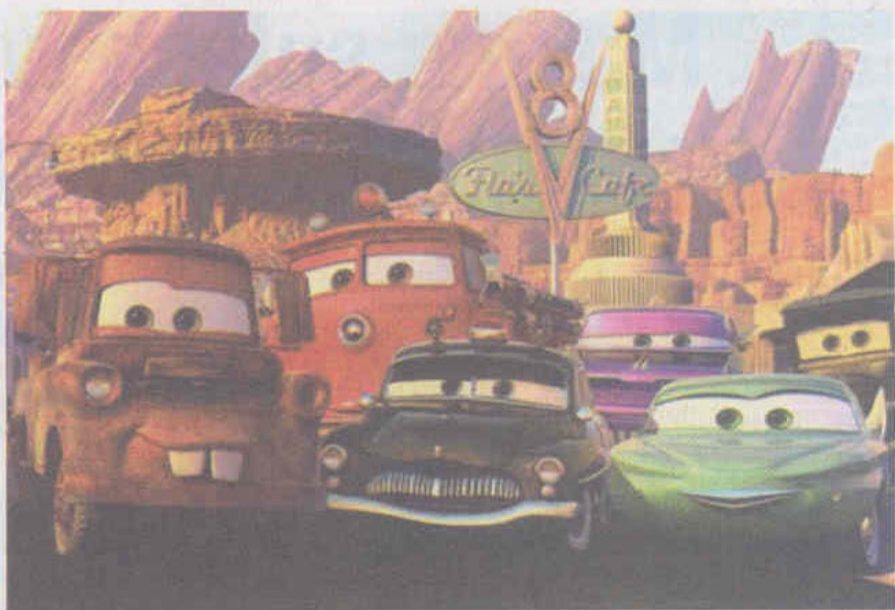# Top Off the Fun Tank With Cars

It's hard to imagine a more likable film than Cars, the latest inspired animated feature from Pixar Animation Studios. It'll appeal both to the NPR crowd (the Car Talk guys make a cameo) and the NASCAR demographic. Of course, kids will love it; the ones at the preview screening spent 116 minutes making happy squealing noises. And so will the retailers of America: With a huge cast of cute little vehicles, Cars is, in Hollywood parlance, highly "toyetic." The story starts on a race track, where a little red prodigy named Lightning McQueen hopes to beat two rivals, old-timer The King and the brash Chick Hicks. Winner takes the Piston Cup and a juicy endorsement deal. While other studios' computer animation usually feels antiseptic and mechanical, the vehicles in Cars seem quite comfortable obeying the laws of physics. Their tires hug the pavement, their bodies lean into the curves. And they have individuated personalities: little twitches and mannerisms subtle enough to register deep in our lizard brains. Previous Pixar films unfolded in enclosed spaces: a kid's bedroom, a monster-filled city, pockets of the ocean. Cars lives out in the open.

A Cool Way to Check the Temp of Your Tap

Anyone who has ever scalded themselves testing their tap water will appreciate the Light Delight series of taps from Equa Systems. These sink fixtures feature an integrated light that illuminates the water in different colours based on temperature: red for hot, violet for warm and blue for cold. Now if only they could make one for the shower.

Gigabyte Phone Has Something for Everybody

It's a pretty sure bet that you can't please everybody, but that's not stopping Gigabyte from trying. Its Windows 5.0-powered g-Smart i Pocket PC smartphone offers direct push e-mail, a 2.1-megapixel camera, WiFi connectivity, the ability to play audio and video files and a PAL/NTSC TV tuner for viewing television worldwide. If that's not enough, Bluetooth connectivity lets you sync to all manner of peripherals. Currently it's set for release only in Tawian.

Source: AFP, Wired and Webindia123

Compiled by **IMRAN H. KHAN**