

Follow the Drinking Gourd Activity Page

CLUE	WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
Sun comes back	
First quail calls	
Drinking gourd	
Old man	
Carry you to freedom	
Very true road	
Dead trees mark the way	
Left foot, peg leg	
Two hills	
river	
Another river on other side	
Great big river	
Little river	

Answers to Activity Page

CLUE	WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
Sun comes back	Spring—days get longer and clouds rain and snow go away. Sun shines bright
First quail calls	One of first birds to sing in spring
Drinking gourd	Slaves carved out the insides of gourds and made them into cups for drinking water on hot summer days. In this song, the Gourd is used to mean the Big Dipper—the end of the Big Dipper bowl, points to the north star which is the direction the slaves needed to travel to freedom
Old man	Former sailor Peg Leg Joe who lost a leg in a battle at sea
Carry you to freedom	Guide the way and sail the boat across the rivers
Very true road	River bank
Dead trees mark the way	Lots of dead trees were along the river bank. Peg Leg Joe would mark the trunks of trees using charcoal. He drew one normal foot and one circle for his peg leg
Left foot, peg foot	Peg Leg Joe
Two hills	The Woodall Mountains, the highest mountain range in Mississippi
River	Tombigbee River- runs from Mobile Alabama into northern Mississippi State
Another river on other side	Tennessee River
Great big river	Ohio River
Little river	Tennessee River