

Understanding the Past: The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Uncovering Social Studies / History: Ellie's Journey into the Past

- The Transatlantic Slave Trade involved the forced movement of millions of people from Africa to the Americas across the Atlantic Ocean between the 16th and 19th centuries.
- Enslaved people were treated as property rather than human beings, losing their freedom, their families, and their basic human rights.
- Resistance was common; enslaved people fought for their dignity and freedom through revolts, escaping, and preserving their cultural traditions despite their harsh conditions.
- The Abolitionist movement grew as more people began to protest against the cruelty of the trade, leading to the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 in the British Empire.
- Studying this difficult part of history helps us understand the importance of equality, justice, and standing up for the rights of all people today.

Did you know? Did you know? Many brave people campaigned for decades to end the slave trade. William Wilberforce and Olaudah Equiano were two key figures who used their voices and writing to show the world that enslavement was morally wrong, eventually helping to change the law in 1807.

Key vocabulary: Abolition · Enslavement · Transatlantic · Human Rights · Campaigner · Resistance