Slave Songs:

The Gospel Train's A'Comin' Story: This song was sung to tell other slaves that they were preparing to escape. The “Gospel Train” was code for Underground Railroad.

Lyrics:

The Gospel train’s a’comin’

I hear it just at hand

I hear the car wheel rumblin’ And rollin’ thro’ the land

Chorus:

Get on board little children

Get on board little children

Get on board little children

There's room for many more

I hear the train a’comin'

She's comin' round the curve

She's loosened all her steam and brakes

And strainin' ev'ry nerve

Chorus:

The fare is cheap and all can go

The rich and poor are there

No second class aboard this train

No difference in the fare

Follow the Drinking Gourd Story: The lyrics were instructions on how to get to safety. They were taught by a man known as Peg Leg Joe. The young slaves would use to song to know when it is safe to run, and where it is safe to go.

Lyrics:

When the Sun comes back

And the first quail calls

Follow the Drinking Gourd,

For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom If you follow the Drinking Gourd

The riverbank makes a very good road.

The dead trees will show you the way.

Left foot, peg foot, travelling on,

Follow the Drinking Gourd.

The river ends between two hills Follow the Drinking Gourd.

There’s another river on the other side Follow the Drinking Gourd.

When the great big river meets the little river Follow the Drinking Gourd.

For the old man is a-waiting for to carry to freedom

If you follow the Drinking Gourd.