

Popular Comic Strip Hits the Big Screen

Over the Hedge brings RJ the raccoon, Verne the turtle and the other woodland creatures into theaters on May 19.

Verne the turtle (voiced by Garry Shandling), Hammy the squirrel (Steve Carrell), Stella the skunk (Wanda Sykes) and their woodland friends have been asleep all winter. When they wake up in the spring, their world has changed dramatically. The El Rancho Camelot Estates community has sprung up, and the animals now live in a park behind a giant hedge. What will they do for food?

Enter RJ the raccoon (Bruce Willis) in Dreamworks Animation and Twentieth Century Fox Animations new release, Over the Hedge. RJ is just a little opportunistic and has discovered that the world on the other side of the hedge has a lot of benefits. He convinces the timid creatures to venture over the hedge to experience the good life. Verne, on the other hand, is not sure the journey is safe.

The animals eventually sneak into suburbia, where they encounter SUVs, humans and housepets, including a spoiled Persian named Tiger (Omid Djalili). Tiger falls in love with Stella when she disguises herself as a cat to better access the humans junk food excess. But will the wild animals attraction to donuts, cheese puffs and cookies be their undoing?

Over the Hedge is based on the comic strip by Michael Fry and T. Lewis. The film opens in theaters May 19. Posted: May 16, 2006, 5:00 a.m. EST