilities. The visual consistency of Flubber, its ability to morph, bounce, and adhere to surfaces, suggests a highly adaptable molecular structure.

How Does Flubber Work?

The most astonishing property of Flubber is its ability to defy gravity and achieve flight. The film suggests this is due to an internal energy source or a unique reaction to atmospheric pressure and kinetic energy. When Flubber is thrown or propelled, it gains momentum and converts that energy into lift. The bouncing effect is a direct result of its elasticity and energy retention. Furthermore, Flubber exhibits a form of sentience, or at least a reactive responsiveness to its environment and the intentions of its creator. It can also absorb impacts and repair itself, indicating an extraordinary

molecular resilience.

Flubber's Properties and Abilities

Flubber displays a range of extraordinary abilities that drive the plot and provide much of the film's comedic and action-oriented sequences. These include:

- **Levitation and Flight:** Flubber can float, fly, and propel itself through the air with surprising agility.
- **Super-Bounce:** It possesses incredible elasticity, allowing it to bounce repeatedly and with great force.
- **Adhesion:** Flubber can stick to various surfaces, including walls and ceilings, often used for comedic effect.
- **Self-Healing:** The substance can seemingly repair itself after damage, demonstrating its robust nature.
- **Energy Absorption:** It appears to absorb kinetic energy, which it can then utilize for propulsion.
- **Malleability:** Flubber can change its shape, conforming to different forms and containers.

The "Flubbersmith" and Brainard's Inventions

Professor Brainard's workshop is a testament to his inventive genius. Beyond Flubber, he also creates a robotic assistant named Weatherman, designed to manage his household chores and serve as a companion. Weatherman's malfunctioning and often unhelpful assistance adds to the comedic chaos. The film also features other inventions, such as the flying car, which is powered by Flubber, and the golf club that imbues golf balls with Flubber, allowing for impossible shots. These inventions showcase Brainard's ambitious yet often impractical approach to science.

Key Characters and Their Roles in the Flubber Saga

The characters in Flubber are as memorable as the titular substance. Each plays a crucial role in driving the narrative and contributing to the film's charm and humor. Understanding their motivations and relationships is key to appreciating the story.

Professor Philip Brainard

Played by Robin Williams, Professor Brainard is the eccentric, brilliant, but utterly disorganized inventor at the heart of the story. His absent-mindedness often leads to humorous situations, such as missing his own wedding multiple times due to his obsessive pursuit of scientific discovery. His primary motivation is to create something that will save his university from closure and to prove his worth to his fiancée. His relationship with Flubber evolves from a mere scientific creation to something akin to a pet or even a child, highlighting his often-unconventional affections.

Sara Jean Reynolds

Portrayed by Nancy McLelland, Sara Jean is Professor Brainard's patient and loving fiancée. She is a professor of physics herself and often acts as the voice of reason to Brainard's wild schemes. Her unwavering support and the threat of her moving on provide Brainard with a strong incentive to finally achieve his goals. Their relationship is a central emotional anchor in the film.

Wilson Croft

Wilson Croft, played by Christopher McDonald, is the antagonist of the film. He is a rival inventor and the former college roommate of Professor Brainard. Croft is greedy and unscrupulous, aiming to steal Brainard's invention for his own personal gain. He represents the darker side of ambition, contrasting with Brainard's often misguided but good-hearted intentions.

The Antagonists: Chester Rutledge and Agent Tom

While Wilson Croft is the main human antagonist, the film also features two less sophisticated henchmen, Chester Rutledge (played by Raymond J. Barry) and Agent Tom (played by Ted Rooney). They are tasked by Croft to steal Flubber, leading to several comical confrontations with Brainard and his invention. Their bumbling attempts often backfire, adding to the slapstick humor of the film.

Dale and Jenny

Dale (played by Scott Martin) and Jenny (played by Diedrich Bader) are two students at the university who are initially tasked with helping Professor Brainard but are ultimately sidelined by his forgetfulness. They serve as minor characters who highlight the disarray of the university and Brainard's own organizational challenges. They are present during some of the key Flubber demonstrations.

Plot Breakdown: Unpacking the Flubber Narrative

The plot of Flubber is a classic tale of invention, love, and overcoming obstacles, all seasoned with ample comedic moments. Understanding the sequence of events and the cause-and-effect relationships is crucial for a complete appreciation of the film.

