

# The Transatlantic Trade: Understanding Our Past

Explore the Past, Protect the Future: Ellie's Historical Journey

- The Transatlantic Trade involved the forced movement of millions of people from Africa to the Americas and the Caribbean between the 16th and 19th centuries.
- Enslaved people were treated as property rather than human beings, forced to work in harsh conditions on plantations, primarily harvesting crops like sugar, tobacco, and cotton.
- Resistance was common; enslaved people fought for their freedom through rebellions, preserving their cultures, and seeking escape despite the extreme dangers they faced.
- Brave campaigners in Britain, such as Olaudah Equiano and William Wilberforce, worked tirelessly to expose the horrors of the trade and pressure Parliament to change the law.
- The Slave Trade Act of 1807 abolished the trading of enslaved people within the British Empire, followed by the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 which aimed to end enslavement itself.

*Did you know? Did you know? In the late 18th century, many people in Britain began to boycott sugar produced on plantations to protest against the cruelty of the slave trade. This powerful form of peaceful protest helped change public opinion across the country!*

**Key vocabulary:** Abolition · Transatlantic · Enslavement · Human Rights · Campaigner · Commodity · Resistance · Legislation