

FILM DISCUSSION GUIDE

Lion

Australia, US, UK | 2016 | 118 mins | Dir: Garth Davis | Cert. PG | Engaging for ages 11+

Curriculum links: Geography, PSHE, Computing, Citizenship

INTO
FILM



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When a young Indian boy called Saroo ends up trapped on an empty train, he is transported 1,600 kilometres away from his home. Surviving the streets of Kolkata, he is eventually adopted by a couple in the Australian island of Tasmania. Years later, as a university student, Saroo becomes desperate to retrace his steps and find the family he was separated from as a boy. *Lion* is a film which provokes important questions around identity, cultural heritage and the ethics of adoption.



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Talk about it before the film

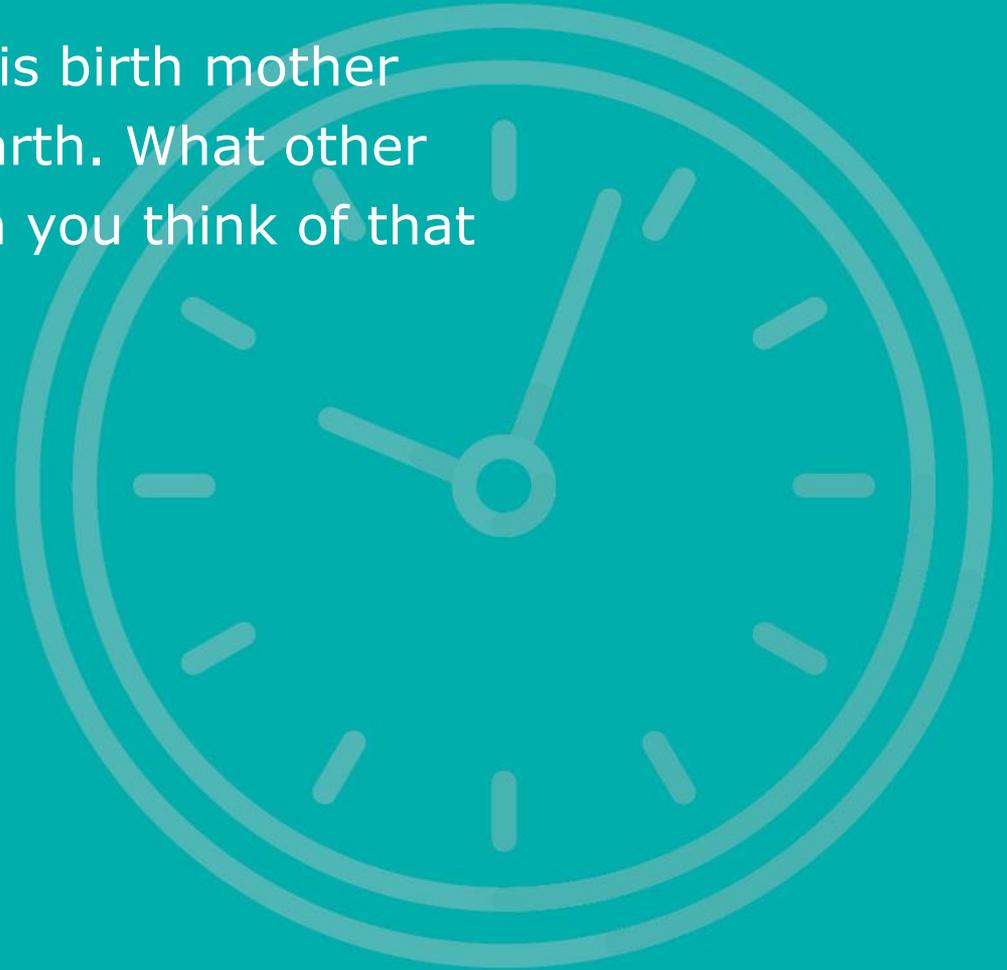
What do you know about
India? Can you find the
cities of Kolkata and
Khandwa on a map?

Discussion points

1. How did Saroo become lost from his brother, so far from home?
2. Think back to when Saroo initially wakes up in Kolkata. How does the camera help convey his initial reaction to the situation he is in?
3. How did Saroo first react to his new home in Tasmania? How do his new parents try to make him feel at home?
4. Why was Saroo reluctant to tell his Australian parents of his attempts to find his birth mother?

