

(audience ages 8-14)

What mother of a 10-year-old girl doesn't know who David Cassidy is! Practically overnight their daughters graduate from Barbie Doll to David the doll, whose small size and delicate features give him a look of almost indeterminate sex. At 21, adorable David plays a 16-year-old on "The Partridge Family" TV series, and he looks so close to his fans' age group that they consider him a peer. His diminutive size makes him the perfect heartthrob for preteeners, who cannot yet cope with real sexuality. Both with "The Partridge

Family" and on his own, David records soft, pleasant songs. The beat is there, but it's buried under innocuous melodics and marshmallow words. The subteen set appreciates this smooth, slick sound. Ask little girls why they love David and they'll sigh, "He's nice." He's boyfriend, brother and best friend rolled into one tidy package.