

Film guide

Song of the Sea

Ireland | 2014 | Cert. PG | 93 mins
Director: Tomm Moore

Saoirse is a special little girl with magical powers that turn her into a seal-like creature called a Selkie. Disappearing into the sea one night, Saoirse is found by her concerned Granny who decides she and her brother Ben would be safer living in the city. Longing to return home, the children set out on a weird and wonderful journey back to the island.



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You will like this film if you liked

The Secret of Kells (2009, PG)



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Watch next

Ponyo (2010, U)



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Talk about it (before the film)

Song of the Sea is based on a traditional Celtic myth. Can you describe what a myth is? What countries does a Celtic myth come from?

What type of events or characters do you expect find in a myth?

Talk about it (after the film)

- What do you think happens to Ben and Saoirse’s mum at the beginning of the film? How did this make you feel?
- Why is the shell so important to Ben and Saoirse? What happens when the shell is played?
- How does Ben behave towards Saoirse at the beginning of the film? Why do you think he behaves like this? What makes him change towards Saoirse - what does he do for her at the end of the film?
- What does the character of Macha remind you of? Is she a good or bad character? What makes her act the way she does?
- Think back to the music, what do you remember about it? What instruments can you hear?
- What do you think of the animation in the film? Did it remind you of anything? How similar or different is it to other animations you have watched?

Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs’ website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it’s similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

Extension Activities

Draw your own mythical creature for you to turn into – what special powers would you have when you turned into it? What animal would it be similar to? Like Saoirse and the shell, what object or instrument would you use to turn you into the creature?