

Let Freedom Sing

Objectives:

- Introduce children to the role of music in the Civil Rights Movement
- Discuss how music can be used to galvanize people around social issues
- Help children connect with the power of music

Materials: Recordings and lyrics of songs; percussion instruments; snacks; book; CDs for distribution

Agenda: Let Freedom Sing

- 2:00 Welcome and introductions
- 2:15 Opening Song
- 2:20 Reading of *Let Freedom Sing*
- 2:35 Short Discussion about the book
- 2:40 Break
- 2:50 Energizer/Transition Activity to get everyone re-focused
- 3:00 Music Activity
- 3:55 Closing Song

Discussion Questions:

- Who loves music?
- Why do you love music? Why is it important to you?
- Why was music so important to people in the Civil Rights Movement?
- How do you think the people felt when they heard Freedom Songs?
- How do these songs make you feel?

Vocabulary:

Freedom Songs

Songs:

1. *This Little Light of Mine*
2. *Ain't Gonna Let No One Turn Me Around*

Give everyone copies of the Lyrics (on next page) so that they can sign along to the two songs

Additional Suggestions:

Write a Freedom Song with the children

- maybe break it up line by line so each person or group writes a line
- create the chorus together

This Little Light of Mine

[Chorus]

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

I'm gonna take this light around the world and I'm gonna Let it shine.
I'm gonna take this light around the world and I'm gonna Let it shine.
I'm gonna take this light around the world and I'm gonna
Let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

[Chorus]

I won't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
I won't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
I won't let anyone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

[Chorus]

Every day, every day, I'm going to let my little light Shine.

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around

Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a- talkin'
Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let no injunction turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let no injunction turn me around I'm gonna keep on a- walkin', keep on a-talkin'
Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let no hatred turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let no hatred turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep
on a-talkin' Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let racism turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let racism turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a- talkin'
Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let injustice turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let injustice turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep
on a-talkin' Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let no jail cell turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let no jail cell turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep
on a-talkin' Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around Turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a- talkin'
Marchin' up to freedom land.