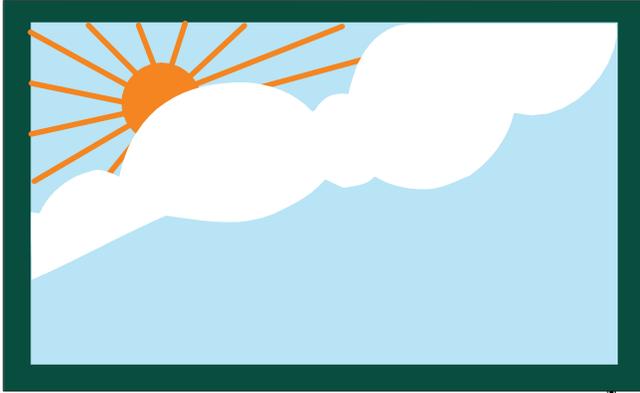
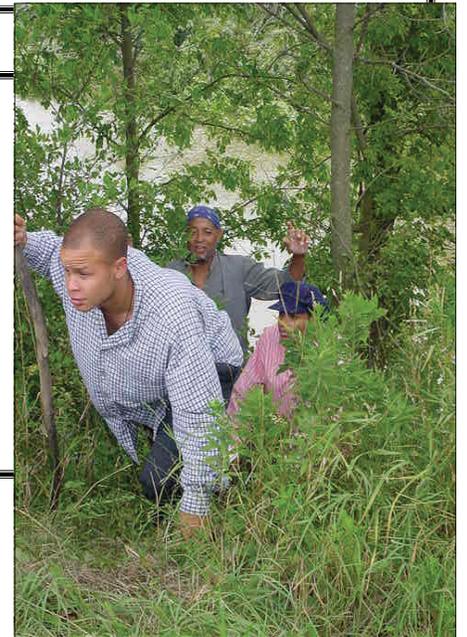


Secret Messages Used on the Underground Railroad



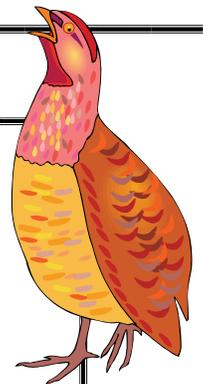
When the sun comes back, means winter and spring when the sun at noon is higher each day. If people were supposed to leave in the winter or spring, they would be told to leave when the sun comes back.

Many men and women traveled around the south giving people secret messages about how to get to the north. These men and women were called conductors. They also helped to guide runaways to different stations where they were given food and shelter.



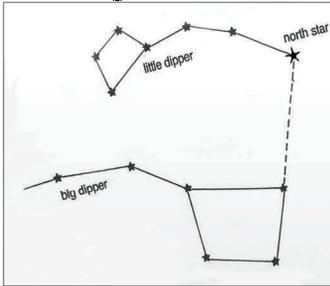
People who gave runaways food and shelter until they could be moved, were called Station Masters. Their homes were called safe houses.

Quails go to the north in the summer and return to the south in the winter. If people were told to leave when the quail return, it meant to leave in winter. If they were told to leave when the quails go north it meant to leave in



Secret Messages Used on the Underground Railroad

Finding the drinking gourd or the big dipper helps to find the north star. The little dipper pours into the big dipper. To find the north star, follow the outside stars on the cup of the big dipper up to the handle of the little dipper. The north star is at the end of the handle of the little dipper. If runaways kept the north star in front of them they would be going north.



Runaways used the trees to locate North. They learned that moss grows best on the north side of trees and rocks.



Runaways who were being helped on the Underground Railroad were called passengers. They were secretly called packages. Male packages were referred to as packages of hardware. Female packages were called packages of dry goods.



A lantern burning in a window was the sign of a safe house.

Runaways walked down a stream or rubbed hot peppers on their feet so that dogs could not follow their scent.

