

Year 6 Atlantic Slave Trade

Key Learning

As the age of discovery grew, many countries were keen to explore the globe and establish new colonies for their country, creating powerful empires which had strong and lucrative trade routes. As ships became sturdier and faster, crossing the Atlantic Ocean became possible and European countries, including Britain, France, Spain and Portugal created colonies in the Americas (Caribbean, Brazil and north America's east coast).

Trade valuable trade routes grew between Europe, Africa and the Americas. Many countries, including Britain, benefited from these trade route.

The life of a slave was extremely difficult. Many were forced to travel against their will and were forced to work for little or no pay. Slaves were denied their basic human rights and treated like objects rather than people

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in 1822. She became one of the most famous anti-slave activists in American history. In 1849 she decided to try and escape her life of slavery. Along with her brothers, she travelled to Pennsylvania which was a free state. Once she was free, she helped hundreds of others flee their life of slavery.

Although slavery is illegal in Britain, it does still exist. This is called Modern Slavery

Nelson Mandela was an anti-apartheid activist who fought for people of colour to have equal rights as white people in South Africa. He spent 27 years in jain for this. When he was released, he continued to campaign and became the first black president of South Africa.

Martin Luther King was a civil rights activist in America during the 1950s and 1960s. He campaigned to black people and white people to have the same rights and to put an end to segregation. He was murdered in 1968.

Key Vocabulary

Abolitionists	A group of people who called for slavery to be made illegal
Age of Discovery	A period of time when many countries were keen to explore the globe and set up new colonies.
Auction	The method used to buy and sell slaves. Planation owners would big on the healthiest looking slaves.
Colony	A place ruled by another country and occupied by people from that country.
Human Rights	Basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world from birth to death.
Middle Passage	The route used to transport slaves from Africa to the Americas
Overseer	The person responsible for watching over the slaves while they worked.
Plantation	A large farm which grew sugar, cotton or Tabaco where many slaves were forced to work.
Servant	A person who is paid to work in a house or keep a service running such as a housekeeper, gardener or cleaner
Slave	A person who is owned by another person. They are forced to work with little or no pay with no workers' rights.
United Nations	An international organisation which was set up in 1945. Member states work together to solves problems and benefit humanity.

What was slavery like for the slaves?

How has Britain changed because of slavery?

What impact have activist had on black history?

