



Tue' Tue': Transmitting Songs

Students will learn...

- How enslaved people's songs were passed down from generation to generation
- How to sing as a collective

You will need...

- A [video](#) of the song for your own reference (extra: [video with dancing](#))

Opener: How Do You Learn a Song?

- Ask your students how they learn songs. Do they study the lyrics intently? Or do they just listen to it many times?
- Ask your students if they have ever learned a song in a language they don't know? How were they able to do that?

Task: Tue' Tue'

- Explain that they will be learning a call and response song, where one person calls and the rest respond.
- Lyrics:

Leader: Tue tue barima tue tue
 All: Tue tue barima tue tue
 Leader: Abofra ba ama
 dawa dawa tue tue
 All: Tue tue barima tue tue

- Teach your students the chorus without giving them the lyrics and sing through the song a few times until they are confident with their part.
- Then split the class in half, teaching one half the leader's part by slowly repeating

the lyrics section by section. Sing the song a few more times with one half of the class being the leader with you.

- Once the first group is confident with the part of the leader, switch the groups. The other group will now be the leader.
- Eventually, have both sides singing the whole song while you stay silent.
- By using high energy and signaling with your arms who is the leader, the phases should transition smoothly to the point where they should not notice you are not singing anymore.

Closer: Video

- Provide some context:

It is a song from Ghana that enslaved people brought to America. It is debated what the lyrics mean since forced migration and the constant exposure and blending of cultures changed the meaning of words. To some people it is a harvest song, others translate it as *Sorry, Man, Sorry*, and to others the words are meaningless and it is just a children's clapping song.

- Create your own quick video to the song using a mobile phone.
- Optional: Have your students learn to clap to the chorus. Stomp feet (2X), clap hands (2X), pat your partner's hands (2X), and then snap fingers (2X) when with "tue tue" and rest on "barima."