



History

The Trans Atlantic Slave trade

Year 6

Summer

Key Dates

Background Information

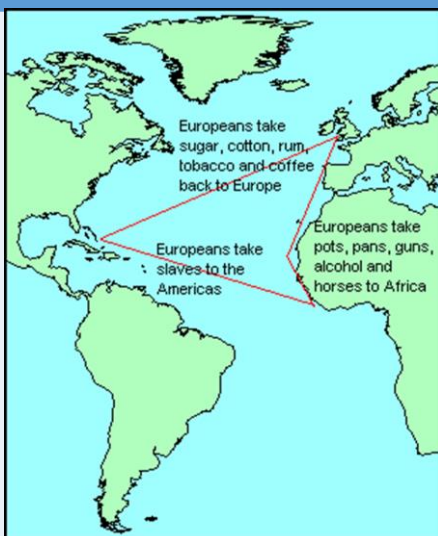
1562	The first British slave trip made its journey across the Middle Passage and started transporting slaves from Africa to America.
1781	The Zong massacre was the killing of 133 African slaves by the crew of the British slave ship Zong. They were thrown overboard so that the ship owner could claim compensation from his insurance.
1787	The Abolition Committee is founded in Britain
1804	Haiti gains independence after a slave revolt
1807	The Slave Trade was abolished in England. (This made it illegal to capture slaves but owners could keep their existing slaves)
1833	Slavery was abolished in the British Empire and slaves were freed.
1865	Slavery was abolished in America

Between the 16th and 19th centuries, European merchants transported an estimated 12.5 million Africans across the Atlantic to work in slavery in the Americas. Unknown millions died as a result. The transatlantic slave trade brought great wealth to Britain and benefitted many people – some directly and some indirectly.

Key Vocabulary

Abolition	Banning or getting rid of something
Abolitionist	Someone who campaigned to end the slave trade.
Branding	To mark a person or animal with a hot iron to show ownership.
Cargo	Goods carried for trade
Domestic slaves	Slaves who performed household duties e.g. cooking washing, childcare etc.
Enslaved	To be made into a slave.
Emancipation	Freedom from slavery
Middle Passage	The journey of slaves on ships from Africa to America. Took 8-12 weeks. 1 in 4 died on the way.
Trade Triangle	The system of trade between Europe, West Africa and the Americas.
Plantation	A large farm growing one crop. Many slaves were field hands on plantations.

Diagrams and Symbols



Important People

Oludah Equiano	A slave who bought his freedom and published a description of life as a slave. He became an anti slavery campaigner.
William Wilberforce	A British MP and abolitionist who campaigned against the slave trade.
Granville Sharp	The lawyer who founded the Abolition Committee.