

Follow-up Activities:

1. **Tableau (frozen scene)** -- This is a fun way to get kids out of their seats, appeal to kinesthetic learners, and help kids remember major scenes from the book. It's a good idea to model this with a sample scene and volunteer students first. Call up four or five kids and announce that you are the sculptor. Pick a scene from *The Lightning Thief* and assign the students parts. For instance, you might choose Grover appearing at the cabin door in the middle of a storm. Tell students how to pose and then order them to freeze in place. Grover could mime standing in a doorway, looking terrified. Sally could be holding the door, looking at Percy in horror, and Percy could be in bed, staring at Grover's hooves. Other students could be the Minotaur approaching, or even the wind or the door. Give the scene a title, like "Midnight Surprise," and explain who is who. Finally, instruct each student to begin saying their characters thoughts aloud as soon as you touch them on the shoulder, and to keep talking until you touch their shoulder again.

Once students have the idea, break the class into groups of 4-5 and let them choose any other scene from the book so far to act out. It's a good idea to brainstorm a list of ideas together first, so no one pleads ignorance when it's time to choose a scene! Don't worry if more than one group wants to do the same scene. Give students 5-10 to choose parts and prepare their scene. Remember: one student needs to be the sculptor; each actor must freeze in place, but must be ready to speak his/her thoughts when tapped; the scene must have a title. If you wish, you can give a small prize after the scenes are presented for best tableau.

2. **Percy's Letter to Gabe** -- Have students do a 3-5 minute journal entry. They are Percy, writing a letter to Gabe, explaining how the Camaro got totaled. Percy should try to convince Gabe the damage wasn't his fault. Students can tell the truth, or make up a false explanation, but they will have to consider the damage to the car as it is described in the book. Ask for volunteers to share their journals afterwards.