

## State Song - Florida

Florida's official state song is, "Old Folks at Home" also called, "The Swanee River" and Florida's state anthem is, "Florida." Choose one to learn. Listen to it the first time. Then play the video again and hum along. Now, you are ready to sing!

We will begin with the state song, "Old Folks at Home."

*Way down upon the Suwannee River,  
Far, far away,  
There's where my heart is turning ever,  
There's where the old folks stay.  
All up and down the whole creation,  
Sadly I roam,  
Still longing for my childhood station,  
And for the old folks at home.*

*All the world is sad and dreary  
Everywhere I roam.  
O dear ones, how my heart grows weary,  
Far from the old folks at home.*

*All 'round the little farm I wander'd,  
When I was young;  
Then many happy days I squander'd,  
Many the songs I sung.*

*When I was playing with my brother,  
Happy was I.  
Oh, take me to my kind old mother,  
There let me live and die.*

*All the world is sad and dreary  
Everywhere I roam.  
O dear ones, how my heart grows weary,  
Far from the old folks at home.*

*One little hut among the bushes,  
One that I love.  
Still sadly to my memory rushes,  
No matter where I rove.*

*When will I see the bees a humming,  
All 'round the comb?  
When shall I hear the banjo strumming,*

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*Down in my good old home.*

*All the world is sad and dreary  
Everywhere I roam.  
O dear ones, how my heart grows weary,  
Far from the old folks at home.*

Up next is Florida's state anthem, "Florida."

*Florida, where the sawgrass meets the sky,  
Florida, where our hearts will ever lie,  
Sitting proud in the ocean like a sentinel true,  
Always shielding your own, yet giving welcome.*

*Florida, land of flowers, land of light.  
Florida, where our dreams can all take flight.  
Whether youth's vibrant morning or the twilight of years,  
There are treasures for all who venture here in Florida.*

*Mockingbirds cry and 'gators lie out in the sun,  
Bridges span southward to the Keys and rockets skyward run,  
The orange blossoms' sweet perfume and fireworks fill the air,  
And cultures rich our native people share.*

*Florida, where the sawgrass meets the sky,  
Florida, where our hearts will ever lie,  
Sitting proud in the ocean like a sentinel true,  
Always shielding your own, yet giving welcome.*

*Florida, land of flowers, land of light.  
Florida, where our dreams can all take flight.  
Whether youth's vibrant morning or the twilight of years,  
There are treasures for all who venture here in Florida, Florida.*

Excellent singing! Florida's state song and anthem are unique and fun to sing.

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