



History Knowledge Organiser

Year 6

Slavery (1562 - 1838)



Why **Britain** created an **empire**:

for money, power, raw materials,
trade and selling goods.



Key Concepts

Conflict- race

Migration – settlement
(forced)

Why slavery was accepted

1. Religious reasons

- The bible talks about slavery so some thought that God approved of it

2. What people believed about Black Africans

- They were dangerous and were known to steal
- Slavery made them happier and gave them purpose
- They were not as clever and were lazy
- They were not like humans, but more like dogs or horses

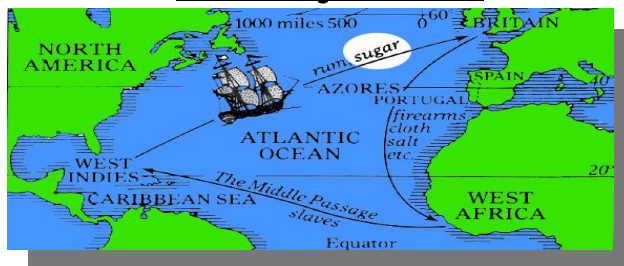
3. Economic Reasons

- Many white people liked to have servants that worked for free
- Slaves could be sold for \$1200
- The sugar trade was worth £20 million

4. Laws

- It was **not** against the law

The Triangular Trade



- A ship was loaded in England with in-demand goods.
- They arrived in Africa and exchanged the goods for slaves.
- A 2 month journey was taken across the Atlantic Ocean.
- They arrived in The Americas and exchanged slaves for goods that Britain wanted.
- Slaves were cleaned up and sold to American/West Indies farmers.
- The ship returned to Britain and made a HUGE profit.
- This was then repeated hundreds of times.

What each continent had to trade...

Britain: cigars & cigarettes; cloth & clothing; guns & weaponry; iron & steel

Africa: slaves, gold, ivory, wood, spices

The Americas: sugar cane, silk, raw cotton, rum, tobacco plant, raw materials

Capture



- They were stolen away from their homes, friends, and family: their entire life.
- They were kidnapped from their villages; often by African slave trader.
- The captain of the slave ship would keep them until he had enough 'cargo' to make his long journey worthwhile.

Transportation



- This was known as the 'Middle Passage' and took between six and eleven weeks.
- Slaves were chained and packed into very tight spaces as the captain wanted to fit as many slaves as possible onto his ship.
- Slaves had to go to the toilet where they lay.
- Sickness quickly spread e.g. scurvy and measles.

Working Life



- After being sold at auction, slaves often worked on the plantations, growing sugar from dawn to dusk for no pay, only being allowed to stop for rest and food at mealtimes.
- Other jobs included cooking; cleaning the main house; looking after their owners' children; making furniture and tending to the animals.

Key Vocabulary

Spelling Definition

Empire A group of countries under the control of another country. e.g. the British Empire or the Roman Empire

Colony A country or area under the control of another country and occupied by settlers from that country.