

This is about / This is *really* about

Before you go: This strategy will help students define the difference between what *happens* in a story and what it *means* – or what the author wants us to *think* about.

Materials:

- Computer, paper and pen or
- Computer and word processor

On the ride:

1. Watch a movie or short film of your choice or this one, called *The Black Hole*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijEfmJLV5PE>
2. After watching, take a few notes on the following questions:
 1. What happens in the beginning, middle, and end of the story?
 2. What is the problem in the film?
 3. What causes the problem – what character trait, choice, or action?



Arriving at the Destination:

Complete each prompt with two or three sentences. Include a reason or explanation for your thoughts in your writing:

This film is about. . .

This film is really about. . .



Reflecting on the trip:

What other aspects of the film helped you identify the theme or deeper meaning? What will help you to find the theme in the next work that you read, watch, or listen to?