

Grade 5 History: The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Learning objective: To understand the key terms, historical context, and the movement towards the abolition of the slave trade.

Read the front of each card to identify the historical term or question. Then, check the back (after the pipe symbol) to see if you have understood the concept correctly.

What does the term 'Abolition' mean in the context of the 18th and 19th centuries?

Abolition refers to the formal act of ending or stopping a system, specifically the movement to end the slave trade and slavery itself.

What was the 'Middle Passage'?

It was the brutal and dangerous journey taken by ships carrying enslaved people across the Atlantic Ocean from Africa to the Americas.

Describe a 'Plantation' in the context of the transatlantic slave trade.

A large farm or estate, typically in the Americas or Caribbean, where enslaved people were forced to work to produce crops like sugar, cotton, and tobacco.

What was the 'Triangular Trade'?

A trade route shaped like a triangle that connected Europe, Africa, and the Americas, involving the exchange of manufactured goods, enslaved people, and raw materials.

Who was Olaudah Equiano and why is he significant?

He was a formerly enslaved man who wrote an influential autobiography detailing his experiences, which helped the British public understand the cruelty of slavery and supported the abolitionist cause.

What does 'Emancipation' mean?

The process of being set free from legal, social, or political restrictions, specifically referring to the granting of freedom to enslaved people.

How did enslaved people show 'Resistance'?

Resistance included methods such as working slowly, damaging equipment, escaping, learning to read and write, and participating in uprisings to fight for their freedom.

What was the Slave Trade Act of 1807?

An Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom which made the trading of enslaved people illegal throughout the British Empire.

Why is Ellie the elephant interested in this history?

Ellie values the importance of memory and oral history, ensuring that the stories of those who suffered and those who fought for justice are never forgotten.

Why was the campaign for abolition considered a major shift in 'Human Rights'?

It challenged the idea that some people could be owned by others, promoting the belief that all human beings are born free and equal.