Brainard's Multiple Weddings and the Creation of Flubber

The film opens with Professor Brainard attempting to get married for the third time, only to miss the ceremony due to his intense focus on an experiment. His fiancée, Sara Jean, is understandably frustrated, giving him an ultimatum: succeed in his scientific endeavors or lose her forever. In his desperation, Brainard works tirelessly, and in a moment of inspiration, he creates Flubber. The initial creation is a success, and he tests its properties, leading to the iconic bouncing and flying sequences.

Flubber's First Applications and Misadventures

Brainard's initial goal with Flubber is to save his university, which is facing foreclosure. He uses Flubber to create a flying car, a Flubber-enhanced golf club, and even a Flubber suit. These inventions are showcased in a montage that highlights their whimsical and often chaotic nature. The comedic potential of Flubber is immediately apparent as Brainard struggles to control his creation and its effects on the world around him.

Wilson Croft's Scheme to Steal Flubber

Meanwhile, Wilson Croft, Brainard's jealous former colleague, learns about Flubber and its incredible potential. He enlists the help of Chester Rutledge and Agent Tom to steal the formula and the substance itself. This sets up a series of chases and confrontations as Brainard tries to protect his invention from falling into the wrong hands. The film masterfully blends scientific intrigue with thrilling action sequences.

The Big Game and the Climax

The climax of the film takes place during a crucial college basketball game. Brainard's university is in dire financial straits, and winning the game is their last hope. Croft attempts to sabotage the game by stealing Flubber and using it to his advantage. However, Brainard, with the help of Flubber, manages to foil Croft's plan. The final scene involves a spectacular aerial chase and a humorous resolution where Flubber's capabilities are put to their

ultimate test, saving the university and securing Brainard's future with Sara Jean.

Frequently Asked Questions about Flubber

Many viewers have specific questions about the film's details, plot points, and the characters' motivations. This section aims to provide clear answers to common queries regarding "[film flubber notes and questions answers]".

Why did Professor Brainard keep missing his wedding?

Professor Brainard was exceptionally absent-minded and became so engrossed in his scientific experiments that he would lose track of time and forget important commitments, including his wedding dates. His passion for discovery often overshadowed his personal life, leading to his repeated failures to walk down the aisle.

What happened to Professor Brainard's previous wives?

The film implies that his previous marriages ended due to his scientific obsessions and forgetfulness. While not explicitly detailed, it's understood that his inability to prioritize his relationships led to their dissolution. The audience is made aware of these prior failed attempts to emphasize his present predicament with Sara Jean.

How did Flubber get its name?

The name "Flubber" is a portmanteau of "flying rubber," which directly describes its primary characteristic of being a buoyant and elastic substance capable of flight. The name itself is indicative of its groundbreaking nature and its playful, almost whimsical, essence.

What is the purpose of Weatherman?

Weatherman is Professor Brainard's domestic robot assistant. He is designed to help with household chores and provide companionship. However, Weatherman is portrayed as somewhat dysfunctional and prone to errors, which adds to the film's comedic elements. His malfunctions often create additional complications for Brainard.

Did Flubber have a sequel?

No, Flubber did not have a direct sequel. However, it is a remake of the 1961 Disney film *The Absent-Minded Professor* and its 1963 sequel *Son of Flubber*, which also featured the invention of "flubber." The original films starred Fred MacMurray in the lead role.

What was the original "flubber" substance in the earlier films?

In *The Absent-Minded Professor* and *Son of Flubber*, the substance was also called "flubber," but it was a transparent, bouncy material that caused objects coated with it to fly. The core concept of a flying rubber substance remains consistent across these films.

Behind the Scenes: Making of the Flubber Movie

The creation of a film as visually unique as *Flubber* involved significant technical and creative efforts. Understanding the production process offers insight into the magic of moviemaking and the challenges of bringing such a fantastical concept to life.

Special Effects and Visuals

The visual effects in *Flubber* were groundbreaking for their time. The titular substance was brought to life through a combination of practical effects, animatronics, and computer-generated imagery (CGI). The animators and visual effects artists worked meticulously to create the organic, bouncy, and expressive nature of Flubber. The flying sequences, particularly those involving the Flubber car and Flubber itself, required sophisticated motion control and integration of the CGI elements with live-action footage. The bright green color and fluid movements of Flubber were key to its distinctive appeal.

