

Topic:	Transatlantic Slave Trade	Year:	4	Term:	Spring 1
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Our topic looks at Britain's involvement in the **Transatlantic Slave Trade** from the 16th to the 19th centuries. Many European countries transported African captives to the Americas using what was known as the 'Triangular Trade Route'.



Key Dates

- The transatlantic slave trade began in 1444 with Portuguese traders, taking mainly West African slaves to the American colonies they had conquered in the 15th century.
- Britain became involved in the trade from 1562 onwards. Sir John Hawkins was the first English sea-captain to do this. English slave traders started supplying African slaves to the English colonies.
- The abolition of the transatlantic slave trade in Britain was achieved in 1807, and the slave trade finally ended in 1833.

Olaudah Equiano – a former slave who campaigned to persuade British people that the slave trade was wrong.



He was incredibly important in getting slavery abolished. He wrote a book about his horrific experiences as a slave and gave speeches, convincing people that slavery was inhuman. Also he was highly educated and intelligent which showed how ridiculous the racist ideas were that slaves were inferior to white British people.

Key Vocabulary

- slave**  – a human being who is the property of someone else.
- enslaved**  – to be made into a slave.
- trade**  – the transfer of goods from one person to another, often in exchange for money.
- plantation**  – a large farm on which slaves were forced to work.
- colony**  – a territory ruled by a foreign country.
- rebellion**  – to attack or fight back against authority or control.
- abolish**  – to end or stop something.
- slave trade**  – buying and selling of human beings, taking away their human rights and freedoms.
- Middle Passage**  – the name given to the journey of slave ships from Africa to the Americas.