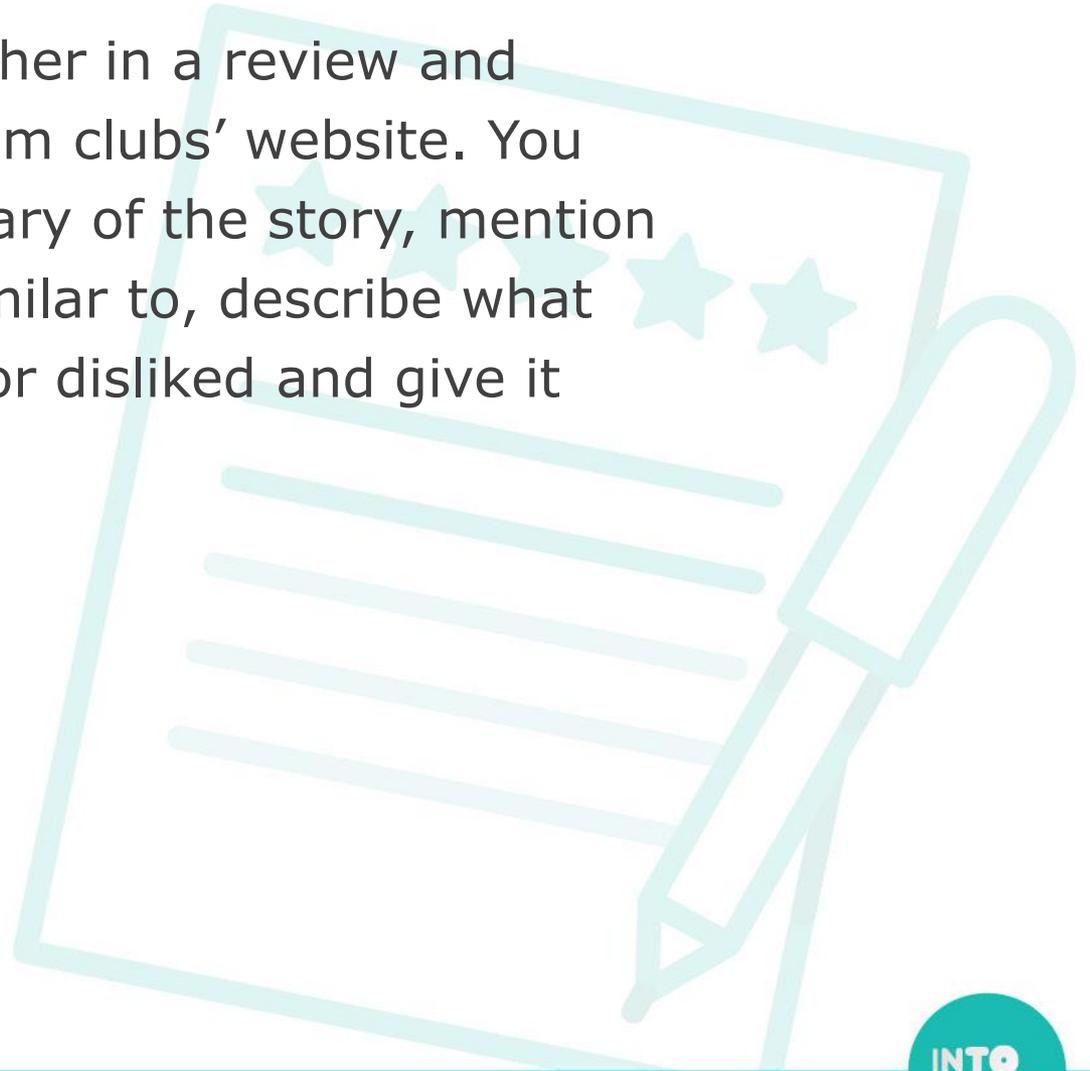
Extension activities

Saroo eventually finds his birth mother through using Google Earth. What other pieces of technology can you think of that might have helped him?



Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.



Watch next



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I Am Kalam

2010 | Cert. PG | Engaging for ages 7+

A funny, moving tale about an Indian boy whose dreams of going to school are granted by a benevolent prince.



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Kaaka Muttai (The Crow's Egg)

2014 | Cert. PG | Engaging for ages 7+

Tamil film about two boys desperate to earn money to get a slice of pizza from the new pizzeria.