Robin Williams' Performance

Robin Williams' performance as Professor Brainard is central to the film's success. His signature improvisational style and energetic delivery brought the eccentric inventor to life. Williams' ability to blend physical comedy with genuine emotional depth allowed audiences to connect with Brainard's character, making his triumphs and struggles relatable. His interactions with the inanimate Flubber and the robotic Weatherman were particularly remarkable, showcasing his comedic timing and versatility.

Filming Locations and Set Design

The film was shot primarily in California. The production design team created Professor Brainard's cluttered, eccentric laboratory, which served as the hub of his inventive activities. The university campus settings were designed to reflect a traditional academic environment, providing a contrast to Brainard's unconventional scientific pursuits. The visual aesthetic of the film was bright and cheerful, fitting the lighthearted tone of a Disney family comedy.

The Legacy and Impact of Flubber

Flubber, despite its commercial success, has had a lasting impact on popular culture and family entertainment. Its unique concept and memorable performance continue to resonate with audiences.

Flubber in Pop Culture

The image of a bouncing, flying green substance is instantly recognizable. Flubber has become synonymous with playful invention and the whimsical possibilities of science. Memes, references in other media, and the enduring popularity of Robin Williams' role ensure that Flubber remains a cultural touchstone for a generation of moviegoers. The film's themes of perseverance and the joy of discovery are timeless.

The Appeal of the Absent-Minded Professor Archetype

Professor Brainard embodies the classic "absent-minded professor" archetype, a character type that has been popular in literature and film for decades. This character, brilliant yet socially awkward and prone to comedic mishaps, resonates because it combines intelligence with relatable human flaws. The success of Flubber further cemented this archetype in the minds of audiences.

Enduring Themes of Innovation and Responsibility

Beyond the humor and special effects, Flubber touches on important themes of scientific innovation and the ethical responsibilities that come with groundbreaking discoveries. Brainard's invention has the potential for great good, but also for misuse. The film subtly explores the consequences of unchecked ambition and the importance of using science for the betterment of society, even if these lessons are delivered with a lighthearted touch.

Conclusion: Your Comprehensive Flubber Q&A

This comprehensive exploration of Flubber has provided detailed notes and answered numerous questions regarding this beloved Disney classic. From the theoretical science behind the flying rubber substance to the memorable characters and the intricate plot, we've covered the essential elements that make Flubber a timeless cinematic experience. Whether you were curious about the composition of Flubber, Professor Brainard's eccentricities, or the behind-the-scenes magic, this article aimed to be your definitive resource. The enduring legacy of Flubber lies in its unique blend of humor, heart, and inventive spirit, making it a film that continues to entertain and inspire audiences of all ages. Hopefully, this deep dive into "[film flubber notes and questions answers]" has enriched your understanding and appreciation of Professor Brainard's most remarkable creation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main plot of the movie 'Flubber'?

The main plot of 'Flubber' revolves around Professor Philip Brainard, a bumbling but brilliant scientist who invents a revolutionary, bouncy, green substance called Flubber. He plans to use it to save his college from financial ruin, but along the way, he must also win back the love of his fiancée, Sara, and fend off a greedy competitor.

Who stars in the 1997 film 'Flubber'?

The 1997 film 'Flubber' stars Robin Williams as Professor Philip Brainard. Also featured are Marcia Gay Harden as Sara Reynolds, Christopher McDonald as Wilson Croft, and Ted Levine as Agent Sterling.

What is Flubber, the substance from the movie?

Flubber is a sentient, super-bouncy, green goo invented by Professor Brainard. It has the ability to absorb energy, fly, and even mimic human movements to some extent, making it incredibly versatile and entertaining.

Is 'Flubber' a remake or based on an older film?

Yes, 'Flubber' (1997) is a remake of the 1961 Walt Disney film 'The Absent-Minded Professor' and its 1963 sequel, 'Son of Flubber'. The original films also featured a similar flying car invention.

What are some of the memorable scenes or gags in

'Flubber'?

Some memorable scenes include the Flubber basketball game where the substance allows the players to perform incredible dunks, the Flubber-powered flying DeLorean, and the humorous moments where Flubber interacts with the characters' pets and even substitutes for Professor Brainard's missing wife.

