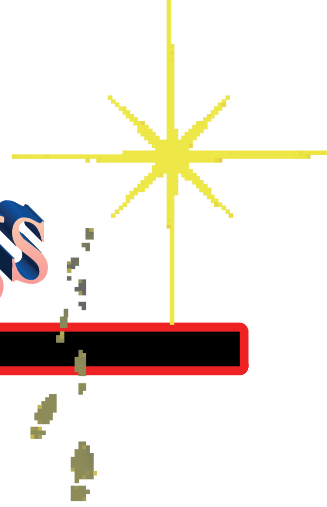


Freedom Songs



Create Instruments

When slaves had an opportunity to dance, they made the instruments they played. These included fiddles made out of gourds with horsehair strings, flutes made out of quills, cow hides stretched over cheese boxes for tambourines, saw bones from a cow knocked together, or tin buckets and pans for drums.

Using materials that you may gather from home or the art room, create a musical instrument to use as accompaniment in performing your freedom song.

Decorate your instrument with some of the African symbols you will find in the student resources.

Choose symbols that have special meaning for you or for the song you are working with.

Examples:

1. Tambourine from paper plates and bells or washers
2. Drum from round ice cream container
3. Rain stick from mailing tube or tube from wrapping paper, and rice
4. Shaker from toilet paper tube or empty film canisters and beans, rice, stones, etc.