

ACTIVITY TWO

The Sound of Music

Tonight's the night! NBC brings **THE SOUND OF MUSIC** to your home, live on television at 8pm (7pm CT). And here's your program for the show!

The Story

Just like a real theater program, this one provides a summary of the story — called a *synopsis* — to help you follow the action and recognize all the characters.

The musical is set in Austria, in 1938, just prior to World War II. Maria Rainer wants to become a nun, but she finds it hard to follow all the rules of the abbey. To help her, the Mother Abbess sends Maria off to care for the seven children of Captain Georg Von Trapp, a retired navy officer whose wife died only a few years ago. Captain Von Trapp is very strict with his children, but Maria soon has them singing and playing together. Before long, even the Captain is singing along!

Later, at a party for Elsa Schraeder, the woman he is planning to marry, the Captain lets the children perform for the guests. His friend Max Dettweiler immediately says they should appear in a music festival he is producing. Also during the party, Maria realizes that she is falling in love with the Captain. Confused, she returns to the abbey, but the Mother Abbess sends her back, telling her she can't hide from her feelings.

So Maria returns to the Von Trapp home, just as the Captain discovers that Elsa does not object to Austria becoming part of Nazi Germany. He realizes that he cannot marry Elsa, and that he really loves Maria instead. They are soon married at the abbey and leave on a honeymoon. By the time they return, however, the Nazis have invaded Austria, and they insist that Captain Von Trapp become an officer in their Navy. To prevent this, Maria tells the Nazis that the whole family is scheduled to sing in Max Dettweiler's music festival. With the Nazis waiting offstage to grab the Captain, the Von Trapps perform, then slip away to hide at the abbey until they can escape by climbing over the mountains to freedom.

Are there unfamiliar words and facts in this synopsis? Underline anything that puzzles you. Then share information in class to find out what all the words mean and to learn about the geography and history behind the show. If you still have questions, do some research on your own so you are ready to explain everything to your family when you take your seats for **THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE!**

The Songs

For musicals, like **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**, the theater program usually lists all the songs and the characters who sing them. To add some fun, the characters aren't listed on your program. You and your family can fill in the names as you watch the show!

Act 1

Preludium _____

THE SOUND OF MUSIC _____

How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria? _____

My Favorite Things _____

Do-Re-Mi _____

Sixteen Going on Seventeen _____

The Lonely Goatherd _____

How Can Love Survive? _____

THE SOUND OF MUSIC (reprise) _____

So Long, Farewell _____

Morning Hymn _____

Climb Ev'ry Mountain _____

Act 2

My Favorite Things (reprise) _____

No Way to Stop It _____

Something Good _____

Marriage Hymns _____

Sixteen Going on Seventeen (reprise) _____

Do-Re-Mi (reprise) _____

Edelweiss _____

So Long, Farewell (reprise) _____

Climb Ev'ry Mountain (reprise) _____

Did you notice the word "reprise" (*ri-preez*) in the song list? That means the song, or part of the song, is repeated in a different situation. After you have seen **THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE**, think about these reprised songs. Talk with your family and your classmates about how these songs change their meaning a little when they help the characters through a different situation.

C A R R I E U N D E R W O O D

The Sound of Music
LIVE!

THURS DEC 5 • 8/7c  NBC