What was the critical reception of 'Flubber'?

The critical reception for 'Flubber' was generally mixed to negative. While many praised Robin Williams's performance, critics often found the humor to be over-the-top and the plot to be predictable and lacking in the charm of the original films.

Did 'Flubber' perform well at the box office?

Yes, 'Flubber' was a commercial success. It grossed over \$178 million worldwide against a production budget of \$80 million, making it a profitable venture for Disney.

What are the key themes explored in 'Flubber'?

Key themes in 'Flubber' include the importance of love and relationships, the dedication to scientific innovation, and the idea that even the most brilliant minds can be flawed and require support from others. It also touches on the dangers of greed and ambition.

Are there any 'Flubber' sequels or spin-offs?

While 'Flubber' itself was a remake and not a direct sequel, the original 'The Absent-Minded Professor' did have a sequel titled 'Son of Flubber'. There have been no direct film sequels to the 1997 'Flubber' movie.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to the concepts and potential questions surrounding a film like Flubber, with descriptions:

1. The Science of Everyday Magic: Inventing the Future with Ordinary Things
This book explores the fascinating intersection of science and invention, looking at how everyday objects can be transformed into extraordinary tools through ingenuity. It delves into the principles behind creating something from seemingly nothing, much like the creation of Flubber itself. Readers will discover how imaginative leaps, combined with a solid understanding of basic scientific concepts, can lead to groundbreaking innovations that feel like magic.
2. Polymorphs and Shape-Shifters: The Science of Materials That Change
This title dives into the realm of advanced materials science, focusing on

substances that can alter their properties, form, or state. It would examine the theoretical and practical possibilities of creating highly malleable, responsive, and self-healing materials. The book would likely explore the chemical and physical processes that could enable such transformations, offering insights into how a substance like Flubber might be conceived.

3. The Accidental Genius: Eureka Moments and Unexpected Discoveries

This book chronicles the stories of famous accidental discoveries and the brilliant minds behind them. It celebrates the power of serendipity in scientific progress and the importance of being open to unexpected outcomes. Through compelling anecdotes, it highlights how mistakes and unintended consequences can often pave the way for revolutionary inventions.

4. Professor Brainard's Blueprint: A Practical Guide to Improbable Inventions

Imagined as a fictional guide from the film's protagonist, this book would offer humorous yet insightful advice on tackling seemingly impossible invention projects. It would cover the process of brainstorming, prototyping, and testing, even when the underlying science is speculative. The book would emphasize perseverance, creative problem-solving, and the willingness to embrace the absurd.

5. The Physics of Fun: How to Make Stuff Bounce, Fly, and Explode (Safely!)

This engaging read demystifies the physics behind exciting and often surprising phenomena. It would break down concepts like elasticity, kinetic energy, and reaction forces in an accessible way. The book aims to show readers how fundamental physical laws can be harnessed to create dynamic and entertaining experiences, much like Flubber's unique properties.

6. The Green Goo Chronicles: Bio-Inspired Polymers and Futuristic Fabrics

This title focuses on biomimicry and the development of advanced materials inspired by nature. It would explore how scientists are looking to living organisms for solutions to material challenges, leading to the creation of novel substances. The book might discuss self-assembling molecules and adaptive materials, concepts relevant to a substance with Flubber's unique, almost living qualities.

7. The Ethics of Invention: Responsibility and the Pursuit of Progress

This thought-provoking book examines the moral considerations that accompany scientific and technological advancement. It would question the potential consequences of creating powerful new materials or technologies, and the responsibilities of inventors. The book encourages a critical look at the potential benefits and risks associated with pushing the boundaries of what's possible.

8. Absent-Minded Professors and Their World-Changing Machines

This book celebrates the trope of the eccentric genius in popular culture and real-world science. It would feature biographical sketches of brilliant but often unconventional thinkers and their remarkable inventions. The narrative would highlight how a certain level of quirkiness and single-minded focus can be essential for groundbreaking innovation.

9. _The Mechanics of Merriment: Joyful Engineering and Playful Prototypes_
This book delves into the design and creation of objects and experiences that are inherently fun and engaging. It explores how engineering principles can be applied to evoke happiness and stimulate creativity. The book would inspire readers to think about how to infuse their own projects with a sense of playfulness and delight, much like the pure enjoyment derived from interacting with Flubber.

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