

Retro TV Show Theme Songs

Materials/Resources:

TV Theme Songs with lyrics from earlier decades often summarize the overall plot of the TV series and can be used to reinforce a variety of skills. The following is a partial list of theme songs found on *YouTube*:

[Beverly Hillbillies](#)
[Welcome Back Kotter](#)
[Daniel Boone](#)
[Laverne & Shirley](#)
[The Patty Duke Show](#)
[The Partridge Family](#)
[It's About Time](#)
[Mr. Ed](#)
[Gilligan's Island](#)
[Buck Rogers](#)

Skills Targeted:

- *Listening Skills
- *Auditory Memory
- *Visual Memory
- *Vocabulary
- *Sequencing
- *Recall of Details
- *Summarizing
- *Main Idea

Instruction:

1. To introduce a lesson, designate the task students will be asked to perform (e.g. main idea, recall of details, or recall of story sequence) and provide examples. This activity can be done individually or in groups but my preference would be with small groups in order to foster peer collaboration.
2. Initially, have students listen to the theme song without watching the video component. Depending on skill levels, presentation of the song more than once may be needed. This is done to reinforce listening skills.
3. Have students discuss or write down the requested information, depending on skill level.
4. Have students view the video clip of the theme song. Have students add in additional information overlooked during the audio presentation.
5. Discuss as a group.