BEFORE READING

+ Is there a song that has a special meaning to you? What's the name of the song?
+ In the story, you'll hear about a song written over 100 years ago, and how it has affected generations of people. The message of hope is passed down. Listen for all the phrases in the songs that remind you of hope.

DURING READING

+ How do you think the main character in this story feel when she sings? How do you feel when you sing?
+ Sing when you score a victory! There are other times the main character tells us to sing. What are some of those times? Can you think of even more opportunities to sing, in addition to what is mentioned in the story?

AFTER READING

+ God's Word talks about singing! "Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God." Psalm 147:1. We can sing while we give God our praises: telling Him how amazing He is. What are some songs of praise you know? (Challenge: Record yourself singing a song of praise, and send it to somebody to give them some hope today.)
+ "Jesus Loves Me" is a song we can always sing to remember the hope we have in Jesus. Have you heard this song? Look it up on the Internet to find the lyrics to the song. Write them out, and illustrate what this song means to you by drawing pictures.

SPRINGBOARD ACTIVITIES:

Activity #1: Listen to "Lift Every Voice and Sing" - Curious what this hymn sounds like? [Click here](#) to listen.

Activity #2: Name that Tune! - Name a song that has the same word or concept for each word below. (Challenge: split your family or class into teams, and see how many songs your team can come up with for each word. 30 seconds for each word!)

Water   Mountains   School   Friendship   God's love

Activity #3: Sing a Song! - Singing helps us remember important messages. Find one important message from the story. Example: "Let us march on till victory is won." After you've found an important message, give it a tune and sing it out!