

# Collective Worship Hymn Reflection



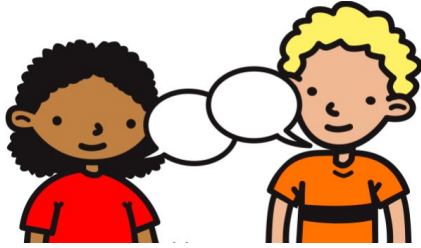
Wednesday, 9th October, 2024

Pro Deo et Ecclesia

*Steal Away, Steal Away,  
Steal Away to Jesus  
Steal away, steal away home;  
I ain't got long to stay here.  
3 My Lord, he calls me;  
he calls me by the lightning.  
The trumpet sounds within my soul;  
I ain't got long to stay here.*



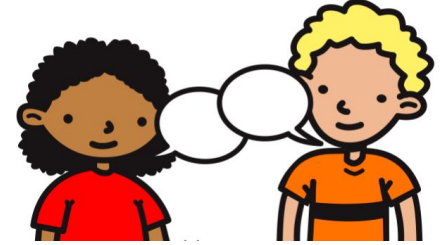
Listen to the hymn 'Steal Away to Jesus' and sing along if you would like to.



Do you remember who wrote the hymn 'Steal away to Jesus'?



The hymn was written by **Wallace Willis**, he was a slave who worked in the cotton fields of America in the 1800s.



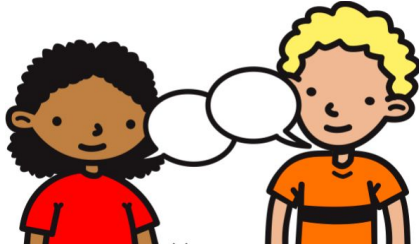
What do you think the words 'Steal Away to Jesus' mean?

If you 'steal away' it means that you are  
**going away secretly or quietly.**

Some people think the words of the hymn  
were written to encourage people to  
spend time quietly and secretly with  
Jesus.

Some people think the words of the hymn  
are a **hidden message** to the slaves who  
sung them and that the words 'Steal  
Away' were a secret way of encouraging  
the slaves to run away to find freedom.





What do you think?

Is 'Steal Away' just a worship song or is it also a secret way of encouraging slaves to find their freedom?





## Reflection:

Think about the words of the hymn 'Steal Away'.  
What do they mean to you?

## Prayer:

Thank God for people like Wallace who used their talents to write wonderful songs and music that helps and encourages people in their lives and their worship.