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Serving up a feast of colourful characters

IN 2009’s Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs, young scientist Flint Lockwood (voiced by Bill Hader) invented a machine that converted water into food. Launching his machine into the atmosphere, Flint brought an apocalypse down upon his island home: burger rain, spaghetti cyclones, a hail of fruit and veg.

Loosely based on a book by Judi and Ron Barrett, it was a science fiction disaster movie made palatable for kids. The sequel is a little bit King Kong, a little bit Jurassic Park. Having been evacuated from Swallow Falls, Flint goes to work for a Steve Jobs-type science mogul, Chester V (Will Forte), whose company Live Corp is carrying out the momentous clean-up of the disaster zone.

In the film, the evil mayor of the town, Mayor McCheese (Neil Patrick Harris), is trying to patent the food and sell it to the world. The colourful cast of this popular animation sequel will keep the little ones entertained.

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McCartney was happy to contribute the theme song for the film. Requitals hasroped in, too. Newbies Cody Cameron and Kris Pearn, who worked on the first film, have assumed directing duties and offer less of an emphasis on the characters: it’s mostly about the animators playing with their food to come up with outlandish creatures. In colour and movement terms, there’s plenty to engage young viewers, but parents may have preferred a little more to chew on. Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs 2 is in cinemas now – just in time for the school holidays – and is guaranteed to keep the little ones entertained.

AT THE MOVIES

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 (G)

Directors: Cody Cameron and Kris Pearn

Starring: The voices of Bill Hader, Anna Faris, Neil Patrick Harris, James Caan, Judi and Ron Barrett, it was a science fiction disaster movie made palatable for kids. The sequel is a little bit King Kong, a little bit Jurassic Park. Having been evacuated from Swallow Falls, Flint goes to work for a Steve Jobs-type science mogul, Chester V (Will Forte), whose company Live Corp is carrying out the momentous clean-up of the disaster zone.

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