

## THE SOUND OF MUSIC

This is a facility wide activity that involves the activity department and the dietary department. It also involves the entire day.

A day before the activity, a backdrop of the Alps mountains was painted by an activity staff member. We used newsprint for the paper as it's quite large. (Ends of newsprint rolls have been available without cost from the local newspaper office. This paper is useful for many activities.) The mountains are quite easy to paint. Once dry, a silhouetted castle was placed a bit to one side. Then the completed picture was hung on a large unobstructed wall. Anyone, residents and staff, could choose to come by and have their photo taken in front of the Alps castle. The dietitian prepared a special menu for the main meal of the day and printed several copies to be placed around the facility the morning of the activity.

The Sound of Music trivia group met for any and all interested in learning more fun facts about the movie. Some of the information can be put into question form for the participants, allowing greater interaction.

The musical score from the movie "Sound of Music" was played throughout the day. And, the movie itself was shown twice, once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

For the cognitively active, a word construction group met and formed as many words as possible from the title letters of "The Sound of Music".

Another group gathered to recall all of the items listed in the song "My Favorite Things" and then went on to create their own lists.

## The Sound of Music

### Word Construction.

You will need a large dry erase board and marker. (A large conference easel with pad will do in a pinch). Print across the top, "The Sound of Music". Inform participants they are to spell other words using only the letters found in this title. Provide one or two examples.

Tin	ton	tone	tune
Thin	those	ten	toss
Sin	son	sun	sit
Sod	some	soon	soot
Nod	nose	toes	mist
Must	most	mint	mind
Rind	sum	found	mound
Food	foot	south	mouth
Tooth	come	cousin	count

Mount	scout	out	dent
Sent	fish	dish	mesh
Net	met	tend	mend
Shun	shut	shoot	shoe
Hoot	hound	hum	hit
Hind	hose	hiss	miss
Moss			

(and probably more ... !)

## THE SOUND OF MUSIC

### “MY FAVORITE THINGS”

This small group activity is utilized as a gateway to conversation. Using a dry erase board and marker, list those things from the song, “My Favorite Things” that participants can remember.

Raindrops on roses

Whiskers on kittens

Bright copper kettles

Warm woolen mittens

Brown paper packages tied with strings

Girls in white dresses with blue satin sashes

Snowflakes that stay on your nose and eyelashes

Silver white winters that melt into spring

If you are familiar with the song, singing bits of it will help the players remember. Once the list is

complete, visit with each participant about their own favorite things. Ask each one in turn to name one of their most favorite things. Then go to the second participant and so on around the table. Continue to ask for favorite things of each player until each one has named at least three. You can then decide if the group wants to continue or if the activity is near its end. Conversations may be elicited by certain persons, places, or things that several participants find “favorite”. Encourage discussion.

## THE SOUND OF MUSIC; MOVIE TRIVIA

The mountains were the Alps

The country was Austria

The story takes place in 1938

Original title was "The Singing Heart"

"Edelweiss" was the last song written by Hammerstein

The Edelweiss is a plant with white flowers

The Von Trapp family had seven children

Maria was played by Julie Andrews; chosen over Grace Kelly and Doris Day

The captain was played by Christopher Plummer; chosen over Richard Burton and Sean Connery

There were 4,500 extras on the movie set.

The Sound of Music won 5 Oscars in 1965

It is the third highest grossing film ever, behind Gone With the Wind and Star Wars

Julie Andrews had to learn to play the guitar just for this movie.

The real Maria went to the VonTrapp family to tutor one child recovering from Scarlet Fever, not to be a governess to 7 children

The Sound of Music had the longest first run in American cinemas than any movie in history; 4 ½ years !

The real VonTrapp family did not walk over the Alps to safety. They hiked to the local train station and took the train to Italy. They then moved to London and on to America. (Vermont)

In the opening scene with Julie Andrews twirling on the hill tops and singing, she was knocked over repeatedly by the wind gusts from the helicopter holding the camera.

The Sound of Music play opened in NY in 1959. Maria was played by Mary Martin (Peter Pan) and it ran for an incredible 1, 443 performances.

Mary Martin, for her work in the play, received over \$8,000,000.00 (million !) in residuals. Julie Andrews, for her work in the movie, received only \$225,000.00.

The Von Trapp family received zero money from the movie or play because Maria had sold the rights to a German producer early on.